### **Inside this issue:**

- Tribe opens propane company
- Oaks Indian Missions needs donations
- Donation aids battle against diabetes









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 • ISSUE 1

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**JANUARY 6, 2012** 

# Kialegee Tribal Town defends casino proposal

Residents have expressed opposition to the project, citing its close proximity to schools and the strain on public resources.

BROKEN ARROW, Okla. (AP) – The leader of the Kialegee Tribal Town has responded to an Oklahoma congressman's concern about a proposal to build a casino in Broken Arrow by saying the Native American tribe has no

other real options for economic development.

Tiger Hobia, the town king for the tribe, said he was disappointed by Republican Rep. John Sullivan's comments.

"The Kialegee Tribal Town

project is the epitome of the Congressional vision for Indian economic development," Hobia said in a prepared statement released by the tribe's attorney Vicki Sou-

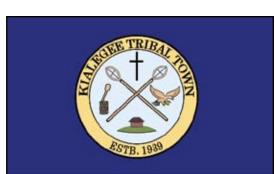
Sullivan sent a letter to the National Indian Gaming Commission last week urging it to keep the concerns of Broken Arrow residents opposed to the casino in mind as it considered the tribe's

gaming license request.

The tribe has started groundwork for the planned casino at a site near the Creek Turnpike, which loops along the southern portion of the city. Records show the area near Creek Turnpike has been identified for industrial use in the city's comprehensive plan.

But city officials said they have

See CASINO Continued on Page 3



The Kialegee Tribal Town is a federally recognized Native American tribe in Oklahoma, as well as a traditional township within the Muscogee Creek Confederacy.



LM OTERO / ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

In this 2010 file photo, peyote dealer Mauro Morales handles peyote buttons in Rio Grande City, Texas. He is one of three "Peyoteros," Texans licensed to sell peyote that grows wild near the border with Mexico to tens of thousands of Native American Church members across the U.S.

### Tribe seeks easier access to Peyote plants

The misbegotten reputation of peyote affects its availability, Native American Church proponents said.

S.E. RUCKMAN Special to the Times

CADDO NATION, Okla. -Peyote's tale has long roots. It is an intricate story of reverence, piety and later; illegality. Today,

the gray-green cactus is experiencing revived religious interest but lowered production-a duality that has some officials questioning its reputation as an outlaw.

Intrigue has always surrounded the plant. Peyote has been used by medicine men in the Southwest for more than 5,000 years as a spiritual barometer through its hallucinogenic effects. Alarm among non-Native groups soon followed. Dan Swan, associate curator at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History (SNOMNH), said peyote is experiencing a growth spurt in the Four Corners area of New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona and Utah. Swan, who has spent more than 20 years study-

See **PEYOTE** Continued on Page 4

# Tribe's high-interest online lending venture booms

**MATT VOLZ** Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) - An Indian reservation in the heart of Montana's farm country may seem an unlikely place to borrow a quick \$600, but the Chippewa Cree tribe says it has already given out more than 121,000 loans this year at interest rates that can reach a whopping 360 percent.

As more states pass laws to rein in lenders who deal in high-interest, short-term loans, Indian tribes like the Chippewa Cree and their new online lending venture, Plain Green Loans, are stepping in to fill the void. The Internet lets them reach beyond the isolated Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation to borrowers across the nation, while tribal immunity has allowed them to avoid bans and interest-rate caps several states have set.

To Neal Rosette, Plain Green Loans CEO and the Chippewa Cree's former executive administrative officer, it's a win-win. The online lending venture is a resource for people who can't or won't borrow from banks, while it gives the tribe a steady revenue stream and jobs with unemployment on the reservation at nearly 40 percent.

Rosette said this model could be the successor to gambling for tribes looking for an economic boost. Some tribes have owned online lending businesses for several years, and Rosette said the Chippewa Cree and three other tribes have started the Native American Lenders Alliance to encourage

"I believe this is the new outlook for Indian Country, not just Rocky Boy," Rosette said. "We are sovereign nations and we have the ability to create our own laws that regulate our businesses such as this."

That's a problem for consumer groups and the states that have tried to bring such lending under control. The issue with these loans, consumer advocates say, is that their high interest rates make it too easy for a borrower to become trapped in a cycle of debt as they have to borrow more to repay their original loans.

Forty-two states and the District of Columbia have taken different regulatory approaches, from outright bans to interest-rate caps. Montana voters last year passed a ballot initiative that capped such loans at a 36 percent annualized interest rate, which has led to a nearly 83 percent drop in so-called deferred deposit lenders, according to Montana banking and financial institutions director Melanie Griggs.

But as the cap drives lenders out of the state, more people are turning to the Internet, which adds the danger of passing along personal bank account information that can be distributed to other lenders and brokers and can lead to overdrafts.

"When they were getting it from brickand-mortar businesses it was easy to monitor how many people were getting payday loans. Now that it's all on the Internet, it's harder to monitor," Griggs said.

The Chippewa Cree tribe says its loans are not payday loans, those two-week loans with annualized interest rates of more than 600 percent or more. Instead, the tribe says, its highest annualized interest rate is 360 per-

See LENDING Continued on Page 3

# **Choctaw Nation school restored** to BIA Indian education system

TULSA, Okla. (AP) - A school established more than 100 years ago by a Native American tribe will be part of the Bureau of Indian Education school system and eligible for additional funding, an Oklahoma congressman said.

U.S. Rep. Dan Boren secured language to reinstate Jones Academy, a Choctaw Nation school near Hartshorne, to the system and included it in an omnibus appropriations bill that recently passed the

"Restoring Jones Academy to the BIA has been a priority of mine," Boren, a Democrat, told the Tulsa World.

The Jones Academy's removal from the system dates back to a federal government program in the 1950s, he said. It was repealed in 1970, but the school's removal

remained in effect.

The Choctaw Nation established the school in 1891. It has enrolled students from 29 federally recognized tribes and from different states.

Boren called the change allowing the school to once again be part of the program an important step in keeping promises the United States made to Indian tribes.

"It is imperative to support Native American education," Boren said. "Tribal students have a dropout rate higher than any other racial or ethnic group in America."

As a result, he said, many of their languages and cultural traditions are beginning to disappear.

"Schools like Jones Academy, which teach tribal languages and craftsmanship, are working to re-



COURTESY

Jones Academy, established by the Choctaw Nation more than 100 years ago, is located near Hartshorne, Okla., which is about 15 miles southeast of McAlester.

verse this trend," Boren said. Choctaw Nation Chief Gregory Pyle welcomed the legislation.

"Reinstating the Academic Pro-

gram at Jones Academy will ensure that our students receive a complete academic education in a culturally rich setting," Pyle said.

### **Red Cliff Chippewa** first tribe to open public park

MILWAUKEE (AP) - The Red Cliff Chippewa will become the first tribe in the nation to open a park to the public.

They are creating Frog Bay Tribal National Park on nearly 89 acres of its reservation and opening the lakeshore property and its views of the Apostle Islands in northern Wisconsin.

Red Cliff bought the nearly 89acre property last month for half the \$950,000 appraised value. The tribe received a \$488,000 federal grant.

Red Cliff Natural Resources Administrator Chad Abel tells the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel that an official public opening is expected in August.

According to the National Park Service, there is no other tribally owned or controlled park in the U.S. open to the

public.

## Tribe opens propane company

HEATHER SARLES
Otoe-Missouria Tribe

RED ROCK, Okla – For many years, low and fixed income Otoe-Missouria community members struggled to pay for the minimum number of gallons required by propane companies who delivered to the remote location around the tribal complex. To answer this need, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe opened PK Propane.

PK Propane is one of several companies that the tribe has started in the last year. Tribal member and PK manager Lester Harragarra explains the thought behind starting the new company.

"Heating during the winter months was always a struggle for many elders living on a fixed income," Harragarra says. "At the suggestion of Chairman John Shotton, the OMDA (Otoe-Missouria Development Authority) investigated the process to obtain a license from the State of Oklahoma Liquefied Petroleum Gas Administration to transport and dispense propane"

The licensing, sale and transportation of liquefied petroleum is heavily regulated



due to its extremely volatile nature. Once the tribe obtained the correct licenses, the search began for qualified employees.

"Currently PK employs four full-time employees, three are tribal members," Harragarra says. "One Board member is required to hold a State issued license to sell and dispense propane."

The propane company, which is located west of the tribal cemetery, currently has more than 220 customers and has a service area of 50 miles. The company has one Bobtail propane delivery truck and two driver/installers Deswood Koshiway and Abe "Junior" Dent.

"Most of our customers are in the Red Rock, Ponca City, Perry area," Harragarra says. "We have been contacted by another tribe about servicing their complex and would like to service some of the other tribes in the area as well."

Tribal member R.T. Shotton is the site manager. Shotton says that in addition to home delivery, the company can also fill portable tanks up to 100 lbs.

The name PK was selected by Kennetha Greenwood, OMDA, who offers a clever answer to what the name actually means.

"PK doesn't actually stand for anything in English," Greenwood says, "but the sound the initials make together sounds like the word for good in Otoe. So to Otoes, PK means good when they hear it, and that's what we hope for our new business, that it does and brings good things for the tribe"

To learn more about PK propane visit them online at www.PKpropane.com. To order propane or to ask a question about your propane needs call 580-723-4433.

# Colorado water users assoc. elects first Native president

George Arthur (Navajo) will lead powerful water rights advocacy group

STEPHINE POSTON

LAS VEGAS – For the first time in the 66-year history of the Colorado River Water Users Association (CRWUA), a Native American will take the reins of an organization that advocates for all the users of the Colorado River.

CRWUA is the largest, most powerful organization related to Colorado River matters. The organization represents a variety of groups. Each of these groups has its own water interests, ranging from water management organizations, Indian tribes, governmental entities, power companies, and environmental groups. Together they form the CR-WUA, which has a single interest of working together for the future of the Colorado River.

CRWUA is made up of the seven basin states and the Ten Tribes Partnership. The Colorado River provides water for 35 million users and supplies a majority of the power for the southwest States.

George Arthur, a member of the Navajo Nation, has been the Chairman of the Ten Tribes Partnership for six years. The Ten Tribes Partnership has participated in CRWUA since 1996. "It's everyone's responsibility to use the water and care for the resource to ensure future generations are not faced with the challenges we have today. As the President of CRWUA it will be my duty to safeguard the interests

of all who use the Colorado River," stated Arthur.

"The Colorado River is faced with a myriad of complexities and I will look to my CRWUA colleagues for support and guidance. Additionally, I look forward to working with the CRWUA states and members to raise awareness about tribal issues in and related to the basin," added Arthur.

The new Vice President of CRWUA is David Moodeer of the Central Arizona Project. Darryl Vigil, of Jicarilla Apache Tribe, will assume the Secretary/Treasurer position of CRWUA. Mitch Bishop of the Southern Nevada Water Authority will serve as the Assistant Secretary.

"It's been a long time coming and I'm happy to see this day that marks the accession of the Ten Tribes Partnership to the leadership of CR-WUA. Fifteen years ago, the CRWUA Board of Trustees took the position that tribes were a stakeholder and belonged on the Board. The CRWUA Board of Trustees will support George Arthur and the Ten Tribes Partnership in every way to succeed in this effort," stated John Zebre, CRWUA's outgoing President from Wyoming.

For more information about CRWUA, please visit www.crwua.org.

# Region 6 Tribal Lead meeting set

CATOOSA, Okla. – The Region 6 Tribal Lead meeting is set for Jan. 25 at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa.

The meeting hopes to educate and assist those interested in preventing exposure to lead-based materials.

"This meeting is being held at no cost for all those that have a stake in protecting the public from unnecessary exposure to lead in their homes, schools and child care facilities," said Cherokee Nation Environmental specialist Karen Dye.

It is the intent of the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council to bring interested stakeholders together to discuss common issues, provide insight into the future, understand the issues from other perspectives, share, educate and network.

"We believe that this meeting will better equip all of us with ways to assist tribal populations and the general public in reducing lead exposures," Dye said.

The meeting will address how federal and state policies affect lead removal and prevention in healthy housing and identify opportunities to promote good indoor environments in affordable housing. Lead certification/accreditation, childhood lead screening, lead testing techniques, training providers and examples of community action groups and successful lead removal projects also will be discussed.

Lead abatement professionals, affordable housing advocates, city councils and local planning commissions, consumers of subsidized housing, housing authorities, legislators and daycare workers are all invited to take part in the discussions.

Also invited are neighborhood groups, non-profit housing organizations, pro-

fessional associations, public agencies, residential builders and developers and tenants and homeowners.

A block of hotel rooms at the Hard Rock Hotel at the government rate of \$77 a night will be reserved for this date. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-760-6700 and on or before Jan. 12. Mention the Region 6 Tribal Lead Meeting when making reservations to obtain the government rate.

To register for the meeting or for more information, call 918-453-5109 or email karendye@cherokee.org.



### **NOTICE FOR OSAGE COUNTY**

(WEATHER PERMITTING) THE OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

BARNSDALL - CITY HALL-COMMUNITY ROOM-409 W. MAIN-JANUARY 9, 11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. HOMINY - COMMUNITY CENTER-610 S. WOOD - JANUARY 10, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

SKIATOOK-COMMUNITY CENTER-220 S. BROADWAY – JANUARY 12, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. AND

SAND SPRINGS- HEALTH CENTER-306 E. BROADWAY- JANUARY 13, 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. AND MARCH 8, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

MARCH 9, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

SHIDLER- SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER – 125 S. COSDEN - JANUARY 17, 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

 ${\it FAIRFAX-SENIOR~CITIZENS~CENTER-600~W.~HARRISON-JANUARY~18, 11:00~A.M.-1:00~P.M.}$ 

TULSA – GILCREASE HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOC. – 1919 W. SEMINOLE – JANUARY 19, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 6, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

McCORD - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER-115 MARY RD JANUARYY 20, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 7, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

HULAH - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER –1924 CR 3575- JANUARY 23, 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

PRUE - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -209 WAH GRA SEE- JANUARY 24, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

 ${\tt BARTLESVILLE-LABADIE\ HEIGHTS\ BAPTIST\ CHURCH-SW\ OF\ CITY,\ JANUARY\ 25,\ 10:00\ A.M.-2:00\ P.M.}$ 

SPERRY - CITY HALL - 115 N. CINCINNATI - JANUARY 26, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M BURBANK - CITY HALL -105 FIRST ST - JANUARY 27, 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

TAKING NEW APPLICATIONS FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, DOUBLE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, SENIOR FREEZE, VETERANS EXEMPTION, REPORTING CHANGES MADE TO YOUR PROPERTY AND/OR BUILDINGS, TURNING IN MANUFACTURED HOMES, RENDERING BUSINESS PERSONALS, REPORTING FARM EQUIPMENT, TRACTORS, BOAT DOCKS, ETC., AND APPLYING FOR AGRICULTURE FUEL EXEMPTION.

### **DEADLINE FOR FILING IS MARCH 15, 2012**

ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: AN ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION WILL BE GRANTED FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS WITH A GROSS INCOME (COLLECTIVE INCOME OF ANY AND ALL SOURCES OF ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD) NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00 FOR THE PRECEEDING CALENDAR YEAR. THERE ARE NO AGE REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER, FOR A PERMANENT EXEMPTION, YOU MUST FILE AT AGE 65, AND YOU MUST BE 65 AS OF MARCH 15TH. IF 66 YEARS OR OLDER AND QUALIFIED IN 2011, NO ANNUAL APPLICATION IS REQUIRED. FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 918-287-3448.

VETERANS EXEMPTION: 100% DISABLED OR SURVIVING SPOUSE MAY NOW APPLY FOR A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION THAT WILL ELIMINATE THEIR TAX BURDEN ON HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT U.S.D.V.A. BENEFITS AWARD LETTER WITH QUALIFICATIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS EXEMPTION THAT CERTIFIES THE 100% SERVICE RELATED DISABILITY.

PROPERTY VALUATION FREEZE (AKA: SENIOR FREEZE): THE OWNER MUST BE 65 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AS OF JANUARY 1ST, 2012; AND GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME LEVEL CANNOT EXCEED \$59,600.00 FOR THE 2011 YEAR. TO QUALIFY THE TAXPAYER MUST PROVIDE COPIES OF 2011 PAPERS TO VERIFY TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF ALL OCCUPANTS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME INCLUDES ALL TAXABLE AND NON-TAXABLE INCOME SOURCES. THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WILL VERIFY ALL APPLICANTS.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TAXPAYER TO NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IF INCOME EXCEEDS THE QUALIFIED AMOUNTS.

HOUSE BILL #1724: IF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES ARE DELINQUENT, YOUR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION WILL BE CANCELLED.

GAIL HEDGCOTH, OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR 600 GRANDVIEW, RM 101 , OSAGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, PAWHUSKA, OK. 74056 HOURS: 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. 918-287-3448

# Navajo Nation seeks return of remains

**FELICIA FONSECA** Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) – Archaeologists curious about American Indian cultures dug up human remains and associated funerary objects at Canyon de Chelly decades ago, while some remains were taken for protection from erosion in the canyon with towering red, sandstone walls.

Whatever the reason, the Navajo Nation wants hundreds of sets of human remains exhumed from the national monument on their reservation to be returned for proper burial, contending the tribe is the rightful owner of them. The Navajo Nation, whose members live on the country's largest American Indian reservation, contend in a lawsuit filed last week that despite their demands for the remains, the National Park Service has unrightfully held them in a collection in Tucson.

Since 1931, the federal agency has been charged with preserving the thousands of artifacts and ruins within the national monument near Chinle. But the land revered by Navajos as sacred remains tribally owned.

Canyon de Chelly Superintendent Tom Clark said the Park Service's goal

is to repatriate the items, but it first must determine whether any other tribes have cultural affiliation to them under a 1990 federal law known as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Clark said that law appears to conflict with the property rights of the Navajo Nation.

"Until we see how this plays out, we would not proceed to aggravate the situation," he said Tuesday. "But we'll see how it actually plays out and determine from there. Obviously other tribes are interested in it, too."

Canyon de Chelly has been inhabited for thousands of years, with artifacts and cliff dwellings lining the canyon walls dating from the 4th to 14th centuries. Clark said Zuni Pueblo, the Hopi Tribe, Apaches, Utes or other tribes could have rightful claims to the

The Navajo Nation - which calls the canyon "tsegi" or "within the rock" believe that digging up human remains causes illness to the living, including arthritis and depression, and damages the environment. The tribe said it never agreed to let the Park Service or any other entity carry off remains or cultural objects located on the monument because that would have contradicted traditional Navajo laws and violated the rights of tribal members.

"Since at least 1868, this has been the heart of Navajo country, and nothing in the act that created the national monument changed that," said Alan Downer, director of the tribe's Historic Preservation Department. "So for the Park Service to say, 'we dug it up, put it in our collection and, therefore, it's ours' is wrong."

The tribe further argues that the remains were taken before Congress outlined a process for museums and federal agencies to inventory their collections, consult with tribes regarding cultural affiliation and return remains to the appropriate tribe. Congress has allowed the Park Service to hold the objects and remains only temporarily to preserve and protect them at most, the tribe said.

The most recent excavation in Canyon de Chelly took place in 1988 when the tribe agreed to let the Park Service remove remains from an eroding arroyo under the condition that they be reburied soon after, Downer said. Instead, they ended up in the Park Service's collection, he said. Other excavation work was done as early as the

The Park Service met with tribes in June and showed them its collection. Downer said some of the pottery clearly is Navajo as are remains recovered from Massacre Cave, where 115 Navajos were killed in a bloody encounter with the Spanish in 1805.

"When you get to pre-contact times, it's very difficult to say 'this is unquestionably ancestral to this contemporary tribe," Downer said.

Clark said the Park Service doesn't claim ultimate ownership of the remains or objects but must follow the mandate of Congress.

"We all want to have the remains repatriated, that's what all the tribes and the Park Service have all stated," he said. "That is our goal. I guess the disagreement is in the process to get

The Navajo Nation is asking a judge to declare that the remains are the property of the tribe and order the Park Service to immediately return them. Should the court determine that federal laws transferred the title of human remains and cultural objects from the tribe to the Park Service, the Navajo Nation wants those laws declared void.

no jurisdiction in dictating planning requirements there because the property is an original allotment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, of which the Kialegee Tribal Town is a branch.

Paxton Myers, chief of staff for the National Indian Gaming Commission, said last week the tribe risked violating the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act if it opened a casino. The commission is still reviewing whether the land is eligible for gaming.

Luis Figueredo, the attorney representing the proposed Red Clay Casino, said the commission's determination isn't legally binding.

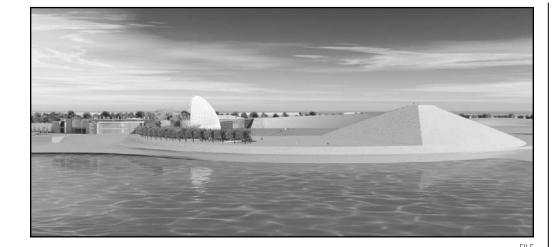
Hobia said the tribe has kept federal and city officials informed about the project's progress at all times, that it had no other viable economic development opportunities and it is dependent on limited allocations and subsidies, the Tulsa World reported last Tuesday.

The casino project would bring jobs and increase the purchase of goods and services in the city, he said in his statement.

"It is a widely established fact that employment, purchases and tax payments made by tribal casinos lead to increased business for surrounding communities," Hobia said.

Residents have expressed opposition to the project, citing its close proximity to schools and the strain on public resources.

"Can't they find another piece of land away from young people?" Broken Arrow resident Donna Tracy asked. "That's just opening temptations to those young people. That's putting them in harm's way."



This model rendering shows what the American Indian Cultural Center will look like once completed.

### Funds sought for American **Indian Cultural Center**

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Private donations are being sought to complete the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum that's being built in Oklahoma City,

The center's new executive director, Blake Wade, says he will have to raise \$80 million to complete the structure, which is about half finished. Wade says the center could open in three to four years.

The Oklahoman reports that Wade says he expects to have to raise \$40 million from the public in private donations and the rest through state appropriations.

So far, the state has contributed \$67 million in addition to \$16 million from the federal government plus \$6.7 million from Indian

tribes and private donors.

### **Woman brings Indian remains home**

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich. (AP) - A Michigan woman attending college in Canada has returned home with the remains of an American Indian that were kept at a museum for more than 100 years.

The Morning Sun in Mount Pleasant says the remains along with other items were repatriated in December by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe in central Michigan's Isabella County. It's not known how the remains ended up at the Museum of Vancouver in British Columbia, although officials say there was much "random collecting" in the early 20th century.

The remains and other artifacts were buried Dec. 19 in the Nibokaan Indian Cemetery.

They were transported by Emily Birky of Glenn, Mich., who is pursuing a doctorate at the University of British Columbia. She believes the remains were removed from a mound near Saginaw, around 1905.

## Hopis lose lawsuit over effluent for snowmaking

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - The Hopi Tribe has lost a round in court in its bid to stop Flagstaff from selling treated sewage water to Arizona Snowbowl.

The Arizona Daily Sun reports Coconino County Superior Court Judge Joe Lodge ruled in favor of the city Friday.

It's not clear if the Hopis will appeal the decision.

"We're going to seriously take a look at what we have," said Hopi Chairman Le Roy Shingoitewa.

The judge said the substanal components of the case had already been decided in federal court, and the tribe was legally required to raise its objections earlier.

"The plaintiff was clearly on notice in March 2002 that the city of Flagstaff intended to contract with Snowbowl to purchase reclaimed wastewater to be used for snowmaking at the Snowbowl ski area," Lodge wrote in his ruling.

The ruling sidesteps some of the new legal questions raised by the tribe, such as whether reclaimed wastewater can legally be used to make snow if the melted snow then flows

into other water basins outside of Snowbowl, which is prohibited by state regulations.

Flagstaff officials pleased with the ruling.

We're glad the judge sees our perspective on the case, and would like to move forward with more productive issues with our neighbors," said Flagstaff City Manager Kevin Burke.

The owner of the business has recently approached the Navajo Nation and one other tribe over the possibility of using groundwater from deep wells in the Coconino or Redwall aquifers rather than reclaimed wastewater.

The idea is just a rough proposal at this point, said Snowbowl owner Eric Borowsky.

He has not yet called for any work to determine whether using groundwater is feasible.

Snowbowl plans to begin making snow for skiing in the winter of 2012-2013.

A different case litigating snowmaking on health and environmental grounds is headed for oral arguments in January at the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

### **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES**

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Wesley Mahan KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

> > Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahleguah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country



### LENDING

Other legal battles are being fought or have been fought in California, West Virginia, Missouri, New Mexico and Maryland.

cent. Payments are made over a period of months, usually in monthly or biweekly installments.

By any account, those rates are still very high. By the company's own example, a first-time borrower who takes out a \$600 loan would end up paying \$1,261.32 over 12 bi-weekly pay-

Less than a year old, Plain Green Loans already has an F rating by the Better Business Bureau after the agency received 20 complaints mainly dealing with billing and collection issues. Eleven of the complaints were resolved, but the company didn't respond or failed to resolve the other nine, according to the BBB.

Rosette said those complaints are relatively few when compared to the thousands of loans the company has administered.

"We've got a process in place that we believe is very quick at handling any type of complaint that we get. That's part of this industry, complaints, regardless of who you are," Rosette said.

As long as it doesn't make any loans to Montana residents, state prosecutors plan to let Plain Green Loans and the Chippewa Cree tribe be.

"We haven't looked specifically at the tribe," said assistant attorney general Jim Molloy. "We've not pursued it based on the understanding with the tribe that they're not lending to Mon-

Rosette confirmed that the tribe is not lending to Montana residents, but he bristled at the idea that the state could enforce its rate cap even if the tribe were lending in the state.

"If we wanted to defend our position in Montana, we could. But why? It's a small market. It wasn't worth the fight if there was one," Rosette said.

Other legal battles are being fought or have been fought in California, West Virginia, Missouri, New Mexico and Maryland, creating an unsettled regulatory environment, said Jean Anne Fox, director of financial services at Consumer Federation of America, a consumer advocacy group in Washington, D.C.

"It's a real threat to the ability of state regulators to enforce the loan market to police caps and other consumer protection measures," Fox said.

Some non-tribal businesses have seen tribal immunity as a shield that they can use to make high-interest loans outside of the regulatory spotlight and a way to avoid state law enforcement, Fox said. So they affiliate themselves with the tribe and conduct business under that shield, she said.

It can be difficult to obtain records that define the relationship between a tribe and non-tribal entity. That's the case with Plain Green Loan's relationship to a Fort Worth, Texas-based company called Think Finance Inc.

Think Finance says on its website that Plain Green Loans is one of its "products," along with online lenders owned by two other tribes. "Our latest product, Plain Green,

launched in April. Customers in need of emergency cash can apply online in minutes, get an answer in seconds, and get cash as soon as the next day," a Think Finance press release from September reads.

Neither the tribe nor Think Finance returned calls and emails for comment on the relationship between the companies. Better Business Bureau spokeswoman Chelsea Dannen said her agency also tried to contact Think Finance to clarify the relationship but received no response.

Rosette said Plain Green Loans is wholly owned by the tribe, though he acknowledged that his staff of 25 isn't equipped to handle the volume. It employs a Las Vegas call center and uses brokers to provide it with databases of potential borrowers. It borrows just enough money each day to cover its

There are a lot of things the tribe won't disclose. Rosette says the default rate is on Plain Green loans is proprietary information. He won't name the companies the tribe is involved with or say where company borrows its money or at what rate.

If it turns out that Plain Green Loans is not a bona fide tribal lender, that could change state prosecutors' laissez-faire approach to the company, Molloy said.

But just the obscurity and the uncertain relationship between the tribe and the Texas company exemplify the underlying problem with tribal online lending businesses, Fox said.

"We're not sure who's doing what

here," Fox said.

### **Native American images for mascots bring debate**

CARMEN McCOLLUM
The Times

GARY, Ind. (AP) – The issue of using Native Americans as mascots and images in sports has long been debated with some terming the practice offensive.

However, numerous Indiana schools and teams use Native American mascots. They say it's a way to honor the nation's 19th state, which was once inhabited by Indian tribes for thousands of years.

One of the most common nicknames for Indiana high school teams is the Warriors, ranking at No. 2. Calumet High School in Lake Ridge Schools uses the nickname.

The issue of school mascots came up for discussion recently with the Lake Ridge School Board in Calumet Township and in Portage Township Schools in Portage.

Rick Lowe, Lake Ridge board president, wants to see the Calumet High mascot, affectionately known as Chief Wahoo, back on the school's sign.

Superintendent Sharon Johnson-Shirley said the mascot on the school's front sign was taken down more than two years ago when contractors were doing renovation work around the building. However, the mascot is evident throughout the building, including at the entrance on floor mats.

With the exception of School Board

member Annette Wells, who told fellow board members that putting an Indian mascot back on the building might be offensive to some people, no one disagreed with Lowe.

Calumet Principal Tim Pivarnik said he has never had any resident complain about the signage. He said they've made a template of the original sign, using exterior grade wood, and a group of students will paint it. Pivarnik said the mascot will be hung on the Ridge Road side of the building. He hopes this will be done before the end of the year.

In Portage, Superintendent Mike Berta said he sees the Indian mascot, with the head of an Indian chief in steel in front of the high school building, as a tribute to a heroic group of people, but he adds, "I guess others can see it differently"

A few months ago, Portage School Board member Cheryl Oprisko expressed concern at a board meeting the symbol might not be appropriate.

However, Berta said he thinks the mascot is pretty cool. "It's on some of our stationery, and a facsimile of it is in front of the building. I have never had anyone in my 39 years in Portage make any statement of concern about our Indian mascot being offensive to anyone. Just the opposite, in fact. The Indian mascot has always been one of respect and pride for students and employees,"

he said

Chris Kaufman, a spokesman for the Indiana High School Athletic Association, said the association believes it's up to an individual school system and community what mascot to choose. He said the association is not a legislative body and has no mascot restrictions.

Michelle Stokely, an assistant professor of sociology and anthropology at Indiana University Northwest in Gary, said she believes that among Native Americans there is a general feeling the Indian mascots and images in sports are inappropriate.

"However, tribal people believe there are so many more issues to think about that they don't waste a lot of time thinking about that," she said.

Stokely said the emphasis on warriors or warriors winning a battle are issues. She said it's usually something aggressive and it doesn't reflect the diversity in every society, which includes things like arts, religion and family life.

"It creates the sense that Indian people are a thing rather than a diverse, broad society," she said. "So you have this character or cartoon figure of an Indian that diminishes the overall quality of a society. One of my classes discussed this recently. Indians are only 1 percent of the U.S. population. That's a small number that doesn't assert political or ethnic power the way larger groups do."

The misbegotten

# NCAA says lawsuit by tribes should be thrown out

FARGO, N.D. (AP) – The NCAA says a lawsuit that was sparked by the University of North Dakota Fighting Sioux nickname controversy should be thrown out of federal court.

The suit was filed by members of the Spirit Lake and Standing Rock Sioux tribes. It seeks at least \$10 million from the NCAA and a reversal of its policy banning use of American Indian imagery.

The North Dakota Legislature agreed to repeal a law requiring the university to keep the nickname and a logo depicting the profile of an American Indian warrior. It took effect this month.

The motion filed Thursday by the NCAA says the tribes lack standing to bring the lawsuit and says their claims are not supported by facts.

# State appeals Mukwonago nickname ruling

MADISON, Wis. (AP) – The state is appealing a Waukesha County court ruling which allows Mukwonago High School to keep its Indians nickname and logo.

Judge Donald Hassin ruled in September that the state's effort to strip the school of its Indians name was unconstitutional. The state Department of Public Instruction ruled last year the nickname and mascot perpetuThe district was given a year to drop the Indians mascot. The school district did not and Hassin ruled the department's administrative hearing on the case was unfair.

ated stereotypes of American

Indians and is discriminatory.

The Journal Sentinel says at least three other school districts have had administrative hearings on their nicknames.



IMAGE DRUGSFORUM.COM

Federal law, 42 USC 1996a, outlines genuine religious peyote use by only those who are Native American. It is illegal for anyone with less than one quarter Indian blood to possess cactus buttons.

### **PEYOTE**

Continued from Page 1

ing peyote and the Native American Church (NAC), said peyote holds firm sway.

"It's so complicated," Swan said in a telephone interview. "It's difficult to know what's up with the availability of peyote. I been down there (south Texas) and that's undeniable there's not as much as there used to be."

The Sooner state remains the "cradle of peyotism." Visiting Lipan Apaches intermarried with Plains tribes and the ground work was laid for the present-day Native American Church, Swan said.

The curator cites growth for peyote (as a religion) in the 1860s around south Texas and northern Mexico circa the 1930s. Among the Native communities, peyote's place was low-key but essential. It was not until the 1960s that peyote drew a bad reputation when counter-culturists began to tout mescaline (active peyote hallucinogen) for its mystical and mythical qualities.

"It never caught on," Swan said of non-Native users. Instead, it became known as a "danger to society," during Richard Nixon's presidency in 1970 when drug schedules were created to rank drugs based on various criteria. Peyote was placed on the list of most dangerous drugs and remained there.

reputation of peyote affects its availability, NAC proponents said. Since the plant grows almost exclusively in southern Texas, that state's laws govern and monitor its commerce (which has steadily dropped since 2006). To date, official growers or peyoteros are licensed by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) while NAC church branches are also registered with the state of Texas. Peyote's drop-

Peyote's dropping numbers are prompting one Indian tribe in Oklahoma to ask for broadened access through the federal level. The Caddo Nation in Binger, Oklahoma, hopes United States Department of Ag-

riculture (USDA) tribal liaison, Janie Hipp (Chickasaw), will carry forth their petition to ease access to the cactus for tribes. Milton Sovo, Caddo Nation vice-chairman, said the tribe sat down with Hipp in a consultation at a federal workshop touted for building bridges between tribes and federal agencies.

Leaders of the 5,500-member tribe said they wanted to reach USDA secretary, Tom Vilsack, with suggestions on peyote accessibility. Meanwhile, USDA officials allow that the tribal liaison favors protecting natural environments for plants that Indians use for medicinal purposes, but peyote is not specifically named. Hipp released a departmental statement

that both addressed and skirted the issue.

"Through their actions, Native Americans have provided the world's farmers with fiber and seeds that literally clothe and feed the planet. It is important that these original strains be preserved as a resource not only for Native American farmers and ranchers, but for those who will benefit from them in the future."

Criss-crossing federal agencies are also a part of the Caddos' obstacles. U.S. Department of Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) officials said while peyote sits on the Schedule 1 drug list, changes remain unlikely. Federal statutes cite its potential for abuse or harm when using and because it has no medically sanctioned use (schedules are ranked numerically with the most dangerous drugs listed with lowest number). Currently, peyote is listed alongside drugs like Ecstasy (MDMA), Psilocybin mushrooms and LSD. Meanwhile, the Schedule 2 list has cocaine and opium which have medical applica-

Special agent Keith Brown of the DEA's New Mexico regional office said of 16 years in the region, he has not encountered trafficking or prosecution involving peyote.

"It's illegal, but when you look at other drug problems facing America or Native America, it's not peyote that's the problem," Brown said.

Drugs that are problems on reservations or amongst Indians are methamphetamine, prescription drugs or marijuana, he said.

In Texas (the Caddo Nation's aboriginal territory), state officials monitor the sales volume by its three legal vendors and put the figure at just under roughly \$480,000 annually. This amount limits a market that drug runners are interested in, the DEA special agent adds.

Federal law, 42 USC 1996a, out-

lines genuine religious peyote use by only those who are Native American. It is illegal for anyone with less than one quarter Indian blood to possess cactus buttons. And only card-carrying members of the NAC can purchase the buttons used to ingest during religious services.

But the Caddo Nation members said they aren't interested in bending DEA laws on legality - only in increasing how much peyote they can purchase and how easily they can get to it, Sovo said.

"She (Hipp) promised to take it back to the USDA secretary," Sovo said. "It took us 10 years to get someone in Washington (D.C.) to sit down and listen to us."

Caddo Nation officials said peyote is used as a traditional Indian sacrament in their religion and is covered by the U.S. Constitution. If there's a shortage of access, they said, the feds should step up assistance to Indian peyote practitioners.

Ironically, looking for the cactus is not that difficult online. Plugging the word "peyote," into a search engine pulled up 3 million results. Outside of the United States (excluding France and Russia) laws are more lenient about buying and possessing the Lophophora williamsii, or peyote buttons. In those countries, its legality hinges on it being a botanical specimen growth, Swan said.

Peyote's restricted and illegal status is illogical, tribal officials maintain.

"Common sense is not so common it seems," Sovo said.

A lot is at stake here, Caddo chairman, Brenda Edwards, said. The Caddos will keep trying.

"Not just for us but for all tribes," Edwards said. "The soil is changing and many of the plants are not as plentiful as they once were. We'd like access to labs and answers on our soil questions as well as plants' availability back."

# SUPERNAW'S ANNUAL SALE

10% OFF ON PENDLETON PRODUCTS AND BROADCLOTH 20% OFF ON EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE STORE

HACKLES, SPIKES, FLUFFS, SKINS, BEADS, SHELLS, NEEDLES, THREAD, BLANKETS, SAGE, CEDAR, BROOCHES, LOTS OF JEWELRY EVERYTHING! HURRY!

CASH OR CREDIT CARD ONLY
PURCHASES MUST BE MADE IN THE STORE
OPEN NOON TO 6:00 PM WEEKDAYS
SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY 109 NORTH BROADWAY, SKIATOOK, OK 74070 COUNTRYWIDE TOLL FREE 1-888-720-1967 EMAIL: SUPERNAW@FLASH.NET



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

# COMMENTARY

# Shorn locks and the knowing of hearts

S.E. RUCKMAN

We weave a strange pattern while we are here on the planet. Still, the intricate crisscrossing of people, circumstance and places in our lives produces a beautiful design in Indian Country.

Recently, my family experienced the sudden loss of my former brother -in-law. A kind and gentle soul, the call to mourn him was intense and traditional. As a head man for the Cheyenne Dog Soldier Society, he had spent years living his life in thought of others. His give-all and take little philosophy taught me much about generosity and how to tell real from counterfeit ges-

I will keep my personal feelings about him to myself. But as we sat in the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma community center, a larger

imprint clarified. His brother, three daughters, grand-daughter and two adopted daughters (one of them, my child) sat in the family seats all sporting newly shorn hair. Most had hair that reached down their backs, but as a sign of respect and to announce their period of mourning, they relinquished it.

As a Plains Indian, this ritual is a familiar one but is often over looked as past practices fade against newer things like Power Point presentations of the dearly departed. I am all good to welcome in the new rituals but I cleave to the traditional utterances. It says who we are.

Cutting off one's hair goes back in our culture to the times when the only ownership we could claim was family, tribe and pride. All of those went a long way to securing a full life and surely it was

enough because it had carried us on through the years when we became landowners (of sorts) and foreigners in our own lands.

The idea is that the mourning family is calling out to those who might see them from afar. It says: This person has suffered a terrible loss. As such, loved ones are granted ample bereavement as mourning allows. Hair-cutting is sufficient unto itself. When the hair grows out, its length similarly signals that the official mourning period's end approaches.

I was speaking to a Southeastern tribal friend who was still lamenting the loss of his mother from the year prior. I told him about the hair cutting and he had no idea what it was. Pulled by compunction, I began to look at tribal viewpoints on hair cutting. I found that other tribes outside of the (Northern and Southern) Plains did likewise in m ourning, like the Senecas. Sociologists might call this cultural similarities but I see the crisscrossing.

The sudden disappearance of our hair announces the loss of our prior identities. This was highly visible in the boarding schools attended by legions of Indian children in our collective past. Not only were the tribal clothes removed but the badge of our outer selves. Thankfully, our tribal languages and Indian names could sufficiently masquerade the inner heart.

As for the hair that was cut from my brother-in-law's immediate kin, it became a beautiful song. The various switches were placed in his casket so he would take them as he made the journey toward spiritual sunshine. The gesture wrung from me tears that I had probably stored for decades. I was comforted that he would carry them along; a physical remembrance of his loved ones as he walked.

For those in Indian Country who are looking forward to 2012, it is unquestioned that some have also recently lost a loved one. Maybe it is not so recent, but the hole is still there. These are the ones who are quizzical to see what will bloom in the flower of the New Year. Where they will go, what is in store, and who they will love becomes as a present to be unwrapped. At the same time, they are ever alert to scan the horizon for a remembrance or signal from their departed one as they reach forward.

For the record, I now know those hearts.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated



Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.

# Wounded Knee 1890: A day that will live in infamy

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2011 Unity South Dakota

Most white South Dakotans forget that in December of 1890 there were still violent hostilities that existed between the Lakota and the United States. To this day an all-inclusive peace treaty has never been signed between the tribes of the Great Sioux Nation and the United States government.

On December 15, 1890 Tatanka Iyotanka (Sitting Bull) was shot to death by tribal police officers Red Tomahawk and Bull Head. Many of his followers fled to seek refuge with his halfbrother, Si Tanka (Big Foot). Because Big Foot had been affiliated with the new religious formation known as the Ghost Dance, and fearing arrest and reprisals, Big Foot set out for Pine Ridge after an invitation from Chief Red Cloud to join him there and assist him in finding a path to peace.

Big Foot's followers numbered around 300 and fled to Pine Ridge under a white flag of peace. They had no intention of fighting and in fact their intentions were just the opposite; all they wanted was to find a place of peace.

On December 28 they were intercepted by the 7th Cavalry, the same branch of the U. S. Army that was headed by George Armstrong Custer in 1876 at the Little Bighorn. Big Foot's band was pushed to make an encampment at

Wounded Knee creek. They were stripped of their weapons.

The next morning, December 29, while forced to line up for further searches a weapon discharged and the massacre at Wounded Knee began. Without weapons, the Lakota warriors shouted to the women and children to flee and they fought the soldiers with their bare hands.

Big Foot was shot to death while lying in his tent suffering from pneumonia.

Two weeks before the massacre after hearing of the death of Sitting Bull, a newspaperman named L. Frank Baum, the same man who wrote The Wonderful Wizard of Oz a few years later, editorialized in the Aberdeen (S.D.) Saturday Review, "Sitting Bull, most renowned Sioux of modern history, is dead. He was an Indian with a white man's spirit of hatred and revenge for those who wronged him and his. With this fall the nobility of the Redskin is extinguished and what few are left are a pack of whining curs who lick the hand that smites them. The Whites, by law of conquest, by justice of civilization, are masters of the American continent, and the best safety of the frontier settlers will be secured by the total annihilation of the few remaining Indians."

My grandmother Sophie was an employee at the Holy Rosary Indian Mission, just a few miles from Wounded Knee, and told of the soldiers that rode on to the mission grounds on that freezing day in December, some with blood still on their gloves, and about how she and several of the students had to feed and water their horses.

American Horse, a prominent Lakota leader said, "There was a woman with an infant in her arms who was killed as she almost touched the flag of truce . . . A mother was shot down with her infant; the child not knowing its mother was dead, was still nursing. The women as they were fleeing with their babies were killed together, shot right through and after most all of them had been killed a cry was made that all those who were not killed or wounded should come forth and they would be safe. Little boys came out of their places of refuge, and as soon as they came in sight a number of soldiers surrounded them and butchered them."

More than 20 Medals of Honor were given to the soldiers involved in this pitiless massacre. To the Lakota people, even to this day, December 29, 1890 is a "Day that will live in infamy."

To the Lakota it will never be ancient history, but a day they will tell their children about and their children will tell it to their children. My grandmother was there and remembered that day and as a Lakota woman, she and all of our relatives were marked for annihilation by the newspaper man L. Frank Baum. He called for the genocide of the Lakota people and no one, except the Lakota people, saw any wrong in

I heard a television newsman say just last week that the shooting at Virginia Tech where 33 students were killed, was the largest mass shooting in American history. Numbers vary on the Massacre at Wounded Knee, but nearly



300 would not be far from reality. And then there were the massacres at Sand Creek and Washita to name a few more where American Indian men, women and children were shot to death.

America has never made reparations nor apologized for this Day of Infamy.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knol-

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465. To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.



LANGLEY

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

918-782-0011

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



**NATIVE** AMERICAN TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties -



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

-						
$\Lambda TT$	VE	$\Lambda$ $\Lambda$ $\Lambda$	EDI	[CAN	T '   ' T	
$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{\Pi}$	V C /			ICAIN		MUCR

Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:

□ \$65.00 for	52 issues	\$32.50 for	26 issues

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

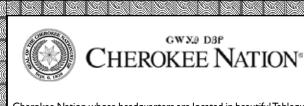
■ \$1.25 single copy

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS. Visit online at www.nativetimes.com

# CLASSIFIEDS

### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

### **BIDS**



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

#5868 RFT Inpatient Registered Nurse (Hastings/7:30 am - 4:00 pm/On call), Tahlequah -1/21/12

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department** PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Or Visit our website at: www.cherokee.org Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Miss An Issue? **Download back issues for FREE** www.nativetimes.com



### American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association

Introducing America's First Nations to the World

AIANTA is a nonprofit association of Native American tribes and tribal businesses organized to advance Indian Country tourism. The Association is made up of member tribes from six regions: Eastern, Plains, Midwest, Southwest, Pacific Northwest, and Alaska. The purpose of the Association is to serve as the voice and resource for its constituents in advancing tourism, assist tribes in creating infrastructure and capacity, provide technical assistance, training and educational resources to tribes, tribal organizations and tribal members.

AIANTA currently is seeking to fill two positions, Finance Director and Membership Coordinator. Please visit www.aianta.org/news for complete vacancy announcement. Please submit resume including salary history and two references no later than 5:00 p.m. MST, November 28, 2011 to:

> Attn: Sherrie Bowman 2401 12th Street NW Albuquerque, NM 87104 Or electronically at sbowman@aianta.org

### **Architectural Project Manager**

Architectural Project Manager, Tahlequal, OK: Responsible for architectural projects including the plan, design, and construction of residential structures in the rustico style. Reports to owner and designated supervising licensed Architect. Bachelor's degree in Architecture, 1 year's experience in construction projects. Resumes to: Chance Properties, LLC, V. H. Wilhelm, 2210 Golf Course Road, Tahlequah, OK,

### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is accepting applications for the full-time, regular status position of Title VI Program Coordinator/Department Manager. To apply, please visit our website at http://www.pawneenation.org

### **Director of Native American** Recruitment

Bacone College is looking for a Director of Native American Recruitment. This is a full-time, 12-month position designed to reach out to the Native American market across America and express Bacone College's primary focus and interest in recruiting and retaining Native American students that reflect its mission and heritage. Recruitment will focus primarily on Native American prospective students interested in attending Bacone College and working as a point of contact with these students throughout matriculation.

This position requires extensive travel within Oklahoma and the United States. The person selected for this position is primarily responsible for recruitment of Native American students and maintaining secondary education relationships.

Send letter of application, vita, transcripts, and three references humanresources@bacone. edu or Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

### **SUB-BID ANNOUNCEMENT**

PROJECT: Pawnee Nation, 2010 ICDBG **New Law Enforcement Building OWNER: Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma** NO CALLS TO OWNER. **ARCHITECT: Anishinabe Design** NO CALLS TO ARCHITECT. **CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:** Builder's Unlimited, Inc. 4677 S. 83rd E. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74145 (918)835-1138 Fax: (918)834-5865 Contacts: Glenna Clark, **Bid/Project Coordinator** for bid and document questions. gclarkbuitulsa@tulsacoxmail.com

PRE-BID DATE: December 21, 2011 @ 10:00 AM, Meet at Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Conference Room, 881 Little Dee Drive then a site visit is scheduled immediately following. \*\*NOT MANDATORY, HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

BID DATE: Sealed proposals will be received until no later than 2:00 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2012.

INDIAN PREFERENCE DOES APPLY -MUST PROVIDE COPY OF CDIB CARD OR TERO CERTIFICATION WITH SEALED BID. PREVAILING WAGE DOES APPLY.

Sealed proposals shall be delivered to: **Pawnee Nation** c/o Builders Unlimited, Inc. 881 Little Dee Drive Pawnee, Ok. 74058

**Look for Native American Times** on Facebook! Friends get front page scoops and breaking news.

### **SERVICES**

Native American Electrician

### 1st Call Electric

Reasonable Rates • At Cost Material

918-277-1610

Licensed • Insured • Bonded • OK#70011

Serving Northeast Oklahoma

### **Advanced Energy Solutions**

(Heating & Air Conditioning)

Serving Oklahoma City and the surrounding area.

Service, repair and installation of all brands

\* \* American Standard Dealer \* \*

405-315-6116

Expert Owner Operation • You can relax when AES is on the job

**Commercial Janitorial Services/Supplies** ✓ Landscaping Services Big Time Maintenance Solutions (405) 338-8180

American Indian Owned

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor







Call to reserve your brand today!

405-933-2474

702 E Central • Anadarko, Okla.



# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class, October-No-Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral **Health Programs sponsor** an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla.

Phone: (918) 458-0008 Web site: www.cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD TUESDAY of even numbered months - The **Central Oklahoma Cherokee** Alliance meets at Mayflower vember, 6:30 pm, Room 300, UCC Church, Oklahoma City at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16.

> **FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly **luncheon at Bacone College** Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**FIRST FRIDAY** Indian Taco Sale, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Norman First American UMC, 1950

**Beaumont Drive, Norman,** OK 73071, 405/321-5640

**FIRST FRIDAY** Indian Art Market at Concho Community Building, Concho, Okla. Phone: (405) 422-7622. All Indian artists are invited to come and sell/ share their work.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS** The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Gather for fellowship and

friendship. Volunteers welcome. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

**YOUTH COUNCIL** The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH JANUARY 10 Blackbear Bosin artwork** featured in The Red Earth Museum & Gallery. Open free to the public Monday – Friday and Saturday by appointment. Located at 6 Santa Fe Plaza next to the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City. Visit www. redearth.org or call (405)

427-5228 for more informa-

**THROUGH JANUARY 2012 Cowboys & Indians Revisit**ed - an exhibit at the Science Museum Oklahoma featuring metal work by Caddo artist Darroll Joe Reddick. 2100 NE 52nd St, Oklahoma City. Info call 405-602-6664 or ScienceMuseumOK.org

**Oklahoma City Powwow Club New Years Dance at Centennial Building (aka** Kitchens Bldg.) Oklahoma State Fair Grounds. Gourd Dancing at 2pm and 6pm. Grand Entry at 7pm. Tiny Tots Special. Info call 405-

**JANUARY 7** 

919-1572.

**JANUARY 8 Rogers County Cherokee As**sociation meeting at 2 p.m. Call Lee Keener 918-346-0078

**JANUARY 14** 80th Birthday Dance for Moses Starr at Concho Community Hall, Concho, Okla. Gourd Dancing @ 2pm Supper @ 6pm

**JANUARY 19 South Coffeyville Cherokee** Community meeting at 6:30 p.m. Call Vickie Brokeshoulder 918-822-2893

**JANUARY 24** Vinita Indian Territory Coalition Cherokee Community meeting at 6 p.m. Call Lisa Trice-Turtle 918-453-2988

**JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 5 Tulsa Boat Show, Quik Trip** Center, Tulsa, Okla. (918) 519-1219

\*Email your event information to lisa@nativetimes. com or fax your flyer to 888-689-5245.

# **Program trains workers** for energy jobs

The program is open to anyone with a high school diploma or GED and OERB offers some scholarships, while many employers pay for the continued education.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - The cyclical nature of the oil and natural gas industry sometimes makes it difficult for companies to find qualified employees.

The industry currently is struggling to find replacements for its aging workforce, so the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board created a training program to prepare interested students to fill a variety of technical roles.

"It's really been well received by the industry," said board member Tim Munson, exploration manager for Oklahoma City's Spartan Resources LLC.

Munson helped set up OERB's PetroTech program with a few other industry professionals after OERB Director Mindy Stitt and former board member Mike Terry came up with the idea for the training program.

He also helped recruit other professionals to teach classes focused on key technical areas.

OERB now offers PetroTech classes in two sessions each year at Francis Tuttle Technology Center. Another program was started about two years ago at Tulsa Technology Center.

Munson said it takes about a year to complete the program, which includes 14 classes. Each one spans up to five classroom sessions, encompassing a total of more than 170 hours.

He said the classes offer students an introduction to all aspects of the oil and gas industry, while allowing them to build a network of professional contacts as they learn.

"A lot of our students actually get hired before they even get out," Munson said.

Natalie Young-Schneider completed the PetroTech program in 2008 in only three

She said she heard about the OERB program from a customer while working on the energy trading desk at a local bank.

Young-Schneider, 30, was interested in continuing her education, since she didn't have a college degree at that time.

"It was really easy and convenient," she said. The PetroTech classes at Francis Tuttle were at night, so they didn't conflict with her job.

Young-Schneider said she was able to test out of a few classes, so she completed the program faster than usual.

Young-Schneider said she appreciated the

opportunity to learn from industry professionals. She also said she enjoyed learning about several aspects of the oil and gas industry, but she remained drawn to the financial side of the business.

Young-Schneider ended up landing a job marketing derivatives at Chaparral Energy Inc. in August 2008. She credits her prior experience and her PetroTech training for her hir-

The PetroTech program has won plenty of fans at Chaparral.

"As the oil and gas industry has continued to grow in the Oklahoma City area, the shortage of experienced oil and gas employees has continued to also grow," said Diane Montgomery, vice president of finance and investor relations at Chaparral Energy Inc.

"The PetroTech training program provided by OERB has been a good resource in assisting Chaparral in filling that gap by training employees for tech positions in land, geology, engineering and marketing."

More than 130 people have completed the technical training program since it was implemented in 2007.

"Chaparral has a number of employees who have completed OERB's PetroTech program and we value the expertise gained through the training," Montgomery said. "The program provides education highly concentrated on the actual day-to-day activities of the energy industry."

Munson said the makeup of PetroTech students has changed a bit since the program be-

It was meant to help train outsiders for jobs in the oil and gas industry, but he said now more industry workers are taking classes to open up new opportunities with their current

"It's really paid off wonderfully for everyone." Munson said.

He said the PetroTech courses are affordable, with the entire set of classes costing only about

OERB offers some scholarships, while many employers pay for the continued education.

The program is open to anyone with a high school diploma or GED.

For more information, call (405) 942-5323, ext. 231 or toll-free 1-800-664-1301, ext. 231; email petrotech@oerb.com or go online at www.oerb.com.



In this 2009 photo, Oaks Indian Mission residents enjoy an evening meal together in the mission's cafeteria.

# Oaks Indian Mission needing donations

OAKS, Okla. - The Oaks Mission in Delaware County is asking for donations for the Native American children it cares for at its residential fa-

The 167-year-old mission is a home for children who are abused, neglected or abandoned or children whose parents cannot care for them for various reasons. The mission usually cares for 30 to 40 children ranging in ages 3 to 18.

The mission's needs range from recreational equipment to laundry detergent. Staff is requesting board games, pillows, dish soap, toothbrush holders, bicycles, Wii games, storage containers, arts and crafts sets, bleach, laundry baskets, disinfectant spray and wipes, clothes hampers and 14- and 15-gallon trash

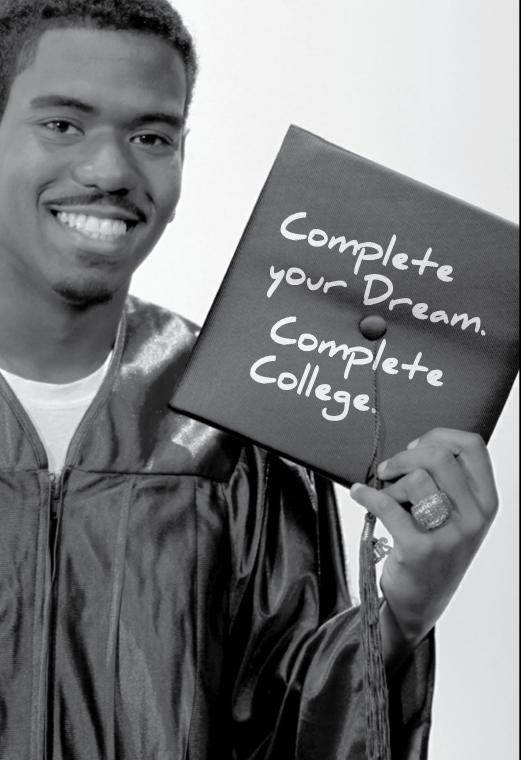
The mission is also in need of clothing in all sizes for children ages 5 to 18, socks and underwear for ages 10 and up, home décor items, area rugs, carpet cleaner, pot holders, Brita water filters for faucets, towels, wash cloths, hair brushes, used but good pots and pans, cooking utensils, first aid kits, medical supplies and Tylenol and Motrin.

The mission is also asking for donations of a butchered calf or pig.

In 1892, with the future of Indian Territory missions in doubt because of the assignment of land allotments by the Dawes Commission, the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church opened a school at the mission site, which was then called Springplace Mission. A church was established in October 1903 named Eben Ezer Lutheran Church and still operates today. The church and mission became the nucleus of Oaks. In 1926, the Oaks Indian Mission was established as a children's home.

Today, the mission is a nonprofit agency and is funded through private donations. For more information, call 918-868-2196 or visit online at www.oaksindianmission.







### Choctaw Nation aids battle against diabetes related blindness

**TRAVIS MORROW** 

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma has awarded \$1 million to the Dean McGee Eye Institute to aid their efforts in fighting diabetes related blindness among Native Americans.

According to the National Institute of Health, diabetes is the leading cause of blindness among adults and such diabetes afflicts over 16 percent of Native Americans treated by the Indian Health Service.

The Dean McGee Eye Institute, which has worked with the Choctaw Nation on these matters since 2001, is currently building a 78,000 squarefoot state-of-the-art research and clinical facility and renovating its currently existing building.

"This gift helps to expand our clinical and research capabilities in treating and preventing vision loss from diabetes and other disorders in the hundreds of tribal members who visit our doctors," said Dr. Gregory Skuta, chief executive of Dean McGee.

According to the Dean McGee Eye Institute, its doctors provide services for over 150,000 patient visits each year and have treated more than 3,000 tribal members at its clinics in Oklahoma City and Talihina.

"Encouraging American Indians to seek vision care is a major health goal of the Choctaw Nation," said Gregory E. Pyle, Chief of the Choctaw Nation, "especially considering the high risk of diabetic retinopathy in this popula-

Chief Pyle especially noted Dean McGee's establishment of rural clinics, such as the one in Talihina, in order to aid in the early diagnosis of diabetes related eye disease. These early detection efforts have enabled patients to achieve better treatment outcomes.

"This is an excellent example of collaboration between tribal health care systems and those who provide services to Indian patients," said Chief

The Dean McGee facility currently houses the Department of Ophthalmology for



The Dean McGee Eye Institute, which has worked with the Choctaw Nation on these matters since 2001, is currently building a 78,000 square-foot state-of-the-art research and clinical facility.

College of Medicine. With the doubled for research laborato-

the University of Oklahoma new expansion, space will be ries and clinical capacity will be increased by 40 percent.

# Study finds reduced lung function may signal diabetes

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center researchers have found reduced lung function might be a sign of diabetes in Native Americans, according to a new published

The study is published in the October 2011 issue of Diabetes Care, a journal focusing on diabetes and heart disease in Native American populations.

The Center for American Indian Health Research at the OU College of Public Health conducted the study. Researchers looked at Native American men and women with and without diabetes and measured lung functions.

They found decreased lung function often preceded signs of diabetes, said Fawn Yeh, College of Public Health professor and researcher.

Lung function tests measure the strength of the lungs, air capacity, exhaling capacity and exhaling speed. The lung function was a possible indictor of Type 2 diabetes, which is characterized by an inability to eliminate sugars from the blood because of an insulin resistance.

Doctors test blood glucose and sugar levels to determine whether a patient is diabetic, Yeh said, and lung impairment develops prior to this.

The study is not definitive enough to say decreased lung function will be a sure predictor of diabetes, but it is a step in the right direction, Yeh said. Diabetes is often part of a larger problem called metabolic

Metabolic syndrome consists increased fat in the blood, reduced high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, high blood pressure and high glucose levels, according to the study paper. It can lead to diabetes and heart disease.

Yeh is now studying why Native Ameri-

cans might have decreased lung function and how it is related to metabolic syndrome, she said.

This is one of the first studies to look specifically at Native American populations, which has one of the highest diabetes rates in the U.S., according to the

"Oklahoma has very high rates of diabetes driven by a growing problem with overweight and obesity," said Gary Raskob, dean of the OU College of Public Health. "Our state has very high rates of chronic obstructive lung disease, largely due to smoking. The fact that a diabetic patient may be at greater risk of lung disease strongly supports the need to address tobacco use, as well as obesity."

It is important doctors be aware that diabetes patients, especially Native Americans, might have reduced lung function so they know to look for it, Yeh said.

### AARP Oklahoma launches **Indian Elder Navigator**

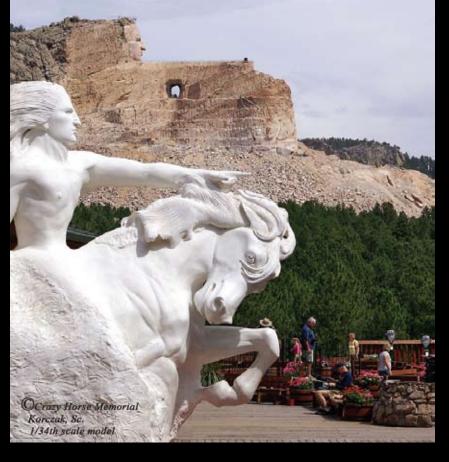
OKLAHOMA CITY - The AARP in Oklahoma has announced the launch of its Oklahoma Indian Elder Navigator, a single point of entry website for Indian elder services.

The site can be accessed at www.aarp.org/okindiannavigator.

"We hope that this new website will be a place where Indian elders from any Oklahoma Indian tribe can go to find the service or resource that best fits their needs," said AARP Executive Council Member and former Absentee Shawnee Tribe Gov. John Edwards. "We envision it as a 'living room' of information for tribal elders."

The AARP Indian Elder Navigator is designed to be a resource center where tribes can list their respective contact information and resources on such topics as housing, transportation and health care. At its launch, information on tribal nutrition and food commodity programs were posted on the

Going forward, AARP officials said they hope to work directly with tribal leaders and program directors from all federally recognized tribes in Oklahoma to add new and updated information to the AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Navigator. Program directors with questions about adding their programs' information can email Craig Davis at cedavis@aarp.org.



### **The Summer University Program** of the Indian University of **North America**

A partnership between The Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation and the University of South Dakota

The 8 1/2-week program begins on Saturday, June 9 and ends on Wednesday, August 8, 2012.

Applications are being accepted now.

For more information visit: www.usd.edu/summerschool/crazy-horse.cfm



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

414 East Clark Street Vermillion, SD 57069 605-677-6240 • 800-233-7937 www.usd.edu/cde



Crazy Horse Memorial 12151 Avenue of the Chiefs Crazy Horse, SD 57730 605-673-4681 www.crazyhorsememorial.org

# Good oral health critical for diabetic patients

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - There is a critical need to educate the 26 million people in America living with diabetes about oral health.

Ninety-five percent of people living with diabetes also have a form of gum disease. This is significant in comparison to the fact that only 50 percent of the general population has a form of gum disease. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that people with diabetes are twice as likely to develop serious gum disease as people without diabetes.

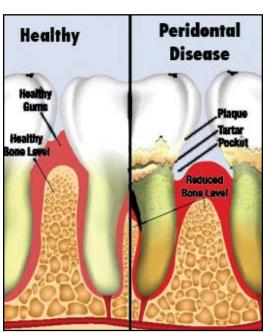
"People living with diabetes are at an increased risk for developing periodontal disease because they are generally more susceptible to bacterial infection and have a decreased ability to fight bacteria that invade the gums," said Dr. Maria Emanuel Ryan, professor of oral biology and pathology at Stony Brook University. "Conversely, scientific evidence suggests that periodontal disease may play a serious role in the development and progression of diabetes by adversely affecting blood glucose control. It is important that both patients and their health care providers be aware of the connection, monitor and take appropriate action to both prevent and treat periodontal disease."

The link between oral health and diabetes is particularly important in Indian Country, where, according to the American Diabetes Association, American Indians and Alaskan Natives have a 2.2 times higher likelihood to have diabetes compared to white Americans. In addition, 95 percent of Native people coping with diabetes have Type II diabetes, and 30 percent of Native people have pre-diabetes.

Unfortunately, throughout much of Indian Country, access to professional oral health care is limited.

The Native American Oral Health Care Project, an ADA-sponsored initiative that seeks to collaborate with Indian tribes to improve oral health, reports that dental decay is 300 times more likely throughout Indian Country than it is in the general U.S. population. This statistic is even more alarming when the high diabetes rate among Native people is considered.

"Studies have shown that untreated periodontal disease can make it more difficult to control diabetes so that no matter how much you watch your diet or whether you are good about taking your medications you may find that it gets harder and harder to keep your



COURTESY

blood sugar levels down because the infection and inflammation in your mouth is causing insulin resistance, thwarting your efforts to gain control of your diabetes," Ryan said.

Ryan added that recent studies have indicated that the risk of developing diabetes is twice as likely in people with varying degrees of periodontitis followed over two decades. Periodontitis is the inflammation and infection of the tissue and bones surrounding the teeth.

A big misconception is that patients always experience pain if they have gum disease; this is not the case and is especially important for diabetes patients to know and watch for the following signs and symptoms: bleeding gums when you brush or floss; red, swollen, puffy or sore gums; gums that have pulled away from your teeth; changes in the way your teeth fit together when you bite; pus that appears between your teeth and gums; and constant bad breath or a bad taste in your mouth.

People living with diabetes and those who may be at risk should take an active role in their condition management to combat the risk of gum disease and other oral health problems by flossing, visiting the dentist regularly and brushing twice daily with antibacterial toothpaste.

### **Inside this issue:**

- Creeks inaugurate new Chief
- Lawmakers have new Indian member
- Mohegan Sun fails to refinance debt









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 • ISSUE 2

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

JANUARY 13, 2012

# Tribes concerned about water, gaming

ANDY MARSO

The Topeka-Capital Journal

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) -Ponka-We Victors, the only American Indian member of the Kansas Legislature, lived on the Tohono O'odham reservation in Arizona several years ago during college.

She remembers when farmers and residents of a nearby town diverted too much of the area's water for irrigation, leaving the tribe parched.

"I'm telling you, that is the

most horrible thing to wake up to," Victors said recently. "You can't bathe, you can't cook, you can't really do anything. I felt bad for the elders and the chil-

Victors, D-Wichita, said water policy is something that is on the minds of the state's Indian tribes going into the upcoming session.

The Kickapoo nation in Horton has been embroiled in a federal lawsuit for almost five years over the right to build a reservoir that tribal

Chairman Steve Cadue said is sorely needed.

"We're in desperate need of water," Cadue said. "Of course, safe drinking water is the main purpose, but it affects

See TRIBES Continued on Page 4



Ponka-We Victors, D-Wichita

### Kateri Circle Celebrates Announcement



Dorothy Whitehorse Delaune is an enrolled citizen of the Kiowa Tribe and a member of the St. Patrick's Catholic Church Kateri Circle in Anadarko, Okla.. She is standing in front of the parish's shrine to Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, who will be canonized in an upcoming ceremony of the Roman Catholic Church.

## Catholic Church recognizes first Native American saint

**BRIAN DAFFRON** 

ANADARKO, Okla. - December 19, 2011 saw the signing of a decree by the Vatican officially recognizing the miracle of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, with an official date for canonization in the near future. This will make Blessed Kateri (1656-1680) of the Mohawk and Algonquin Nations, to be the first Native American

saint of the Roman Catholic Church.

Blessed Kateri, listed as an "American layperson" on the Vatican Radio website, survived smallpox as a child, which left her disfigured and with impaired vision. She reached beatified status in 1980 under Pope John Paul II. The recognized miracle attributed to Blessed Kateri is

See SAINT Continued on Page 7

# Senators, congressman oppose planned casino

TULSA, Okla. (AP) -Oklahoma's two U.S. senators and a U.S. representative have joined the opposition to a casino an American Indian tribe is building in Broken Arrow.

U.S. Rep. John Sullivan told the Tulsa World that he and Sen. Tom Coburn have sent letters to National Indian Gaming Commission Chairwoman Tracie Stevens and Assistant U.S. Interior Secretary Larry Echo Hawk inquiring about the status of the Kialegee Tribal Town's efforts to have land approved for a casino.

Construction has begun at the site, even though there has been no formal approval of a casino there.

Sen. Jim Inhofe said in a statement that he does not believe the Bureau of Indian Affairs will approve a casino at the site.

"Given the strong local opposition to a casino at this location and the land's proximity to schools and homes, I do not believe that the BIA would approve such an application," Inhofe said.

Records show that the property is owned by sisters Marcella Giles and Wynema Capps, who tried to transfer it to the Kialegee Tribal Town through a lease, but a Tulsa County district court judge withheld approval of that request, saying they could present the proposal to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior.

Sullivan said he thinks the proposed land transfer is illegal.

"We want to put pressure on the NIGC and the BIA," Sullivan said. "We want to derail this."

Tiger Hobia, the Town King of the Kialegee Tribal



U.S. Rep. John Sullivan

Town, has declined interview requests, but said in a Dec. 24 statement that the tribe has no other economic development opportunities.

"The Kialegee Tribal Town project is the epitome of the Congressional vision for Indian economic development," his statement said, adding, "This is one of the very reasons the Indian Gaming Act was enacted."

## Investigators probe cause of Blackfeet fires

BROWNING, (AP) - Investigators believe a downed power line and a spark from a chimney may have caused the two wildfires that scorched 16,000 acres on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, a tribal spokesman said Jan. 6.

The rare winter fires sprung up at about the same time during the evening Jan. 4 outside of Browning. High wind gusts spread the flames east away from the city, burning at least two houses and a still-undetermined number of barns and sheds.

A portion of U.S. Highway 2 was closed and hundreds were forced from their homes and a boarding school. No injuries were reported.

Fire crews from the tribe, surrounding counties and federal agencies worked through the night to beat back the rapidly spreading blazes, finally aided by rain early Thursday and a snow shower later in the day.

The fires were 95 percent contained by Friday afternoon, with fire officials expecting complete containment by Monday, said tribal spokesman Wayne Smith.

Officials have not yet finished their investigation, but Smith says they have ruled out arson.

Investigators and Glacier Electric Cooperative Inc. officials said a power line downed by the wind was the likely cause of one of the fires. The investigators also believe that a stray tinder from a chimney may have caused the other fire, but they were double-checking

See FIRES Continued on Page 3

# Reservation works to preserve Salish language

**MYERS REECE** Flathead Beacon

KALISPELL, Mont. (AP) – Fewer than 50 people are believed to speak Salish fluently on the Flathead Indian Reservation and most of them are in their 70s, leaving a deeply uncertain future for the language in Northwest

With that in mind, Rosie Matt,

Chaney Bell and Echo Brown have started up the Salish Institute, a grassroots movement dedicated to improving the "health, culture, education and environment of the Salish and Pend d'Oreille people."

The institute, a nonprofit organization based out of St. Ignatius, has held three community meetings since October and will have more in the future. Though the gatherings are open

to discussion on any community issue, attendees have made clear that a primary concern is keeping the Salish language alive, Matt said.

The institute, which also hosts weekly Salish language choir practices for youths, is developing partnerships with other organizations in the hopes of creating a network that can achieve

See **SALISH** Continued on Page 4



This undated photo shows a 2011 gathering of the Salish Institute on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana. Fewer than 50 people are believed to speak Salish fluently on the Flathead Indian Reservation and most of them are in their 70s, leaving a deeply uncertain future for the language in Northwest Montana

# Tiger promises progress in inaugural address

Along with plans for expedited housing access and stronger economic development, Tiger announced an overhaul to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation judiciary.

**STAFF REPORTS** 

OKUMULGEE, Okla. — After being sworn in Saturday morning before a packed house at the Claude A. Cox Omniplex's Multipurpose Building, Muscogee (Creek) Chief George Tiger made one overarching promise.

"Change is happening and I pledge to you that though there may be hard challenges, we will overcome any obstacle in our nation's progress through perseverance and a shared vision that has helped us, as a people, endure and triumph," he said in his inaugural address.

Along with plans for expedited housing access and stronger economic development, Tiger announced an overhaul to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation judiciary.

In an emergency meeting in late December, the National Council passed legislation that will abolish the tribe's single district court and replace it with three inferior courts that will each deal with a specific area: civil cases, criminal cases and family cases.

The National Council passed similar legislation in late 2010 that was not enacted and yielded lawsuits between the legislative and executive

oranches.

Tiger also expressed inter-

est in building and strengthr- ening relationships with state,



L. MIDDLETON / NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

George Tiger and wife Francis greet well-wishers after the Creek Nation inauguration ceremony Jan. 7 at the Claude A. Cox Multipurose Building in Okmulgee, Okla..

federal and tribal officials, including resuming regular meetings among the leaders of the Five Civilized Tribes.

The new chief did not comment on the Kialegee Tribal Town's on-going efforts to open a casino in Broken Arrow, Okla., despite growing opposition from local residents and officials. The 439-member tribal town, headquartered in Wetumka, Okla., is federally recognized as a separate tribe, but is also considered part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

"I will be addressing that in an official manner – maybe next week, maybe two weeks," Tiger said in a post-ceremony press conference.

A graduate of Haskell Indian Nations University and 14-year member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, Tiger defeated Mike

Flud in a November run-off election to succeed A.D. Ellis. Ellis did not run for re-election due to term limits.

Prior to Tiger taking the oath of office, Second Chief Roger Barnett and recently elected members of the National Council were also sworn in, taking the oaths of office in both English and Creek.

Tulsa District representatives Samuel Alexander and Cherrah Ridge, both of Broken Arrow, Okla., are the council's new speaker and deputy speaker respectively.

Barnett, a native of Bristow, Okla., is a veteran of the U.S. Army and represented the Creek District on the National Council for 12 years, including serving as speaker during the previous session.

# Cheyenne River Sioux could lose buffalo herd in \$1M dispute

The tribe's chairman, Kevin Keckler, wouldn't specify the size of the tribe's buffalo herd or comment on the case.

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) – The Cheyenne River Sioux tribe may lose its buffalo herd if it cannot settle a \$1 million claim by a rancher who says he was not paid for 308 bison that he sold to a tribal company five years ago.

Unless the tribe and the rancher, Clint Amiotte of Interior, can reach an agreement by Thursday, the U.S. marshal intends to auction the tribe's herd on Jan. 23, according to a letter Amiotte's lawyer sent to the tribe's chairman, tribal council and attorneys.

Amiotte's attorney, Allison F. Eklund of Roseville, Minn., declined comment on the case Friday.

Amiotte was granted a judgment of almost \$1.1 million against a tribal company, Pte Hca Ka Inc., in August 2010 after the company did not contest the rancher's claims. The amount of money owed has since been reduced to about \$750,000, not including interest, court filings say.

The Rapid City Journal reported that the tribe's chairman, Kevin Keckler, wouldn't specify the size of the tribe's buffalo herd or comment on the case. Court documents indicate the tribe owns more than 400 bison.

Since the judgment was ordered, Pte Hca Ka has been working to have it set

aside. U.S. District Judge Roberto Lange has not ruled on the request.

The Cheyenne River Sioux reservation is in north-central South Dakota, north of Pierre. Interior is about 70 miles southeast of Rapid City.

Amiotte shipped his buffalo in July and August of 2006 to slaughterhouses on the reservation and in Omaha, Neb., court documents say. He said he received one payment that summer, a \$12,337 check from Pte Hca Ka, which bounced.

Since then, Amiotte has been paid \$7,500 by Pte Hca Ka and \$10,000 by the Cheyenne River tribe, as well as money seized from a bank account and payments from landowners who have been leasing land from Pte Hca Ka.

# Tahlequah attorney nominated for Cherokee Nation AG post

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker announced Jan. 6 that he is nominating Tahlequah lawyer Todd Hembree to be the tribe's next attorney general.

"Todd has a wealth of Indian law experience," Baker said. "His professional and personal backgrounds make him a natural fit to be the next attorney general of the Cherokee Nation."

Originally from the Greasy community in southern Adair County, Hembree is a graduate of Stilwell High School, Northeastern State University and the University of Notre Dame Law

A practicing attorney for more than 20 years, Hembree has served as independent counsel for the Cherokee Nation's legislative branch for 12 years.

"I am very honored to receive this nomination for attorney general," Hembree said. "Since 1999, I have represented the Tribal Council and I consider this to be the most fulfilling experience of my professional career. However, I now look forward to representing the Cherokee Nation as a whole, enforcing its laws and defending our sovereignty."

Hembree will go before the Tribal Council's Rules Committee on Jan. 26. If confirmed, he will go before the full council in February. He would succeed current attorney general A. Diane Hammons, whose term expired in 2011.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

### **NOTICE FOR OSAGE COUNTY**

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

THE OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

SKIATOOK-COMMUNITY CENTER-220 S. BROADWAY – JANUARY 12, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. AND MARCH 9, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

SAND SPRINGS- HEALTH CENTER-306 E. BROADWAY- JANUARY 13, 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. AND MARCH 8, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

SHIDLER- SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER – 125 S. COSDEN - JANUARY 17, 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. FAIRFAX – SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER – 600 W. HARRISON-JANUARY 18, 11:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

TULSA – GILCREASE HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOC. – 1919 W. SEMINOLE – JANUARY 19, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 6, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

McCORD - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER-115 MARY RD JANUARYY 20, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 7, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

 $HULAH-SENIOR\ CITIZENS\ CENTER-1924\ CR\ 3575-JANUARY\ 23,\ 11:00\ A.M.-1:00\ P.M.$ 

PRUE - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -209 WAH GRA SEE- JANUARY 24, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

BARTLESVILLE – LABADIE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH – SW OF CITY, JANUARY 25, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M SPERRY – CITY HALL – 115 N. CINCINNATI - JANUARY 26, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M

BURBANK - CITY HALL –105 FIRST ST – JANUARY 27, 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

TAKING NEW APPLICATIONS FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, DOUBLE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, SENIOR FREEZE, VETERANS EXEMPTION, REPORTING CHANGES MADE TO YOUR PROPERTY AND/OR BUILDINGS, TURNING IN MANUFACTURED HOMES, RENDERING BUSINESS PERSONALS, REPORTING FARM EQUIPMENT, TRACTORS, BOAT DOCKS, ETC., AND APPLYING FOR AGRICULTURE FUEL EXEMPTION.

### **DEADLINE FOR FILING IS MARCH 15, 2012**

ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: AN ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION WILL BE GRANTED FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS WITH A GROSS INCOME (COLLECTIVE INCOME OF ANY AND ALL SOURCES OF ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD) NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00 FOR THE PRECEEDING CALENDAR YEAR. THERE ARE NO AGE REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER, FOR A PERMANENT EXEMPTION, YOU MUST FILE AT AGE 65, AND YOU MUST BE 65 AS OF MARCH 15TH. IF 66 YEARS OR OLDER AND QUALIFIED IN 2011, NO ANNUAL APPLICATION IS REQUIRED. FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 918-287-3448.

VETERANS EXEMPTION: 100% DISABLED OR SURVIVING SPOUSE MAY NOW APPLY FOR A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION THAT WILL ELIMINATE THEIR TAX BURDEN ON HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT U.S.D.V.A. BENEFITS AWARD LETTER WITH QUALIFICATIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS EXEMPTION THAT CERTIFIES THE 100% SERVICE RELATED DISABILITY.

PROPERTY VALUATION FREEZE (AKA: SENIOR FREEZE): THE OWNER MUST BE 65 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AS OF JANUARY 1ST, 2012; AND GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME LEVEL CANNOT EXCEED \$59,600.00 FOR THE 2011 YEAR. TO QUALIFY THE TAXPAYER MUST PROVIDE COPIES OF 2011 PAPERS TO VERIFY TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF ALL OCCUPANTS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME INCLUDES ALL TAXABLE AND NON-TAXABLE INCOME SOURCES. THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WILL VERIFY ALL APPLICANTS.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TAXPAYER TO NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IF INCOME EXCEEDS THE QUALIFIED AMOUNTS.

HOUSE BILL #1724: IF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES ARE DELINQUENT, YOUR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION WILL BE CANCELLED.

GAIL HEDGCOTH, OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR 600 GRANDVIEW, RM 101 , OSAGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE, PAWHUSKA, OK. 74056 HOURS: 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. 918-287-3448

## Lawmakers have new Indian member

Maine is unique among the states in having Indian tribal representatives, according to Maine Indian historian Glenn Starbird.

**GLENN ADAMS** Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) - History will be made when Maine lawmakers return to the State House for their 2012 session and welcome a new member.

David Slagger will be seated in the House, becoming Maine's first Maliseet Indian legislator. The University of Maine doctoral candidate will be sworn in by Gov. Paul LePage on Wednesday.

Two of Maine's four tribes - the Penobscots and Passamaquoddies - are already represented in the Legislature; the Micmacs are not. The Houlton Band of Maliseets was authorized to send a representative to the Legislature

Maine is unique among the states in having Indian tribal representatives, according to Maine Indian historian



GLENN ADAMS / AP PHOTO

In this Dec. 28, 2011 photo, David Slagger sits at his desk at the State House in Augusta, Maine. Slagger will be seated as the Maliseet Indian representative in the House and will become the first member of the Houlton Band of Maliseets to serve in the Legis-

Glenn Starbird. The earliest record of Indian representation dates to 1823, three years after Maine became a state, when the Penobscots sent a member.

"As a Native person, I want to be a representative that does substantial things that affect our people's lives in a positive way," said Slagger, whose first name is an Anglicized version of his Native-language name, pronounced

Indian representatives are selected internally by their tribes. They are allowed to submit bills, participate in legislative committee sessions and speak on the floor of the House, but they cannot vote. Their districts are also represented by voting legislators.

The 800-member Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians is part of the larger Maliseet Nation of New Brunswick, Canada, and is led by a tribal chief, Brenda Commander. Graydon Nicholas, New Brunswick's lieutenant governor and a member of the Maliseet Tribe, plans to attend Slagger's swearing-in in Maine.

Slagger, lives in Kenduskeag near Bangor with his wife, who is a Micmac, and three children. He said he wants to make a difference for the Native Americans he represents when he comes to Augusta.

Acknowledging that relations between Maine's state government and tribal officials have not always been smooth, he said, "I would like to have respectful, harmonious relations with the state, and I would like to be an agent of that change."

Slagger comes to the Capitol with at least one specific proposal in mind, a bill that would make it illegal to impersonate Native Americans. Slagger said such misrepresentation occurs in the sale of arts and crafts.

A number of other issues that go before lawmakers are of interest to the tribes, notably gambling and, in recent years, the use of words on official place names in the state that many Indians consider offensive.

Maine lawmakers face a packed agenda in the concluding year of their two-year session.

The governor wants to close a budget gap by imposing sweeping cutbacks that could remove thousands from Medicaid, or MaineCare. Also on LePage's agenda is legislation to make natural gas available to more people and businesses and to merge some Cabinet-level departments.

the evidence at the scene,

"One of the investigators

came up with his findings

and wanted the others to

Meanwhile, the tribe was

still assessing the damage.

Two houses have been con-

firmed destroyed, though

one of them was unoccu-

It was initially estimated

that 10 to 15 structures

were damaged or destroyed,

though officials still did not

have a firm count by Friday

afternoon. Other homes

were expected to have

smoke damage, and the

total number of livestock

killed or lost was not yet

Smith told Shelby ra-

dio station KSEN-AM and KZIN-FM that the Black-

feet tribe's hot shot crews

saved numerous houses in the Boarding School area

The tribal crews were first

on the scene and steered the

fire away from the residen-

north of Browning.

concur," Smith said.

pied, Smith said.

Smith said.

### **NATIVE** AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON

advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country





CALL LISA 918-708-5838



**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

# Nation loses another hero

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.- The Navajo Nation has lost another heroic Code Talker.

Pfc. Keith M. Little, 87, passed away Jan. 3 at Tsehootsoi Medical Center in Fort Defiance, Ariz. after battling an illness. Pfc. Little served in the 4th Division of in the United States Marine Corps and fought in the Pacific Theater of World War II.

"The Navajo Nation is saddened by the loss of another hero. He was a national treasure, who led the Navajo Code Talkers through the Navajo Code Talkers Association and the Navajo Code Talkers Foundation. He believed in sharing his stories and was fundraising for the National Code Talker Museum and Veterans Center. Myself, the Vice President and First Lady offer our support and prayers to the family during this time," said President Ben Shelly.

Pfc. Little was born on March 4, 1924 near Tonalea, Ariz. He was 17 years of age, when he enlisted with the USMC and completed boot camp at Camp Pendleton in San Diego, Calif. Afterwards, he entered the USMC Communication Training Center. He eventually would become a Navajo Code Talker and transfer to the 24th Marines, 4th Marine Division. His service took him to communicate the unbroken military voiced code in battles at Saipan, Tinion and Iwo Jima.

Upon his honorable discharge from the Marines in 1945, Pfc. Little returned to complete his schooling at Chilocco Indian School in Oklahoma. He then attended college at Weber State College in Ogden, Utah. During which time, he worked at the Intermountain Indian School in Brigham City, Utah.

Pfc. Little would eventually work for the Navajo Tribal Sawmill as a logger and advanced to logging manager for the Navajo Forest Products Industry in Navajo, N.M., where he worked until he retired in

For his service as a Code Talker, President George W. Bush presented Pfc. Little

the Congressional Silver Medal in 2001. At the time of Pfc. Little's death, he was president of the Board of Directors of the Navajo Code Talkers Foundation and was

serving as president of the Navajo Code Talkers Association.

He was an instrumental leader in raising money for the National Navajo Code Talkers Museum and Veterans Center project that would be built near Window

He understood the museum would serve as the epicenter of information about the Navajo Code Talkers, and since less than 70 Navajo Code Talkers are estimated to still be living, Pfc. Little, wanted to have the museum completed in a timely manner.

When he wasn't at the forefront of fundraising for the National Navajo Code Talkers Museum and Veteran's Center, he was home in Crystal tending to his ranch. He loved caring for his livestock and performing work on his ranch.

The family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Pfc. Little's honor to the National Navajo Code Talker Museum and Veterans Center fund at www. navajocodetalkers.org or contact Wynette Arviso at (505) 870-9167 or by email at wynette@navajocodetalkers.org.

# SBA offering free online business course

WASHINGTON - Native American entrepreneurs have a new tool to help determine if they're ready for business ownership and to help them get started. Native American Small Business Primer: Strategies for Success is a free, self-paced online business course developed for Native American business owners. The course provides an overview of basic business principles and to make them aware of the programs and services available from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

"Native American Small Business Primer: Strategies for Success will enhance the agency's effort to provide important resources for emerging Native American entrepreneurs," said SBA Administrator Karen Mills. "Our ultimate goal is to

help create jobs and stimulate economic and business development in our Native American communities. This course is an essential business development tool for the entrepreneur's toolbox."

The new online course emphasizes business planning and market research as essential steps to take before going into business; informs Native American entrepreneurs about the legal aspects of starting a business, including the type of ownership (legal structure) and licensing; and provides key information on seed money for starting up, raising capital, and borrowing money. In addition, there is a section on how to estimate business startup costs that can help assess the financial needs of going into business.

The course is available from the SBA's Online Small Business Training web page under Online Courses for Starting Your Business at http://www.sba.gov/content/ online-courses-starting-your-business.

Course participants completing the online training programs can earn a certificate of completion from the SBA, with their name, date and course title. The Native American Small Business Primer course is one of nearly 30 online tutorials offered by the SBA's Online Business Training ( www.sba.gov/training ). Free courses are offered on Starting a Business, Managing a Business, Financing a Business, and Contracting.

# DRUMRIGHT DENTAL CENTER Advanced Dental Technology

We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

# SUPERNAW'S ANNUAL SALE Sale ends Jan. 14th!!!

10% Off on Pendleton Products and Broadcloth 20% Off on Everything Else.

2500 strands of glass beads at \$.80 each at sale prices

**CASH OR CREDIT CARD ONLY PURCHASES MUST BE MADE IN THE STORE OPEN NOON TO 6:00 PM WEEKDAYS SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM** 

SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY 109 NORTH BROADWAY, SKIATOOK, OK 74070 **COUNTRYWIDE TOLL FREE 1-888-720-1967 EMAIL: SUPERNAW@FLASH.NET** 

# Mohegan Sun casino fails to refinance \$811M debt

UNCASVILLE, Conn. (AP) -The parent company of the Indianrun Mohegan Sun casinos in Connecticut and Pennsylvania says it has failed to reach an agreement to refinance \$811 million in debt, but lenders have waived a possible

The Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority said Jan. 5 that a delay in refinancing debt was among conditions that "raise substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern."

Mitchell Etess, chief executive of the authority, which owns and operates the Mohegan Sun in Uncasville and Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., told The Associated Press on Friday that the dire warning is only a financial requirement of auditors.

"Auditors have no choice," he said. "They must put in that language."

Etess cited the waiver as a vote of confidence by lenders and cited fourth-quarter income of \$46.7 million, compared with a \$26.3 million loss in the same quarter last year.

Etess said refinancing is taking a long time because of the weak recovery following a deep and prolonged recession that has sharply cut into consumers' entertainment spending.

He also cited the "status of Native American gaming financing" generally.

"Those impacts that have happened in the outside world have impacted our bondholders' thoughts as we go through the process," Etess said.

The neighboring Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation in eastern Connecticut has worked to restructure billions of dollars in debt after its Foxwoods casino was hit hard by the economic downturn and increased competition in the Northeast.

Last month, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians received a six-month extension on loans to

And in Washington state, revenue at some tribal casinos fell as much as 30 percent at the start of the recession, forcing tribes to struggle with ways to refinance



IMAGE NEW JERSEY ONLINE

A report issued in March said that for the first time, revenue fell in 2009 at American Indian gambling casinos nationwide as the recession forced consumers to curtail spending.

debt on new casinos and other ventures.

A report issued in March said that for the first time, revenue fell in 2009 at American Indian gambling casinos nationwide as the recession forced consumers to curtail spending. The report by economist Alan Meister of Nathan Associates Inc. said casinos generated about \$26.4 billion in 2009, down 1 percent from 2008.

## **Choctaw Nation hosting E-Waste collection events**

to reduce the amount of reusable raw materials placed in landfills.

The first collection will be from 9 a.m. to 1 Center, located at 3408 Wes Watkins Blvd. in Durant (north of the Choctaw Casino and Resort, off Enterprise Drive).

The second will be at the Choctaw Village Shopping Center at 1421 SE Washington in Idabel from 9 a.m. through 1 p.m. on Jan. 21.

Each collection will allow those seeking to dispose of electronic waste to do so in an environmentally safe fashion. E-Waste is the most rapidly growing segment of the municipal waste

Oklahoma will be hosting two electronic waste from homes, schools, and businesses become this environmentally conscious effort. "We are (e-waste) collections this January in an effort obsolete or no longer functional and need to be certainly happy to provide an opportunity for discarded.

> E-Waste contains many valuable, recoverable considerable energy to process and manufacture. here," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. Recycling old, unwanted electronics conserves natural resources, helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and pollution, and saves energy and raw material resources. Recycling also precomponents (mercury, lead, cadmium, beryllium and chromium) from leaching into our soil when land filled.

In observance with these facts, the Choctaw com.

DURANT, Okla. - The Choctaw Nation of stream. It is produced when electronic products Nation encourages everyone to take part in people to dispose of this type of waste. It is important that we not only advocate going green, resources such as aluminum, copper, gold, silver, but also facilitate the necessary actions to make p.m. Jan. 14, at the Choctaw Nation Recycling plastics and ferrous metals, all of which require a real difference, and that is what we are doing

> Acceptable items for recycling include computers, laptops, fax machines, washers, dryers, gaming equipment, cell phones, hard drives (\$20 fee to wipe memory), television sets, fitness vents the toxic chemicals found in electronic equipment, auto batteries and anything else that runs on electricity.

> > For questions about the collections, call 580.775.4231, or email thorst@choctawnation.

# Wis. officials want Berlin mascot suit dismissed

BERLIN, Wis. (AP) - The state wants a lawsuit dismissed that challenges the constitutionality of a 2010 state law that allows the schools superintendent to ban American Indian mascots and logos.

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction ordered the Berlin School District to drop its Indians nickname and logo by Sept. 16, 2012, because its promotes stereotyping, discrimination and pupil harassment.

The state had received a complained from a district resident regarding the Berlin Indians' nickname.

The Berlin school district decided not to fight the state ruling, but a group of local citizens filed a lawsuit in October.

The state's motion, filed in Green Lake County Circuit Court Tuesday, claims a lawsuit should be brought by a school district, not individual taxpayers.

The motion was filed on behalf of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, its Superintendent Tony Evers, and Paul Sherman, an education consultant with the DPI.

Sam Hall, an attorney from Milwaukeebased Crivello Carlson, S.C., is working for the Berlin group. His firm also represented two Mukwonago residents who challenged the state law because the state ordered that school district to drop its Indians nickname.

In that case, a judge ruled the state's effort was unconstitutional because an administrative hearing on the case was unfair. The judge also agreed that the law, as applied against Mukwonago, was unconstitutional because the decision maker, Sherman, had a high risk of bias. Sherman also made the ruling for Ber-

Hall tells the Oshkosh Northwestern that he doesn't expect a dismissal.

"The Wisconsin attorney general's office filed the exact same motion in Waukesha County during the Mukwonago School District's fight to keep its Indian logo and nickname, and the motion was denied," Hall said.

# UND announces rebranding

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) - The University of North Dakota is one step closer to phasing out the Fighting Sioux nickname.

The university has been working to retire the nickname and accompanying American Indian head logo, which the NCAA deems offensive, and rebrand several organizations and media related to UND's athletics department. A large part of the transition process was to be completed by the end of the year.

UND Athletics Director Brian Faison has announced that the UND Athletics fundraising organization will no longer be called the Fighting Sioux Club. It will be renamed the North Dakota Champions Club. The school's sports network will be renamed UND Sports Network, while UND Athletics' official website will change from FightingSioux.com to UNDSports.

Continued from Page 1

our growth and economic development as well. We can't build new houses - we have a waiting list for people to get into the Kickapoo reservation."

Gov. Sam Brownback has said he will push a four-point plan to address water conservation this session, with an emphasis on renewing the Ogallala Aquifer.

Steve Ortiz (Mon-Wah), tribal chairman of the Prairie Band Potawatomi in Mayetta, said water isn't an issue for his tribe, but draining of aquifers is becoming a problem

Ortiz was one of about a dozen tribal leaders who met with President Barack Obama earlier this month. One of the issues he said they discussed was water rights.

Cadue, Ortiz and Victors all said Brownback has been receptive to the concerns of the state's tribes since he became governor. They said they appreciated a proclamation he issued in November apologizing to the state's five main tribes for the "spirit of deception" that too often marked dealings with them in the past.

Brownback has also said he doesn't want to discuss expanding state gambling during the coming session, while the state's Democratic leaders have made gaming the funding centerpiece of their jobs proposal.

That doesn't sit well with Ortiz, who said the state shouldn't expand gaming while restricting the tribes to one casino per reservation.

"We're opposed to it, mainly because of the fact that this now would give the state not only four casinos, but they're also talking about two racetracks," Ortiz said. "So that really gives them six gaming operations, which really in return they should allow us to have more gaming operations as tribes without having to pay the state any

Ortiz said he met with Kansas Democratic Party chairwoman Joan Wagnon two months before the jobs proposal was presented and she didn't mention more state gaming as a possibility.

"She just said she could make no commitment about Indian gaming," Ortiz said. "We had no idea this was going in their

Wagnon, via email, said she wasn't aware of the gaming aspect of the proposal at the time she met with Ortiz.

Victors said she didn't have any input on the jobs proposal and hadn't had a chance to talk to the leaders of her party about it.

"But, you know, the No. 1 thing is jobs," Victors said. "Unfortunately, I didn't see a lot of opportunities for making jobs a priority this past session. I was kind of shocked by that, coming in as a freshman. I thought that all we would talk about was the jobs

Ortiz said there also was some concern among the tribes about the voter identification law the state passed. Ortiz said he was disappointed that tribal identification cards aren't included on the list of approved IDs.

"We're looking for a bill to be introduced into the Kansas Legislature that tribal identification cards be allowed as voter ID," Ortiz said. "Right now we've had meetings with the secretary of state, but I've not seen any Democrat or Republican come forth saying they'd introduce a bill."

Increasing voter turnout on the reservations is on the agenda for Victors, who said she believes she is the first female American Indian in the Legislature.

She said she would like to be a bridge between state and tribal governments, providing her unique perspectives on such things as living on a reservation without clean, abundant water.

"I would really like to see something worked out with that water issue," Victors said. "This is Kansas, and it's the new millennium, you know. There should be something where tribes, reservations and people don't have to wake up to that burden."

# SALISH

community-wide goals.

"Here on the reservation we're at a critical point in order to save our language," Matt said.

The Salish Institute joins other organizations on the reservation that provide resources for language learning, including the Nkwusm language school and Salish Kootenai College. The People's Center in Pablo is also starting classes in January, according to the center's program manager, Lucy Vanderburg, a longtime teacher and advocate of language as a vital link to one's heritage.

"It's always on my agenda to encourage people to learn the language,"

she said. "It's always been one of my passions to teach the language."

Vanderburg is one of the reservation's remaining fluent Salish speakers. Growing up in the 1950s and 1960s, she said her family spoke Salish in their home, as did many other people throughout the community.

"I can remember going to the post office or the grocery store with my mom, and you'd run into somebody you knew and they spoke the language," she said. "I guess I always thought it would be around."

Both the Bitterroot Salish and Pend d'Oreille traditionally spoke dialects of Salish, sharing a common language family with other tribes in the Northwest. The third tribe that makes up the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation is the Kootenai,

which speaks its own language.

Matt and Vanderburg encourage Kootenai speakers to form their own language programs. Vanderburg hopes to have Kootenai instructors teach courses at the People's Center, while Matt said she knows of somebody trying to form a grassroots Kootenai language group.

"We have been asked, 'Why aren't you including the Kootenai?" Matt said. "We just want to focus on this language family and cultural heritage, but we would love someone to do this for Kootenai."

Matt said she has gotten to know Bell and Brown, her fellow Salish Institute founders, through years of working together at different language and cultural programs. They decided the reservation could use an organization that takes a "holistic ap-

proach to learning culture," one that carefully considers factors such as history, environment and language.

The nonprofit's first three meetings have been well attended, Matt said, and she expects them to grow in the

"The idea is to be inclusive as possible," Matt said. "Everyone is welcome. Everyone who comes to the meetings is a part of the institute."

Even with the Nkwusm school, Salish Kootenai College and adult language classes taught around the reservation, Matt said "we haven't been able to create new fluent speakers." The elders who are fluent, Matt said, increasingly lack the energy to dedicate much time to teaching language. Matt doesn't want the reservation to lose all Salish fluency once the elders are no longer around.

"We feel that we don't have a lot of time because those elders are old,"

Despite the dearth of fluency, Vanderburg said "people are trying to learn it and I applaud them for trying." Years ago when Vanderburg worked on a cultural committee, she was in frequent contact with her elders, who spoke passionately of language's cultural importance. Even if those elders have passed, their message still resonates.

"I think one of the things that I learned with working with those elders is that you have to know your language to know your true culture," Vanderburg said. "That was one of their hopes and dreams - that the language would stay alive."

# COMMENTARY







## Advice for Indian students: How to Win Scholarships

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

DR. DEAN CHAVERS © Copyright 2012

One of my frustrations is the failure of Indian students to apply for and win scholarships. In a research project completed 12 years ago, we found that the average number of scholarships Indian students apply for is only one. The minimum should be about 40. Actually, most Indian students don't apply for any scholarships, and one out of 20 will apply for

There are lots of myths about scholarships. One of the most destructive is that Indian students should apply for Indian scholarships. Wrong! There are only about 100 or 150 Indian scholarships out of 1.5 million scholarships in the U.S. If you are looking for Indian scholarships you are looking in a small pile. There is a much more huge pile out there called "scholarships." That's where students should be.

Another myth is that scholarships are based on need. Most scholarships, at least 90% of them, are based on merit. You could be poor as a church mouse, but if you go to them with a 2.0 GPA you are not going to win. You need excellent grades, high ACT/SAT test scores, and a clear vision if you're going to win scholarships.

A third myth is that scholarships are part of Financial Aid. The FA program, which started in 1966 as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's poverty programs, is a new and separate program from scholarships. Scholarships, on the other hand, are part of the movement for higher education in the U.S. that goes back to the colonies and the founding of Harvard, Dartmouth, and William and Mary. Until the 1950s you needed to be an Old White Boy to earn these scholarships.

Minorities and women were out. But more and more these scholarships are knocking down the barriers and being fair about the process. The most hard-to-find applicants for scholarships are Native Americans. That's why this is a golden opportunity for Indian kids. We have had only one student, Isaiah Rodriguez from Laguna Pueblo, who went all the way with scholarships.

I helped him find 102 scholarships and he won 70 of them. He had been a dropout for five years, but decided being an assistant fry cook in a restaurant was not the way he wanted to go.

Another myth is that scholarships are only for students who are just finishing high school. Our oldest graduate, Dr. Harriet Skye (Lakota), was 62 years old when she earned her BA degree. She kept going for an MA and then a Ph. D. She just wrote me the other day saying she has finally retired as Vice President of United Tribes Education and Technical College in Bismarck.

Another one of our graduates, Delbert James (Navajo), was 48 years old when he earned his BA in Social Work. But he went to work immediately in child protection for the tribe and has done great work.

Students think they can win scholarships on the first draft of their essay. They probably won't. I help students with their essays all the time, almost every day of my life, and can tell you that almost none of them get it right on the first draft. I mean way less than one percent can do that. In fact, in 25 years of operating our scholarship program, we have only had one essay that was an A+. I want to see one more before I die, but I

The students who have done well, including Isaiah and over 720 others, have worked hard on their essays. I critiqued Isaiah's essay about six times before he had it good enough

Students think they can start to look for scholarships just before they enter college. It breaks my heart to hear from them in June when they are going to start the following September. There are almost no deadlines in May, June, July, and August. There are lots of deadlines in October, November, December, January, February, March, and April.

In other words, by the end of April the scholarship season is practically over. Students need to start a year before they are going to start college, not the month before. I hate it when I hear about a scholarship from the Elks or the Lions that no one applied

Some of the things that students need to have in their essays and normally forget are:

- Their mother's name, occupation, tribe, age, and hobbies.
- Same for dad.
- · Names, ages, occupations, and interests of siblings.
- Name of mentor in high school, what she did for you, what you did
- What their major will be.
- · Where they plan to attend col-

• Their GPA, both raw and percen-

- Their ACT score. Most Indian students are disappointed with their ACT scores. They have a 3.8 GPA in high school, and think they will score at the 90th percentile or higher. They are disappointed when they score at the 40th or 50th. In my experience, it is impossible to score well on the ACT or SAT unless students are heavy readers. This means one to two books a week; almost none of our students read this much. The ACT is largely a test of knowledge, not a test of "academic ability." If you don't know a lot of stuff, you can't score high. Students should start taking the ACT in the tenth grade, and not wait until the last possible time to take it as a senior.
- Their experience with their tribe. This counts for all the handful of Indian scholarships, and counts just as well with the other 99% of scholarships that have nothing to do with Indians.

Seniors in high school should be well on their way with their scholarship search by now, January. But as I have told students for over 40 years, it is never too late to start looking for scholarships.

At one school I visited three months ago, I talked to 200 students. I decided to ask them something I had never asked before. "How many of you have been just messing around, not really trying?" I asked them. About 40% raised their hands. Our schools are not pushing these students hard enough.

"If you want to go to Harvard," I told them, "and you have not been really trying, go to a community college for a year or two, ace it, and I will get you into Harvard or Stanford." And I mean it. I have done that dozens of times.

I hate to see Indian talent wasted. It does my heart good to produce a medical doctor like Dr. Lana Doxtater (Oneida) or a dentist like Dr. Drew Preston (Navajo). We need all the doctors, lawyers, nurses, pharmacists, teachers, veterinarians, and engineers we can get.

Dr. Chavers is the author of "Racism in Indian Country" published by Peter Lang. He is Director of Catching the Dream, which provides scholarships to high-potential Native college students. It also provides grants and technical assistance to Indian schools to help them improve. Contact him at CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

# An apology is oftentimes never enough

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

I have been writing a column nearly every week for 34 years. I started with a Montgomery Ward electric typewriter and graduated to a 1986 Apple Computer that was more of a word-processor than a computer. We had not reached the age of the Internet yet.

My staff at the old and original Lakota Times had to steal away in the middle of the night to get rid of my old typewriter and replace it with a computer. I was steaming mad and threatened to go out and buy another typewriter but by this time they were nearly obsolete and I couldn't have bought one if I tried.

But my column this week is not to reminisce about the good old days, but to try in a humble way to make amends.

There are two people who meant a lot to me that I hurt in a couple of my columns. They were two of the most skilled journalists I have ever known and I have hated myself for writing about them in such a mean way.

I thought I was writing a tongue-in-cheek column about my longtime friend and fellow journalist Jerry Reynolds when he was writing for Indian Country Today even after I sold it to the Oneida Nation of New York.

I wrote about some of the silly things Jerry did when he worked for me at the Lakota Times (later Indian Country Today) when it was based

in Martin, S. D. I did not consider that things I wrote about Jerry were funny to all of us at the newspaper simply because we were all there to share it with him but to write about some of Jerry's idiosyncrasies for the consumption of the general public was wrong and hurtful to him and should have been kept in-house.

Jerry wasn't just an employee at my newspaper; he was a true and trusted friend. In fact, after he moved to Washington, D. C. and continued to write for Indian Country Today after I sold it, we still continued our friendship. Whenever I was in Washington we always got together and had dinner. In fact he knew how much I liked the singer Julie London and he went out of his way to find me a great CD of some of her greatest hits.

Let it suffice to say that Jerry Reynolds was one of the greatest newspapermen that ever worked for me. He wasn't afraid to delve into the deepest of stories and turn out articles that even got local banks fined by the U. S. Attorney for discriminating against Native Americans. There are times when some of my old employees and I get together and over a glass of beer recall some the funny things that happened at the Lakota Times and Indian Country Today and Jerry was usually right in the middle of them. But it was always in a good way that we remembered him because he did become a close friend to all of us.

So with the New Year still ahead, I express my sincerest apology to my old Kola (friend) Jerry Reynolds.

One of the finest journalists, reporters

and managing editors I have known was Valerie Taliman. Valerie was Navajo and worked for me at Indian Country Today as managing editor in my Arizona branch of the newspaper. She was always a most professional journalist who looked at every angle of a story before she put her byline on it.

Several years ago I wrote a column in which I mentioned a personal part of her life that I had no right to do. We all do stupid things in our life and this was one of those stupid things I did that I wish I could have taken back as soon as it appeared in print.

I recall how hard Valerie worked at Indian Country Today. She was a terrific writer, but she also served as my managing editor at my Scottsdale, Arizona office. This gave her the added responsibility of managing all aspects of preparing the paper for publication. She worked with the writers, photographers and the business office and I did not have to worry at all about the newspaper since I spent much of my time in our South Dakota office. She also did a great job of story selection and the layout and design of the paper.

Two great people and two great journalists got the sharp point of my pen, one inadvertently and the other out of stupidity. There is no way to erase the words I wrote that hurt these wonderful people and all I can do is to offer a weak apology for the harm I did.



Tim Giago

Jerry and Valerie will always be two of the greatest journalists I have ever known and I apologize and doff my hat to both of them in this New Year of 2012. Please forgive my ignorance my old friends.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knol-

### The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465. To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, phone number and city of residence for verification.



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com Equal Housing Lender Native American Owned



'Changing the culture of waste." T

**NATIVE** AMERICAN TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	
	- Π ΦΩΩ ΕΩ ( ΩC :

	\$65.00 for	52 issues	\$3	32.5	O fo	or 21	6 issu	es
_			_			_	_	

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## Create a New You - with a New Job - for the New Year

Corporate executiveturned-novelist says it's never too late

**GINNY GRIMSLEY** News and Experts

With 7 million Americans receiving unemployment benefits, and many counting the years - instead of months - since their layoff, author Darlene Quinn says now is a good time to reinvent yourself. She cites James Sherk, a senior policy analyst for the Heritage Foundation, who says the jobs people held two or three years ago often simply aren't there anymore. "People are trying to find jobs similar to what they had previously, when those jobs completely don't exist," he told Reuters recently. "So they will spend a good portion of their period unemployed looking for jobs that they are unlikely to find." Quinn is a master of personal reinvention. She started her career as a teacher, then became a contractor, developing self-improvement and modeling programs for hospitals and a store. That segued into a position as a top executive at Bullocks Wilshire department store and "retirement"

as a freelance journalist. And now, the 74-year-old is an award-winning novelist. She published her third book, Webs of Fate (www.darlenequinn.net), this fall, continuing her series about deceit and intrigue in the high-end retail industry. She says she was always a story-teller; she just never thought about putting her stories on paper. "Being a victim of the short-lived educational phenomenon called sight-reading, which did not include phonics, I had always been intimidated by the written word," she said. "Somehow none of my teachers appreciated my creativity when it came to spelling. Therefore, my creative writing efforts were sprinkled with so many red marks, they appeared to have broken out with the measles." Maybe, she added, she just needed a great story to tell and a passion to tell it that was stronger than her fear. Quinn became a schoolteacher after earning a bachelor's at San Jose State University. Much later in life, while working as a department store executive during a time of tremendous upheaval in the retail fashion industry, she found her story. But before she tried to tell it, she first sharpened her wit and her pen by writing articles for trade journals, magazines and newspapers. That led to her being drafted by actor Buddy Ebsen to help him with his first novel, a love story called Kelly's Quest. Ebsen was working on a second, a mystery based on his popular TV persona detective Barnaby Jones, when

"People change and, sometimes, their dreams have to change with them. "To be releasing my third novel at age 74 is the fulfillment of a dream I never knew I had. Until now."

- Darlene Quinn

he died in 2003. His widow asked

Quinn to finish the book, Sizzling

Cold Case, which was published in

2006. By now, Quinn was ready for

her own tale. "I felt compelled to tell



the story of our vanishing depart-

ment stores," she said. "Instead of

writing a dour tell-all about the busi-

ness, I decided to chronicle my expe-

riences in one of my fictional worlds

and I filled that landscape with the

realistic and dynamic characters that

inhabited my daily life. "The age of computers with spell-checking software helped me get over my fear of a red-inked manuscript." By 2008, Quinn had finished her story of intrigue in the retail fashion business. Webs of Power won a 2009 National Indie Excellence Award the following year. Twisted Webs followed in 2010. "One thing I've learned in my life is that things change," Quinn said. "People change and, sometimes, their dreams have to change with them. "To be releasing my third novel at age 74 is the fulfillment of a dream I never knew I had. Until now."

### About Darlene Quinn

Darlene Quinn is an author and journalist from Long Beach, Calif., whose novels about deceit, intrigue and glamour in the retail fashion industry were inspired by her years with Bullocks Wilshire Specialty department stores. Her newest, Webs of Fate, won the 2011 Reader's Favorites Award before it hit the bookshelves. It provides the back story for the characters in the first two novels in the series: Webs of Power, winner of a 2009 National Indie Excellence Award, and Twisted Webs, winner of 2011 International Book Award for General Fiction and the 011 National Indie Excellence Awards for General Fiction.

# CLASSIFIEDS





**NATIVE AMERICAN** 

HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to:

lisa@nativetimes.com

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is ac-









### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



### HEROKEE $\mathbf{N}$ ATION $^\circ$

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES AT** W.W. HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH

#5768 RPT Medical Technologist (Evening/Weekend Coverage), Position closes – 1/11/12 #5998 TPT Medical Technologist (Evening/Weekend Coverage), Position closes – 1/11/12

#5776 TPT Certified and/or Registered Respiratory Therapist (Hours Vary), Position closes - 1/11/12 #5087 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (12 hour rotations as needed), Position closes 1/11/12 #4713 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (As Needed), Position closes 1/10/12

#4500 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (Evening/ Weekend/On call), Position closes 1/10/12 #5125 TPT Surgical Technician (7:30 am - 4:00 pm), Position closes 1/10/12

#5745 RFT Medical Technologist (10:30 pm - 7:00 am Rotating Weekends), Position closes 1/11/12 Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department** PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465

Or Visit our website at: www.cherokee.org Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

### **Architectural Project Manager**

Architectural Project Manager, Tahlequah, OK: Responsible for architectural projects including the plan, design, and construction of residential structures in the rustico style. Reports to owner and designated supervising licensed Architect. Bachelor's degree in Architecture, 1 year's experience in construction projects. Resumes to: Chance Properties, LLC, V. H. Wilhelm, 2210 Golf Course Road, Tahlequah, OK,

### cepting applications for the full-time, regular status position of Title VI Program Coordinator/Department Manager. To apply, please visit our website at http://www.pawneenation.org



Introducing America's First Nations to the World

AIANTA is a nonprofit association of Native American tribes and tribal businesses organized to advance Indian Country tourism. The Association is made up of member tribes from six regions: Eastern, Plains, Midwest, Southwest, Pacific Northwest, and Alaska. The purpose of the Association is to serve as the voice and resource for its constituents in advancing tourism, assist tribes in creating infrastructure and capacity, provide technical assistance, training and educational resources to tribes, tribal organizations and tribal members.

AIANTA currently is seeking to fill two positions, Finance Director and Membership Coordinator. Please visit www.aianta.org/news for complete vacancy announcement. Please submit resume including salary history and two references no later than 5:00 p.m. MST, November 28, 2011 to:

> Attn: Sherrie Bowman 2401 12th Street NW Albuquerque, NM 87104 Or electronically at sbowman@aianta.org

### **Director of Native American** Recruitment

Bacone College is looking for a Director of Native American Recruitment. This is a full-time, 12-month position designed to reach out to the Native American market across America and express Bacone College's primary focus and interest in recruiting and retaining Native American students that reflect its mission and heritage. Recruitment will focus primarily on Native American prospective students interested in attending Bacone College and working as a point of contact with these students throughout matriculation.

This position requires extensive travel within Oklahoma and the United States. The person selected for this position is primarily responsible for recruitment of Native American students and maintaining secondary education relation-

Send letter of application, vita, transcripts, and three references humanresources@bacone. edu or Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

### Controller

Fort Sill Apache Industries, LLC has an opening for a Controller in the Norman, OK office. Applicant would be responsible for overseeing the accounting department in all aspects and ensuring compliance with policies and procedures. Major requirements for this position would include Bachelors Degree in Accounting or related area from 4 year college, or 5 to 7 years accounting experience. Prior work in tribal environment and federal government contracting experience are highly desirable. Deltek software knowledge would also be advantageous. Salary commensurate with qualifications. Resumes can be submitted to recruiting@fortsillapache. com or faxed to 580.279.0559.

### **Advantage RN Case Manager**

Oak View Health Services is seeking an Advantage RN Case Manager for the Tulsa and surrounding area. Full-time position available Mon-Fri. Work from the comfort of your home. Insurance available, Advantage certification preferred but not required. Please Email resume to sheiladoglady@

yahoo.com or fax to 580-286-6722. No phone calls please.

**Look for Native American** Times on Facebook and Twitter! Friends get front page scoops, new features and breaking news.

### **SERVICES**

Native American Electrician

1st Call Electric

Reasonable Rates • At Cost Material

918-277-1610

Licensed • Insured • Bonded • OK#70011 Serving Northeast Oklahoma

### **Advanced Energy Solutions**

(Heating & Air Conditioning)

Serving Oklahoma City and the surrounding area. Service, repair and installation of all brands

\* \* American Standard Dealer \* \*

405-315-6116 Expert Owner Operation • You can relax when AES is on the job

### **Commercial Janitorial Services/Supplies** ∠ Landscaping Services Big Lime Maintenance Solutions (405) 338-8180 American Indian Owned

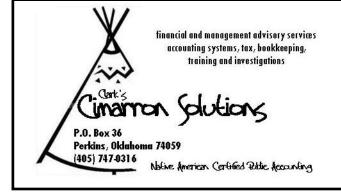
### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

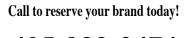
**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

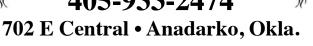








405-933-2474



MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS > VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

# Sainthood for Blessed Kateri expected to boost shrine visits in NY's Mohawk Valley

Kateri Tekakwitha was beatified in 1980 when John Paul II waived the first miracle typically required.

CHRIS CAROLA
Associated Press

FONDA, N.Y. (AP) – No one making a religious pilgrimage to Catholic shrines in this scenic yet hardscrabble stretch of New York's Mohawk Valley is going to mistake it for Italy. Yet starting next year, the region can boast of being the home of two of the Roman Catholic Church's newest saints.

The Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, a Mohawk Indian, spent most of her life here during the 17th century. About 200 years later and 40 miles to the west, the Blessed Mother Marianne Cope began a religious life that focused on providing medical care in central New York and the Hawaiian islands.

On Dec. 20, Pope Benedict XVI certified miracles attributed to the two women, the final step toward sainthood. The women's canonization is expected to happen this year.

When they are elevated to saint-hood, they'll be among just 12 of the Catholic Church's thousands of saints who either were born in America or ministered in what is now the United States.

Elevation to sainthood for Blessed Kateri, a first for a Native American, is expected to boost visits to a pair of local shrines linked to her life. The National Shrine of the Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha in Fonda and the National Shrine of the North American Martyrs in nearby Auriesville are located amid the hilly terrain and faded industrial towns along the Mohawk River Valley that stretches from the Albany area to Utica.

Both shrines had already closed for the winter when word came out of the Vatican that the pope had affirmed the women for canonization. Officials at both sites say they expect bigger crowds next year as a result.

"We've been praying for this for a long time, years and years and years," said Friar Mark Steed, the Kateri shrine's director. "It will mean a bit of work in terms of how we can promote it, how we can present the shrine in a better light."

Spread over 200-plus acres of sloping ground on the river's north bank, the property contains the archaeological site of the Mohawk village where Kateri spent her youth and where she was baptized by French Jesuit missionaries in 1676. The shrine's centerpiece is a 230-year-old barn that doubles as a rustic chapel and museum. Images of Kateri's life decorate the rough-hewn wooden crossbeams in the upstairs chapel where American and Iroquois flags hang side by side.

Blessed Kateri's sainthood could be a big step toward helping to heal centuries of conflict between whites and Native Americans, Friar Mark said.

"That may be her spiritual gift to all of us," he said.

Just downriver on the south bank, officials at the shrine of the North American Martyrs say they're also expecting to see an increase in the tens of thousands of visitors who make pilgrimages each year, some from as far away as Europe and Asia.

Kateri was born in the Mohawk village that sat atop the hill where the Auriesville shrine was founded by the Jesuit order in the late 19th century. A decade before Kateri's birth, Father Isaac Jogues and two fellow Frenchmen were killed in the village by the Mohawks. All three were canonized in 1930, along with five other Jesuit missionaries martyred in Canada in the 1600s.

The Auriesville shrine features a coliseum church that can hold about 10,000 worshippers and a separate chapel dedicated to Kateri, the daughter of an Algonquin mother and Mohawk father. Her parents died of smallpox when she was 4, and the disease left Kateri badly scarred and nearly blind. Later, after enduring scorn from other Mohawks because of her Christian beliefs, she fled to a Jesuit mission near Montreal.

Known for tending to the sick and elderly, Kateri fell ill and died at 24. Her remains are entombed in a marble shrine at St. Francis Xavier Church in Kahnawake, Quebec. Dubbed "the Lily of the Mohawks," her story of devotion and kindness is familiar to many Auriesville visitors, said Beth Lynch, the shrine's event coordinator



BRIAN DAFFRON

Kateri Pahaun Daffron (Kiowa/Wichita/Comanche) holds a card of her namesake, Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha.

and museum manger.

Mother Marianne Cope's roots in the Mohawk Valley began in Utica, where her family settled in 1840 after emigrating from Germany the previous year, when she was a year old. A factory worker until she joined the Franciscan sisters in Syracuse in the early 1860s, the young nun worked as a nurse and hospital administrator, helping to found two hospitals - St. Joseph's in Syracuse and St. Elizabeth's in Utica - that are still in operation today. Under her direction, no one was denied medical care, according to Sister Patricia Burkard, general minister of the Syracuse-based Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities.

"Her policy is very much like the Patients' Bill of Rights today," Sister Patricia said.

In the 1880s, Mother Marianne answered a plea from Hawaii for help providing care for leprosy patients at a settlement on Molokai island run by Father Damien, who gained sainthood in 2009. She died of natural causes at the settlement in 1918 and was buried there. In 2005, her remains were brought to Syracuse, where they're in a reliquary located in the chapel at the St. Anthony Convent, which is

also home to a Mother Marianne museum.

Leaders of the Sisters of St. Francis say they expect an increase in visitors at the chapel and museum when Mother Marianne is canonized.

In 2004, Pope John Paul II declared Mother Marianne "venerable," the first step toward canonization after the Vatican recognized her intercession for the unexplained cure of a New York girl dying of multiple organ failure. The Vatican recommended her canonization in December after a second recovery was attributed to her intercession.

Kateri Tekakwitha was beatified in 1980 when John Paul II waived the first miracle typically required. Prayers to her are credited for the second Tekakwitha miracle: the recovery of 6-year-old Washington state boy who had a flesh-eating disease.

"We're considered quote, 'a young country,' compared to Italy, France and Germany," Sister Patricia said. "That we're seeing more saints named from the United States really means that the faith in our country is maturing to the point that we have people who have lived among us who have given us many examples of a good life."

### SAINT

Continued from Paae

the healing of Jake Finkbonner of Ferndale, Wash. Finkbonner, of Lummi descent, was suffering from flesh-eating bacteria when prayer circles throughout the nation asked Kateri to intercede on his behalf.

For decades, many Catholic parishes with Native American populations have had "Kateri Circle" chapters to pray for her canonization, holding annual conferences that celebrate both Blessed Kateri's life and Native American culture. One of these is in St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Anadarko, Oklahoma.

"When I received the news, I prayed and then went to our parish to pray at our Blessed Kateri shrine," said St. Patrick's Indian Mission Kateri Circle member Dorothy Whitehorse Delaune. "There aren't many of our original members left. My great-granddaughter and I went to the church to give thanks. Her first name is Kateri."

Saint Patrick's Catholic Church has a unique history among Catholic boarding schools in Indian Country. Founded by Father Isidore Ricklin, O.S.B. in the early 1890's, St. Patrick's Indian Mission served Southwest Oklahoma as both a school and parish through the early 1960's.

Ricklin, the founder, had a strong relationship with the Native people of Southwest Oklahoma, who include the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Fort Sill Apache, Wichita, Caddo and Delaware. Native elders still tell stories of Senpaul Zelbe -"Terrible Whiskers" as the Kiowa called Ricklin – participating in peyote meetings and other ceremonials, traveling by wagon. For decades, Native students of St. Patrick's toured the country as a dance troupe, performing traditional dances as a way to raise funds for the mission.

"I can't help but think that the Kateri Circle members who have passed on helped give a push for her sainthood," said Delaune. "Aho Dauqi." (Kiowa for "Thank you, God.")

# Navajo weavers turn art into profit

Before the auction begins, there's time for a Navajo taco and soda from a vendor inside the little school, and to look through more than a dozen tables with Native American crafts.

TOM SHARPE
The New Mexican

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)

On the second Friday of every month, two very different groups of people, most of them New Mexicans, get together at a school on the Navajo reservation for one of the state's most unique com-

mercial customs.

The Crownpoint Rug Auction got started in 1968 as a way for Navajo weavers to profit more from their handspun and woven textiles that were once used casually as saddle blankets, but were quickly becoming expensive works of art.

By 4 p.m., when the doors open to the Crownpoint Elementary School, more than 100 Navajo weavers and their families begin moving into the gymnasium with the results of months of work rolled up in plastic containers.

They unroll their rugs at the registration desk, giving their names and hometowns, which are written onto small cards that are stapled to the rugs that are then displayed on four folding tables.

By 5 p.m., the bidders, almost all of them Anglos, begin to arrive and look through what will be for sale. The biggest contingency is from Albuquerque, with a few from Santa Fe, Rio Rancho, Farmington, Gallup, Las Cruces and other New Mexico towns, a handful from the contiguous states, a smattering from other states, and one European couple

Some of the bidders look as if they are dripping with money. Most of them appear to know what they're doing, taking notes and occasionally measuring the rugs. Sizes are not mentioned on the cards. A few bidders appear to be professional traders. They are the most discreet of all.

On Dec. 9, there were 227 rugs up for auction – ranging from 1-by-2-foot wall hangings selling for as little as \$35 to rugs up to 8-by-4 feet that went for up to \$1,500. About half of them failed to get a minimum bid. Fifty-five people signed up as bidders – slightly less than average, said to be about 75. The auction lasted about two hours.

Before the auction begins, there's time for a Navajo taco and soda from a vendor inside the little school, and to look through more than a dozen tables with Native American crafts – Acoma pottery, Zuni fetishes, Navajo jewelry.

At 7 p.m., Christina Ellsworth, manager of the Crownpoint Rug Weavers Association, takes to the stage

to welcome the bidders and weavers, and warn bidders against trying to buy the rugs outside in the parking lot. That would be unfair to the weavers who pay the association 15 percent of their selling price at auction, she said.

Then the auctioneers, Wayne Connell and Delbert Arty, take over. Mountainair residents who run cattle auctions in Belen, they begin with brief descriptions of each rug as young people display them to the audience. Then they begin their hypnotic sing-songs: "Do I hear nine hundred? Nine hundred, nine hundred. Nine hundred there! Do I hear ten hundred? Ten hundred, ten hundred ..."

If the rug fails to get a minimum bid after 30 seconds, the auctioneers declare it a no sale and direct it to be put in a special pile. Occasionally, the auctioneers drop the minimum price by \$100 or so. In those cases, the rugs often draw a single bid from people seated quietly in the back – apparently professional trad-

ers seeking a discount.

In most cases, the rugs that do sell go for a third to half what they would be priced in a gallery in Santa Fe or other cities. Payments can be made in cash or personal check at a desk set up beside the auction stage, but no credit cards are accepted. There are no overnight accommodations in Crownpoint, about three hours by car from Santa Fe. The nearest motels are in Thoreau on Interstate 40, with



COURTESY

Weavers and their families register their rugs at the entrance to the Crownpoint Elementary School gym. The names of the weavers and their hometowns, but not the size of the rugs, are written on cards attached to the rugs up for auction.

better lodging in Gallup or Grants. The next auction is Ian. 13.

Weavers Association manager Ellsworth said she has taken classes in rugmaking and is an amateur weaver herself. She said she's not a professional, but is experienced enough to understand the amount of work that goes into shearing sheep, carding, dyeing and spinning wool into yarn, setting up a loom and weaving a rug with a unique pattern.

"I've done some weaving, but I don't want to sell what I make," she said. "It's my rug, my design, and then I look at these rugs and I think, 'How can they come up with these designs?' You get these guys from Blue Gap, from Chinle, from Wide Ruins. How do they get these designs in their heads? I sit at my loom and I think, 'What kind of design shall I make?' It's real puzzling."

Ellsworth laughs at the prices paid for Navajo rugs off the reservation – "an arm and a leg" – versus what weavers get. She recalled how she and her mother stopped at a trading post near Farmington years ago to overhear a trader trying to persuade an elderly woman to sell him a big Ganado red at

a low price.

"He just wanted to give her peanuts for it," she said, "so my mom told her in Navajo, she said, 'Don't be selling your rug like that. You put a lot of work into it. Take it to the Crownpoint Rug Auction. You'll get better money for it.' So the lady got her rug and she left, and I felt like saying something to that man: 'Why are you just giving them peanuts for those rugs? It's a lot of hard work for them.' "

Information from: The Santa Fe New Mexican, http://www.

sfnewmexican.com



# EVENTS



other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

EVERY WEDNESDAY Kiowa class, October-November, 6:30 pm, Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association meeting at 202 E. 5th Street

Tahlequah, Okla. Phone: (918) 458-0008 Web site: www.cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD TUESDAY of even numbered months - The Central Oklahoma Cherokee Alliance meets at Mayflower UCC Church, Oklahoma City at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16.

FOURTH THURSDAY
Each month the Ameri-

can Indian Chamber of
Commerce of Oklahoma

– Eastern Chapter hosts a
monthly luncheon at Bacone College
Muskogee, Okla. 11:30
a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche
Hall. Please RSVP one week

230-3759

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY
Indian Taco Sales - from
11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw
Tribal Alliance, 5320 S.

Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City

www.okchoctaws.org

ahead of time. Phone: (918)

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS
AND THURSDAYS
The Marble City Nutrition
Center serves hot meals at
the Marble City Community
Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals
are free to anyone over
50, but a small donation is
suggested to help with the
expense of the program.
Gather for fellowship and
friendship. Volunteers wel-

come. Marble City Nutri-

tion Center, 711 N. Main,

Marble City, Okla. Phone:

(918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL
The Native Nations Youth
Council (NNYC) bimonthly
meetings from 6:30pm
- 8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd
just west of Peoria). Call to
confirm location. Info Call:
Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204

or nnyc@ihcrc.org

JANUARY 14 80th Birthday Dance for Moses Starr at Concho Community Hall, Concho, Okla. Gourd Dancing @ 2pm

Supper @ 6pm

JANUARY 19 South Coffeyville Cherokee Community meeting at 6:30 p.m. Call Vickie Brokeshoulder 918-822-2893

JANUARY 24 Vinita Indian Territory Coalition Cherokee Community meeting at 6 p.m. Call Lisa Trice-Turtle 918-453-2988

JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 5 Tulsa Boat Show, Quik Trip Center, Tulsa, Okla. (918) 519-1219

FEBRUARY 4
Birthday Dance for Richard
D Roubedeaux at Otoe Cultrual Bldg, Red Rock Okla.
Starts at 2:00 p.m. Supper at 5:00 p.m. More Gourd dancing after supper - if anyone wants to bring anything please bring covered

\*Email your event information to lisa@nativetimes. com or fax your flyer to 888-689-5245.



Vicki Jones, center, stands with her family, brother Sonny Glass (left) with his daughter Kristal and her son, Samuel Morgan (right), with Sonny's wife Deanna Glass (far right).

# Quapaw woman named 'Veteran of the Year'

**DOREEN FINNIE** *Quapaw Tribe* 

QUAPAW, Okla. – Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin recently proclaimed Quapaw tribal member MAJ (ret) Vicki (Glass) Jones of Guthrie, Oklahoma as Oklahoma Women Veteran of the Year. Ms Jones, who is Quapaw, Seneca-Cayuga and Cherokee was recognized for her contributions to the Veteran Community.

Ms Jones was the first Native American female to graduate from the Army Rotary Wing (Helicopter) School at FT Rucker, Alabama and was the first female helicopter pilot for the Oklahoma Army National Guard.

In 1997 Senator/Chief Kelly

Haney, Seminole, painted the Heritage of Valor painting depicting a Native American Woman for the Women in Military Service of America Memorial. The picture, which depicts a woman in a battle stance in her native Seneca dress with a view of a modern military woman in a flight helmet in the background, honors all women veterans past, present and future. The model for the painting is Vicki Jones. The original painting is displayed in the Native American Alcove of the 45th Division Museum in Oklahoma City.

Ms Jones said she is very humbled to have been selected as the model. "To be allowed to honor Lady Warriors both past and present is something I will always hold close to my heart. As I sat for the painting, I was always aware of the women who had served before me. And I was always aware of those who will serve their home and country in the future. If the painting is in some small way an inspiration to my sister warriors, I am very pleased."

Ms Jones and her spouse of fifteen years, Paul are involved with Meals on Wheels and the Patriot Guard Riders. To the Oklahoma Women Veterans Organization she gives thanks that they honored her with the Nomination, which she would receive as part of the October 29, 2011 Oklahoma Women Veterans Day celebration. These individuals she says has made her a better Veteran.



### The Oak Ridge Boys

Saturday, January 21 • 7 pm Tickets are \$35

Osage Event Center • Tulsa



Ticket Info

Order your Event Center tickets at osagecasinos.com!

Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.

### **COMING SOON!**

### **Three Dog Night**

Saturday, February 11 • 7 pm Tickets are \$25

**Glen Campbell – The Goodbye Tour**With Special Guest Instant People

Tuesday, March 27 • 7 pm Tickets are \$35



Fulfill your thrill.

End of Tisdale Parkway near Downtown Tulsa.

osagecasinos.com

(918) 699-7777

Find us on Facebook!



©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.



### **Inside this issue:**

- Choctaw man loves sharing language
- Students embrace Ojibwe sign project
- Museum awards Native grads









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 3

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**JANUARY 20, 2012** 

# Water rights battle likely a long one

Lawsuit claims tribal rights pre-date and supersede any water rights claimed by state officials

**TIM TALLEY** Associated Press

**OKLAHOMA** CITY (AP) - Simmering conflicts between the state and leaders of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations over

water rights in Oklahoma's and regulatory authority fertile southeastern corner will begin a new chapter when the state goes to court to determine the extent of the tribes' water rights - a legal battle that has taken years to resolve in other states with similar tribal disputes.

The litigation, authorized last month by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, is a response to a separate lawsuit filed by the tribes in U.S. District Court in August that claims tribal rights

over water in the historic territories of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations pre-date and supersede any water rights claimed by state officials.

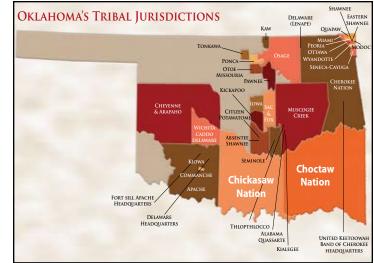
The competing lawsuits complicate the state's efforts to develop and implement a statewide comprehensive water plan and could delay efforts by Oklahoma City officials to tap into new sources of water in southeastern Oklahoma. The

region's Atoka pipeline has transported water to the city and surrounding areas in central Oklahoma for almost 50 years.

"It's a wrench," said Jim Couch, Oklahoma City's city manager. "It's a hard issue. It's very complicated. I don't see immediate solutions."

The legal disputes will also delay efforts by rapidly growing areas of North Texas to negotiate the sale

See WATER Continued on Page 4



NATIVE TIMES GRAPHIC / LISA SNELL

The Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations have entered an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a regional water plan to assess the water resources of their treaty territory, an area that covers 22 counties in southeastern and south central Oklahoma.

AP PHOTO / ERIC LANWEHR / SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

In this Dec. 7, 2011, photo Flandreau Indian School students Kevin Lahi, left and Joseph Stillions, a food science student at South Dakota State University, use bison to prepare meat patties at SDSU in Brookings, S.D. The students are part of a pilot project started by the Flandreau Santee Sioux tribe, from Flandreau, S.D., and SDSU researchers to restore the cultural significance of the animal and consumption of bison meat among community members, particularly the youth.

# Tribe looks to teenagers to revive bison demand

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

FLANDREAU, S.D. (AP) -It seems an unlikely concept: teenagers forgoing the immediacy of a McDonald's Big Mac to don an apron, grab a meat patty and learn how to cook their own lowerfat version in the kitchen.

But for a group of students at the Flandreau Indian

School in South Dakota, they're doing just that while learning about bison, an animal considered sacred in their Native American culture.

The students are part of a pilot project started by the Flandreau Santee Sioux tribe and South Dakota State University researchers to restore the cultural significance of the

animal, also called buffalo, and consumption of its meat among community members, particularly young people. Through demonstrations cooking and educational outreach opportunities, the students are learning that there are healthier, tasty options that also connect them to their

See BISON Continued on Page 4

# Md. formally recognizes 2 American Indian groups

Before recognition, the Maryland Historical Trust had to consult with out-of-state tribes on the reburial of Maryland Native American Indian remains.

**BRIAN WITTE** Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) – For the first time in Maryland's history, two American Indian groups indigenous to the state were formally recognized in executive orders by Gov. Martin O'Malley on Monday.

O'Malley, a Democrat, signed the executive orders during a crowded ceremony under the Maryland State House rotunda to officially recognize the Piscataway Conoy Tribe and the Piscataway Indian Nation in southern Marvland.

"Today is a day of recognition," O'Malley said. "It is a day of reconciliation, and it is a day of arrival - a day 380 years in the making, a day made possible only by the kindness, the forgiveness, the goodness of the Piscataway people of this beautiful place that we now call Maryland."

The Piscataway Conoy Tribe includes two entities, the Piscataway Conoy Confederacy and Sub-Tribes and the Cedarville Band of Piscataway Indians.

Tribal officials thanked the governor. Mervin Savoy, tribal chair of the Piscataway Conoy Confederacy and Sub-tribes, recalled her mother and father and others who had worked for official state recognition.

"So sorry they weren't here to see this, but they are dancing in heaven," Savoy said, noting the importance of creating a sense of identity to motivate the young.

See GROUPS Continued on Page 3

### **Byrd wins Cherokee Council seat**

TAHLEQUAH, According to unofficial results, Cherokee Nation voters in Cherokee and eastern Wagoner counties have chosen former chief Joe Byrd to represent them on the Tribal Council.

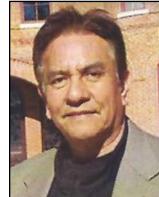
Byrd, who served as chief of the Cherokee Nation from 1995 to 1999, defeated four other candidates to fill seat 1 from District 1, which was vacated when Principal Chief Bill John Baker took office in October 2011. Byrd will serve the remainder of Baker's term, scheduled to expire in August 2013.

With more than 1,800 votes

cast, Byrd received 1189, or 65.8 percent, compared to 431 votes for second-place finisher Pam Iron, 106 for Raymond Vann, 48 for Geneva Reves and 32 for Brandon Girty. He will join Hulbert resident Tina Glory-Jordan and Tahlequah resident David Walkingstick in representing Cherokee Nation voters from District 1.

The Jan. 14 results will not become official until they are certified by the Cherokee Election Commission, which is scheduled to meet Jan. 17 at 9 a.m.

"I congratulate all five candidates on their hardfought campaigns," Baker



Joe Byrd

said. "I look forward to working with Mr. Byrd and the rest of the Tribal Council to help bring the Cherokee Nation from good to great."

## Researchers, tribes clash over Native bones

SUDHIN THANAWALA Associated Press

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) -On a bluff overlooking a sweep of Southern California beach, scientists in 1976 unearthed what were among the oldest skeletal remains ever found in the Western Hemisphere.

Researchers would come to herald the bones - dating back nearly 10,000 years as a potential treasure trove for understanding the earliest human history of the continental United States. But a local tribal group called the Kumeyaay Nation claimed that the bones, representing at least two people, were their ancestors and demanded them back several years ago.

For decades, fights like this over the provenance and treatment of human bones have played out across the nation. Yet new federal protections could mean that the vast majority of the remains of an estimated 160,000 Native Americans

held by universities, museums federal government agencies, including those sought by the Kumeyaay, may soon be transferred to tribes.

A recent federal regulation addresses what should happen to any remains that cannot be positively traced to the ancestors of modern-day tribes. Museums and agencies are required to notify tribes whose current or ancestral lands harbored the remains, then the tribe is entitled to have them back.

Prestigious institutions Harvard to the University of California, Berkeley have already begun working through storehouses of remains uncovered by archeologists, highway and building contractors and others since the 19th Century. A few are surrendering bones to Native tribes, and others are evaluating whether to do so. Tribes have hailed the rule,

saying it will help close a long and painful chapter that saw Native peoples' bones stolen by grave robbers, boxed up in dusty storerooms and disrespected by researchers.

"Darn it, these are people," said Louis Guassac, a member of the Kumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee. "This isn't stuff. You don't do this to people. I don't care how long they've been there. You respect them."

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 provided for the return of remains connected to modern-day tribes. But it

was not until 2010 that a rule on the disposition of so-called culturally unidentifiable remains was finalized by the Department of the Interior. Until then, more 650 universities and other institutions had no clear guidance about how to return those remains, which account for the bones of about 116,000 people in their collections. That rule is still playing out, sometimes fractiously.

See BONES Continued on Page 3

# Navajo Nation sues Utah county over voting issues

**JENNIFER DOBNER** Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - The Navajo Nation filed a federal lawsuit Jan. 12 against San Juan County, claiming its three established voting districts violate the constitutional rights of tribal members living in Utah.

The lawsuit filed in Salt Lake City's U.S. District Court asks a federal judge for an injunction that would force county commission district boundaries to be redrawn ahead of the November election.

No hearings have been scheduled in the case.

Deputy County Attorney Walter Bird didn't immediately return a call seeking comment on the lawsuit.

In court papers, attorneys for the tribe and six of its Utah members contend the current boundaries allow non-Indian voters to hold majorities in two of three districts.

The complaint also says boundary lines have not been redrawn since 1984 and that county commissioners have failed to address changes in population, despite U.S. Census data from 1990, 2000 and 2010.

Population figures included in the court filing show that residents in two of three districts represent about 29 percent of the total population. In the third district, Navajos represent nearly 93 percent of the populous. Two districts have similar populations of roughly 4,600 people, but one has more than 5,300. Court papers say that based on census data from 2010, each district should have about 4,900 residents.

"Because the populations in the

three districts are not equal, the votes of residents are not equal in weight," court paper state.

Navajos make up just over 50 percent of San Juan County's population of 14,746 residents, court papers say.

executive Leonard Gorman, director of the Navajo Nation's Human Rights Commission, said he has attended several county commission meetings to urge redistricting but sees no indication that commissioners want to redraw the boundaries.

"What I understand is that every citizen in the union would be balanced. One man, one vote. That is a guarantee that is iterated in the U.S. Constitution," Gorman said in a telephone interview Thursday. "That is not being made available to citizens in San Juan County."

The county and commissioners Bruce Adams, Phil Lyman and Kenneth Maryboy are named as defendants in the lawsuit, along with Norman L. Johnson, the county's clerk/auditor.

# Prosecutors offer timeline for Navajo fraud case

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) -Prosecutors accusing dozens of Navajo Nation officials of fraud have asked a judge to give them time to try to defendants.

85 defendants might bring the cases to an end, the Rothstein sent Jan. 13 to a Window Rock court.

A civil complaint alleges that the current and former Navajo officials defrauded the tribal government in the use or day case management order management of \$36 million in that sets deadlines for motions discretionary funds.

"We have a good faith belief based on the work we have completed on this matter, including conversations with defendants, that a priority should be placed on attempting to negotiate resolution of some or all of the pending claims,"

prosecutors wrote.

defendants maintained his clients' innocence and said Friday they would be amendable to talks with prosecutors to tell them that.

"If they think that my clients negotiate settlements with the are going to roll over and just pay them a bunch of money, Candid discussions with the no I don't see that happening," said defense attorney David Jordan. "If the meetings are by Feb. 3 of any third-party Law Firm wrote in documents more of the nature (of) 'we want to interview you to see if you've done anything wrong, I think my clients might take disadvantage the tribe or other him up on that."

Prosecutors requested a 90to dismiss, responses to those, discovery and status updates, to which Jordan said he wouldn't object. The Window Rock District Court received the request Friday and a separate one to further extend a stay on the case so that the order could be considered.

Judicial spokeswoman Karen the case on hold until Feb. 13.

Meanwhile, Judge Carol Perry has asked defense attorneys to declare any conflicts of interest. Jordan represents the most defendants, while another attorney has 14 defendants as clients. Perry said the court needs to be informed payments, representation of clients in related matters, use of information that could relevant matters.

Parties in the case have said the allegations could take years to resolve, with some defendantshavingfiledmotions to dismiss claims against them based on sovereign, legislative or executive immunity. Among those named as defendants are a former tribal president, the current and former attorney general, and the tribe's controller.

The civil charges wouldn't An attorney for two dozen Francis said the latter request lead to any jail time but could was granted late Friday, putting mean fines for anyone proved to have committed wrongdoing and a temporary ban on seeking elected office.

> Prosecutors said request is meant to speed up the case, not delay it, though they said interviewing the 85 defendants will be a daunting

> "Many of the Navajo Nation's key government officials are operating under a cloud of serious accusations of impropriety," prosecutors wrote. "If those accusations are justified, those individuals should be held accountable. If those accusations are not justified, those individuals and the Navajo Nation are entitled to a clean bill of health."

> The civil lawsuit replaced some criminal charges in the investigation of discretionary spending unresolved.

### **Ex-Mohawk chief gets prison** in upstate NY pot bust

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - A former chief of the St. Regis Mohawk tribe has been sentenced to a year in prison following his arrest more than a year ago at a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint with two hockey bags filled with marijuana.

U.S. District Judge Thomas McAvoy has also ordered 69-year-old Phillip Tarbell, of

Hogansburg, to pay a \$10,000

Federal prosecutors say that Tarbell, following his Nov. 12, 2010, arrest in Essex County, pleaded guilty to possession with intent to distribute marijuana. He faces other charges following his Nov. 3, 2011, arrest, accused of trying to sell 1,800 ecstasy pills to an undercover agent in Queens.

### Wampanoags sue former tribal leaders

MASHPEE, Mass. (AP) -The Mashpee Wampanoags have filed a complaint in tribal court in an attempt to recoup about \$400,000 current leaders say was embezzled by a trio of former tribal officials.

Former tribal council Chairman Glenn Marshall as well as two others are named in the civil complaint filed last month in the newly established tribal court.

Marshall is serving a federal prison sentence after pleading

guilty in 2009 to bilking the tribe out of nearly \$400,000, and using the money to make illegalcampaigncontributions and for personal purchases.

The other two defendants were never charged, but the lawsuit says they conspired with Marshall.

Current tribal council Chairman Cedric Cromwell tells the Cape Cod Times he is obligated to get the money

Marshall's wife was critical of the suit.





Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

### **NOTICE FOR OSAGE COUNTY**

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

THE OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

FAIRFAX - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER - 600 W. HARRISON-JANUARY 18, 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

TULSA - GILCREASE HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOC. - 1919 W. SEMINOLE - JANUARY 19, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 6, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

> McCORD - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER-115 MARY RD JANUARYY 20, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 7, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

HULAH - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -1924 CR 3575- JANUARY 23, 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

PRUE - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -209 WAH GRA SEE- JANUARY 24, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

BARTLESVILLE - LABADIE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH - SW OF CITY, JANUARY 25, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M SPERRY - CITY HALL - 115 N. CINCINNATI - JANUARY 26, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

BURBANK - CITY HALL -105 FIRST ST - JANUARY 27, 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

TAKING NEW APPLICATIONS FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, DOUBLE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, SENIOR FREEZE, VETERANS EXEMPTION, REPORTING CHANGES MADE TO YOUR PROPERTY AND/OR BUILDINGS, TURNING IN MANUFACTURED HOMES, RENDERING BUSINESS PERSONALS, REPORTING FARM EQUIPMENT, TRACTORS, BOAT DOCKS, ETC., AND APPLYING FOR AGRICULTURE FUEL EXEMPTION.

### **DEADLINE FOR FILING IS MARCH 15, 2012**

ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: AN ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION WILL BE GRANTED FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS WITH A GROSS INCOME (COLLECTIVE INCOME OF ANY AND ALL SOURCES OF ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD) NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00 FOR THE PRECEEDING CALENDAR YEAR. THERE ARE NO AGE REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER, FOR A PERMANENT EXEMPTION, YOU MUST FILE AT AGE 65, AND YOU MUST BE 65 AS OF MARCH 15TH. IF 66 YEARS OR OLDER AND QUALIFIED IN 2011, NO ANNUAL APPLICATION IS REQUIRED. FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 918-287-3448.

VETERANS EXEMPTION: 100% DISABLED OR SURVIVING SPOUSE MAY NOW APPLY FOR A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION THAT WILL ELIMINATE THEIR TAX BURDEN ON HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT U.S.D.V.A. BENEFITS AWARD LETTER WITH QUALIFICATIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS EXEMPTION THAT CERTIFIES THE 100% SERVICE RELATED DISABILITY.

PROPERTY VALUATION FREEZE (AKA: SENIOR FREEZE): THE OWNER MUST BE 65 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AS OF JANUARY 1ST, 2012; AND GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME LEVEL CANNOT EXCEED \$59,600.00 FOR THE 2011 YEAR. TO QUALIFY THE TAXPAYER MUST PROVIDE COPIES OF 2011 PAPERS TO VERIFY TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF ALL OCCUPANTS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME INCLUDES ALL TAXABLE AND NON-TAXABLE INCOME SOURCES. THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WILL VERIFY ALL APPLICANTS.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TAXPAYER TO NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IF INCOME EXCEEDS THE **OUALIFIED AMOUNTS.** 

HOUSE BILL#1724: IF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES ARE DELINQUENT, YOUR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION WILL BE CANCELLED.

> GAIL HEDGCOTH, OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR 600 GRANDVIEW, RM 101, OSAGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE PAWHUSKA, OK. 74056 HOURS: 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. 918-287-3448

### **GROUPS**

The ceremony follows a process established by the General Assembly to formally recognize American Indian tribes, bands or clans.

According to the census, Maryland has 23,162 Native Americans living in the state, and 58,000 people who identify themselves as having American Indian heritage. State law requires that petitioners document that the group has been identified as part of a continuous Native American community from before 1790 until the present and is indigenous to Maryland.

More than \$17 million in potential funding may now become available to the state and the Piscataway in education, minority business contracting, housing and public health, according to the O'Malley administration. Recognition also means the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs will be able to assist in getting federal funding for the reestablishment of the Title VII Indian Education program in southern Maryland.

Before recognition, the Maryland Historical Trust had to consult with out-ofstate tribes on the reburial of Maryland Native American Indian remains. Now, the state can consult with Maryland indigenous Piscataway Tribes.

# No charges in death of woodcarver

SEATTLE (AP) - No criminal charges will be filed against a former Seattle police officer who shot and killed a Native American woodcarver while on duty in 2010, the U.S. Justice Department said

John T. Williams had just crossed a street while holding a knife and a block of wood when Officer Ian Birk got out of his patrol car, ordered him to drop the knife, and then shot him to death on Aug. 30, 2010.

The killing outraged many who saw it as an unnecessary use of force.

Birk resigned from the Police Department and the city paid \$1.5 million to Williams' family.

Prompted by the killing and other

incidents, the Justice Department launched a formal civil rights investigation of the department and eventually determined that Seattle police engaged in a pattern of using excessive force, often against minorities.

The DOJ also conducted a criminal civil-rights investigation of Birk's actions and announced Friday that there is not enough evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the officer willfully violated Williams' rights.

"Prosecutors must establish, beyond a reasonable doubt, that a law enforcement officer willfully deprived an individual of a constitutional right, meaning with the deliberate and specific intent to do something the law forbids," the department said in a news release. "Accident, mistake, fear, negligence or bad judgment is not sufficient to establish a federal criminal civil rights violation."

State officials reached a similar conclusion earlier. Even though a firearms review board found the shooting unjustified, King County Prosecutor Dan Satterberg said the state could not charge Birk because the law required prosecutors to show the officer acted with malice and without good faith.

Attorney Tim Ford, a lawyer for the Williams family, told The Seattle Times the decision "is a great disappointment to his family," which had hoped a jury would have the opportunity to hear the case.

### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country





RESERVE YOUR

CALL LISA 918-708-5838

### Bison relocation plan challenged in court

**MATTHEW BROWN** 

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) - Opponents of a plan to relocate 68 wild bison filed a lawsuit Wednesday seeking to stop the transfer of the animals to two American during their winter migration several Indian Reservations in Montana.

The plaintiffs contend Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks should be blocked from relocating the animals until the agency crafts a statewide bison management plan and conducts further environmental reviews.

The suit was filed in state District Court in Blaine County by a coalition of property owners, ranchers, public land access advocates and a state lawmaker. It alleges bison can cause extensive property damage such as tearing down fences and eating hay intended for domestic cattle.

The bison slated for relocation to the Blaine County ranchers whose property those agreements might be finalized.

Fort Peck and Fort Belknap reservations borders Fort Belknap. According to the near Corwin Springs, just north of Yellowstone National park.

They were captured leaving the park and depleting haystacks. sure they were free of brucellosis. That disease, which can cause pregnant animals to abort their young, was for many years the primary argument for preventing Yellowstone bison from roaming freely outside the park.

But the property owners' lawsuit puts greater emphasis on the possible damage that can be inflicted by the animals when they get onto private land.

To back up the assertion, the suit details \$20,000 in alleged losses suffered by plaintiffs Dustin and Vickie Hofeldt,

are being held in a government quarantine suit, bison from a herd already on the reservation have escaped repeatedly onto the Hofeldts' property, trampling fences

"The state needs to follow the laws set years ago and tested extensively to make to protect landowners and our agriculture producers, not crowd more buffalo onto the range, which makes the problem worse," Dustin Hofeldt said in a statement released by the plaintiffs.

> Fish, Wildlife and Parks spokesman Ron Aasheim said he had not seen the lawsuit and could not comment on it. But he said the 68 Yellowstone bison will not be moved until the state and tribes sign agreements detailing how the animals will be contained and what measures must to be taken to retrieve them if they leave.

Aasheim said there is no date for when

## **BONES**

Continued from Page 1

Universities find themselves tugged one way by the law's mandates, another by faculty research needs.

Some anthropologists say more remains will become off limits, imperiling study of the diets, health, migrations and other habits of ancient peoples without guaranteeing that the remains will wind up with their true descendants. "There really isn't any balance anymore," said Keith Kintigh, associate director of the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University. "The public and scientific interest in (the remains) no longer have any weight."

In recent months, Harvard's Peabody Museum has received requests for about 500 remains and hired additional staff as they respond to the 2010 rule, said Patricia Capone, the museum's repatriation coordinator.

At the University of officials have Michigan, decided to transfer the bulk their 1,580 culturally unaffiliated remains to 13 Native American tribes who want them. In the meantime,

they have been put off limits to researchers. "The law is very clear that they will be transferred," said school spokesman Rick Fitzgerald.

At UC-Berkeley, more than 6,000 of the roughly 10,000 remains that were deemed culturally unidentifiable are now subject to potential transfer to tribes. And the Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Archaeology here has added four new staff members to help match remains to tribes if possible and notify tribes whose lands held the remains.

The small eclectic museum recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of a recording made by Ishi - the last surviving member of the Yahi tribe who emerged from hiding in Northern California in 1911. The museum displays artifacts such as Pomo baskets, an Achumawi rabbitskin blanket and arrowheads Ishi made out of obsidian and glass- but not the remains of Native peoples.

The collection of bones - one of the country's largest - is in storage. Officials declined to show them to The Associated Press during a recent campus visit on grounds that that could be offensive to tribes.

The university currently has four pending requests for remains. And Museum

Director Mari Lyn Salvador said the regulation change has caused concern among researchers.

"There are very important opportunities to understand contemporary medicine ... information that could be very useful to these (Native) communities themselves in terms of better understanding diabetes and other illnesses," she said.

The university presents such information to tribes, she said, but lets the tribes decide whether to allow researchers to work with the bones.

Tens of thousands of individual Native American remains have been collected since the mid-19th century. Some grave sites were looted or excavated to support scientific research, including a study of skulls purporting to show that Native Americans were inferior to Caucasians, according to Robert Bieder, an Indiana University professor who has written about the phenomenon.

The bones in dispute at UC San Diego have long since been out of the ground. They were excavated more than three decades ago from land around the university chancellor's house in La Jolla by a professor from another school. But a photo of the

original discovery shows the outlines of two skeletons with skulls, buried head to toe.

Since their discovery in 1976, they have been studied at the Smithsonian and carbon dated at the University of Oxford, according to Margaret Schoeninger, a professor in the Department of Anthropology at UCSD and the university's representative on Indian burial issues.

When the Kumeyaay Nation - a dozen Native bands with reservations in San Diego County - first demanded the remains, the university rejected its claim that they were the tribe's ancestors.

Researchers have said Kumeyaay remains were cremated early in the tribe's history, not buried. They have also questioned whether the remains are even Native American, given their age, although the university has concluded that they are.

"In terms of what the Kumeyaay have put forward, the only thing I've heard is their belief, their deep tie to the land and folklore," Schoeninger said. "We need empirical evidence."

Tribal representatives say they have an oral history that goes back thousands of years and connects them to the remains.

In light of the recent rule, university officials did a reevaluation, concluding that the skeletons came from the Kumeyaay's ancestral lands while still maintaining they were not the Kumeyaay's direct ancestors.

In a filing in December, the university said it would turn the remains over to the Kumeyaay although it gave other tribal groups until Jan. 4 to come forward and dispute the Kumeyaay's claim.

Kumeyaay repatriation officials say they will accept the remains.

"It's pleasing to know that these are going to finally be returned and properly taken care of," Guassac said. "They are going to be getting the respectful treatment they deserve."

One option, he said, is that the remains will be reburied.



**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

### **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# Vets aim for easier civilian shift

KRISTI EATON

Associated Press FLANDREAU, S.D. (AP) - Like all

soldiers returning from the Iraq War, Dennis Quigley met with a mental health professional before his return to civilian

Quigley, a member of the Rosebud Sioux tribe, had the 15- to 20-minute meeting at the Veterans' Administration and he was on his way. But he says that was far too little time for a proper diagnosis and understanding of how his American Indian culture would shape his transition back to civilian life as a veteran.

"So they end up doing a lot of Band-Aiding on these hidden wounds that are so prevalent," Quigley said, adding that post-traumatic stress disorder is prevalent and suicide rates have skyrocketed among American Indian veterans.

Quigley brought together about 60 veterans and tribal leaders from South Dakota's nine tribes for a conference last week in an effort to address the issues facing American Indian veterans. The three-day event focused on better practices and guidelines for Native American veterans struggling to adjust to

The problem, Quigley said, is that many of the mental health professionals take a one-size-fits-all approach to veterans and don't realize the role culture plays among veterans who are Native American.

"Everything is about non-Indian veterans," he said. "So we just struggle along on our own. Our culture says that we don't put ourselves out there. It's hard to get the Indian perspective."

For example, he said, not all Native Americans diagnosed with PTSD or another disorder want to take medication, but they are often told to.

"Some people should be on medication, but you can't expect everyone to willingly submit to all these medications. With our culture, we don't use medication," he

Quigley said the conference [was] also a chance to show appreciation for the veterans' service.

# Native American veterans, you

LAURA SAVAGE

Native Americans serving in the

Many soldiers are physically wounded

- Recurrent nightmares
- Flashbacks to traumatic events
- Loss of interest in favorite activities

- Increased heart rate or sweating
- Difficulty concentrating
- Feeling constantly "on guard"
- Being easily startled
- Withdrawal from family and friends
- Talk of suicide or killing others

These are all natural reactions to unnatural, even horrific, circumstances such as war. The stresses of military service can adversely impact people of all ages, races, ranks, and education levels. It affects those who serve and those who love them.

If you or someone you know has these, or other, symptoms help is available. Psychological wounds; like physical wounds, can be treated. Many professional behavioral health clinicians are well-equipped to provide counseling, education, support, and referrals to veterans and to their families. Most Oklahoma Tribes have behavioral health services which are offered free of charge to anyone holding a CDIB card.

Veterans...know that you are not alone and have not been forgotten; it's not a sign of weakness to reach out for help... it's a sign of strength...the same strength that led you into battle will lead you safely home and to wellness again. Don't suffer needlessly, professional and confidential help is available. For more information and/or to schedule an appointment to see a mental health and/or substance abuse professional, contact your nearest Tribal Health System or refer to the following links and numbers:

**National Native Americans Veterans** Association: 210-679-6721 http://nnava.org/

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; National Center for PTSD www.ptsd.va.gov/public/index.asp Veterans Crisis Line: 800-273-8255 http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/

Not Alone: 888-497-0379 www.notalone.com/site/Default.aspx

Wounded Warrior Project; 877-TEAMWWP (877-832-6997) http://www.woundedwarriorproject. org/warriors.aspx

- Laura Savage can be reached at 918-224-9185 or laura.savage@creekhealth.

of any surplus water from southeastern Oklahoma. Jim Oliver, general manager of the Tarrant Regional Water District that serves the Fort Worth and Arlington areas, said the district is still interested in negotiating a deal for southeastern Oklahoma water.

"The door remains open," Oliver said in a statement.

Attorney General Scott Pruitt's office is preparing a lawsuit that will ask a state court to determine the tribes' rights to water in their historic territories. Oklahoma Solicitor General Patrick Wyrick has said the suit will be filed by Feb. 1 and that the state will seek a stay of the federal lawsuit while the state case is pending.

But similar tribal water rights lawsuits in other states have taken decades to resolve. In 2010, officials in New Mexico settled a lawsuit involving more than 2,500 defendants that was filed in 1966 to resolve water rights issues among four Indian pueblos and non-Indian residents in northern Santa Fe County.

"As they say in the west, whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting," said David LaFrance, executive director of the Denverbased American Water Works Association. "Water is such an important part of our communities and our economy."

Tribal water rights adjudications are "very cumbersome" cases to litigate, said Michael Burrage, lead attorney for the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations.

"Lasts for years and years and years," Burrage said.

Two years ago, the OWRB agreed to transfer to OklahomaCity the state's water storage contract for southeastern Oklahoma's Sardis Lake in the historic territories of each of the tribes, a decision that was opposed by tribal leaders. The tribes' lawsuit asks a federal judge to stop the board from selling its rights to the lake without an agreement with the tribe.

Burrage said the lawsuit is the culmination of years of unsuccessful efforts by tribal leaders to have state officials recognize their sovereignty and negotiate with them.

"Water is a very important resource," Burrage said. "The Choctaw Nation and Chickasaw Nation do want a seat at the table on such an important issue."

He said the tribes want to assure a sustainable water supply in their treaty areas and properly maintain the region's rivers, streams and lakes. The tribes claim that

an 1830 treaty gives them authority over water resources in their jurisdictions but that they have been excluded in negotiations.

"It's important that the Nations have the natural resources for the treaty territories," Burrage said.

A mediator appointed to the federal lawsuit, Duke University law professor Francis McGovern, has met with state and tribal leaders twice this month and more meetings are planned within the next 30 days, according to court records. Burrage said federal court rules prohibited him from discussing the status of the mediation process.

As the state and tribes exchange legal barbs, the tribes have mounted a public relations media campaign that focuses on their goals for the region.

Videos produced the Choctaw Nation that have been broadcast in the Oklahoma City area emphasis Oklahoma's southeastern environment and the need to protect its habitat for the benefit of the region's wildlife and residents.

"Water conservation is a top priority for the Choctaw Nation," Choctaw Chief Greg Pyle says in one video.

Another video focuses specifically on Sardis Lake and stresses the need for a longterm comprehensive water plan that protects the lake and southeastern Oklahoma.

"Its crystal waters are a real blessing to our local economy," Gary Batton, assistant tribal chief, says on the video.

"We can't afford to lose this treasure," says Brian McClain, executive director of the tribe.

Judy Allen, executive director of public relations for the Choctaw Nation, said the videos were designed to showcase the region's natural beauty and the tribe's concern that it be preserved.

"I think the general intent is just to educate people that there is just a beautiful jewel of a lake in southeast Oklahoma that is Sardis Lake," Allen said.

Allen said tribal leaders opposetransferringadditional water from the region until its impact is thoroughly studied.

The tribes have entered an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a regional water plan to assess the water resources of their treaty territory, an area that covers 22 counties in southeastern and south central Oklahoma. The first phase of the \$180,000 study is expected to be completed this summer.

# are not alone, not forgotten

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Behavioral Health Services

military today carry on a time-honored tradition continued from the first settlers on this continent to the ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Historically, Native Americans have enlisted in the military at a greater per capita rate than that of any other ethnicity and have proven themselves to be outstanding warriors. The highest award of military valor is the Medal of Honor; there are currently 28, or more, Native American Medal of Honor Recipients.

or even killed. Others have wounds that are not so easy to see such as depression, anxiety, addictions, and Traumatic Brain Injury. Many have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Signs and symptoms to be aware of include, but are not limited to, the following:

and elderly veterans.

Noble said.

for Vets" campaign.

Nation Office of Veterans Affairs is again

coordinating its annual "Valentines for

Vets" drive to honor disabled, hospitalized

"Once again, we are asking individuals,

departments, schools, classes, churches,

youth groups and civic organizations

to let our veterans know how much we

appreciate them. We are encouraging

everyone to be creative when making your

Valentines," CNOVA representative Rogan

This is the 11th year for the "Valentines

"There are any number of websites and

organizations that send things overseas

to our troops, as there should be, but too

many times the older vets who are confined

to VA (Veterans Affairs) hospitals and VA

nursing homes are forgotten," Noble said.

"Remember to address the Valentines

• Feeling distant from others

'Valentines for Vets' drive underway TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The Cherokee to 'Our Vets' or 'My Hero' or any other appropriate honorific, and have the Valentines signed with a first name only or the name of the group making them. Once we deliver them, we have no idea which

vet will be getting them."

Noble said the Valentines will be delivered to the VA hospitals in Fayetteville, Ark., and Muskogee as well as the VA nursing homes in Claremore and Talihina. Veterans at VA clinics in Jay, Vinita and Tulsa also will receive Valentines.

"Last year we delivered over 4,000 Valentines to the different facilities," Noble

The deadline for getting Valentines to the CNOVA office is Feb. 10. For more information, call 918-453-5695 or email rnoble@cherokee.org.

### **VA Medical** Center to hold writing workshop

MUSKOGEE, Okla. - The Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center will host a Warrior Writers Workshop for Veterans on January 23 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

The workshop will teach Veterans how to put their thoughts and feelings on paper and will be led by Iraq War Veteran Amber Stone who will help Veterans write poems, short stories or whatever form of expression Veterans are inspired to use.

For more information, please contact Deborah Moreno at 918-577-4014. The Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center is located at 1011 Honor Heights Dr. in Muskogee.

Continued from Page 1

ancestors more than any prepackaged meat or drivethru order could.

"You can't go to Hy-Vee and just pick up ground buffalo to actually get the spiritual connection. I think that's kind of been lost," said Geriann Headrick, acting food service manager at the Flandreau Indian School, referring to a regional supermarket chain.

The school began preparing school meals with fresh bison meat last year as part of the pilot project.

Nearly 20 professors across five departments at SDSU are involved in the project, which they hope will be used as a model among other tribes trying to revive the demand for bison.

Although bison tastes a bit different - some think it has a sweeter, richer flavor than beef

Flandreau Indian School senior Dillon Blackbird said he prefers school meals served with bison because it's "real

One of more than 30 students from the Flandreau Indian School to take part in cooking workshops with bison as the main ingredient, Blackbird said he now knows how to whip up his own dishes with bison, which has less fat and fewer calories than beef.

"I make basic stuff: tacos, enchiladas, spaghetti, lasagna," Blackbird said.

SDSU researchers want other teenagers to follow Blackbird's lead, creating a market within the tribe for the next 40 to 50 years and changing the way members think about the animal.

Like many American Indian tribes, the Flandreau Santee Sioux maintains its own herd as a tie to its ancestors who relied on bison for survival. Established in 1990 with 12 heifer calves and one bull calf acquired from Custer State Park in western South Dakota, the herd swelled to about 250 animals by the spring of 2009.

But the herd has become ceremonial necessity, and when it began costing too much money, tribal officials considered selling the animals until SDSU researchers pitched the idea for a new market via the hearty appetites of teenagers.

"Like all Americans, Native Americans are used to eating traditional American foods. Even though the bison means something to them culturally more than the average American, they are used to eating chicken legs and cooking hamburgers," said SDSU economics professor Scott Fausti. "What we're trying to do, of course, is to lessen the financial burden upon the tribe by further integrating bison into the community, (allowing) the bison to provide greater resources to the community

by using it as a substitute protein source."

The Flandreau Santee Sioux tribe has since culled the herd to fewer than 50 animals as it works to rethem organically without hormones or pesticides - which Fausti said is more attuned to traditional American Indian beliefs. Ideally, the herd will return to 160 to 180 organically grown bison, supplying 30 to 40 animals each year for the community.

Until the Flandreau program is self-sustaining, the InterTribal Buffalo Council, a cooperative of more than 50 tribes created in the early 1990s to re-establish bison herds, is donating the animal meat to the Flandreau School. Officials also are hoping to get more money for the project through grants.

Once the herd is reestablished, the hope is that other tribal entities, including the diabetic program, will

choose to use the meat over buying from commercial pork, beef and chicken vendors, Fausti said. The tribe also may sell to outside sources as well.

It's been a battle to create a continuous stream of demand for the meat as a protein source due to fluctuating prices, Fausti said, noting that one non-American Indian cooperative in North Dakota went bankrupt several years ago, leaving thousands of dollars' worth of the meat in storage. Prices for bison meat, regardless of cut, were stable in December, the most recent month available, after recent spikes, according to the USDA.

Other tribes have tried similar methods to revitalize their herds: Students at the Southern Ute tribal school rely on bison for their meat, and Ponca tribal members with diabetes can get a prescription for the animal meat - a good option because it's lower in fat and cholesterol.

But the Flandreau tribe is believed to be the first creating a self-sustaining commercial market from production to consumption, said Jim Stone, executive director of the InterTribal Buffalo Council.

Fausti said other tribes can look to the Flandreau model of incorporating organically grown bison into popular dishes as a way to create their own markets and culturalrestoration programs.

Della Flute, for one, agrees. The Flandreau Indian School kitchen aide chose to cook Christmas dinner for her mother and 20-year-old son with bison meat over other protein sources. Flute believes consuming more bison will help young people reconnect with their roots.

"I think a lot of us strayed far from (the culture)," said Flute, 41. "I think reservations would improve."

# COMMENTARY











# Alcohol is a red flag that has been waving too long

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

I got an email from Lonnie Burnett this morning. Lonnie is a Tribal Council Member of the Kaw Nation of Oklahoma. He started by saying he has been a fan of mine for many, many years and then he got to the subject of his letter.

He mentioned a comment I made in a recent column in which I said I met with some old friends "over a glass of beer." He wrote, "Honestly, I was shocked when I read those words."

Lonnie continued, "I mention this not as a teetotaler on a soapbox; I mention it merely to point out that, due to your status and ability to reach thousands of our Native relatives, your reference to your use of alcohol was shocking to me. As we all know, alcohol is a poison to our people and remains an epidemic in our communities."

There is no argument with the assessment of Mr. Burnett. He is absolutely right in saying that alcohol is a poison to our people. I have witnessed firsthand the destruction alcohol has caused in everything to the health of our Nations to the social damages it has wrought. So many valuable lives have been wasted to the ravages of alcohol.

Like many, maybe even most Native Americans, there have been times in the past

when I overindulged in my consumption of alcohol, but I never let it come between me and my job. I stopped overindulging, but I still like a cold beer while watching a football game on television or a good glass of wine with a good meal. That is the limit of my alcohol consumption to date. But social drinking has never been a big problem in the white community. No doubt there are an abundance of alcoholics in the white community, but so many more hold themselves to a limit of one or two drinks at social occasions, and that is a lesson that needs to be taught in the Indian community.

One of my oldest friends, Melvin "Dickey" Brewer served as an alcohol social worker on the Pine Ridge Reservation and was in favor of legalizing the sale of alcohol on the reservation. He used to say, "Nobody ever put a gun to my head and said drink that beer."

He believed that learning to drink responsibly was a key issue with Indians.

Making Indian reservations dry often leads to binge drinking. Some of our people go to an off-reservation establishment, purchase a couple of cases of beer, and then try to consume it as rapidly as possible while heading back to their homes on the Indian reservation. Also, because of the lack of a steady job and income, many drinkers are limited to purchasing the cheapest, and probably the most damaging of alcohol, cheap wine, that can be the most devastating.

When I was sixteen I recall visiting my cousin Delbert Tapio at Pine Ridge and we shared a bottle of cheap wine they called "Green Lizard" and I got so sick I never touched any alcohol again until I went into the U.S. Navy. Now I had to deal with two images of alcoholics because the general public often spoke of "drunken Indians" or of "spending money like a drunken sailor." Now I was an American Indian and I was also a sailor.

All of my life and the last 34 years as a newspaper publisher, I have fought the damaging effects of alcohol because I had some of the most talented Native American employees that I had to eventually terminate because they could not control their taste for alcohol. I have fired brilliant writers, cartoonists and press operators because of their false love of alcohol. And every step of the way I encouraged them to get help, but the urge to drink far outweighed their ability to accept their responsibilities. But some I did save and they are brilliant journalists to this day.

In the 1920s America attempted to stop alcoholism by outlawing the sale of alcohol. It was called Prohibition and it was a disastrous failure. It was the initiator of organized crime in America.

I will continue to have a cold beer on occasion or a good glass of wine, but I agree 100 percent that the problems caused by alcohol in the Indian communities has been a nation-wide disaster and somewhere out there is a young Native American man or woman who will find a solution to this social problem that has wrought such harm to an entire race of people. Lonnie Burnett is absolutely right and



im Giago

after this column responding to his comments I will never be using alcohol again in any of my columns.

Learning to stop at one and always at two drinks has been my solution.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

## Gaining true eyesight: Sometimes it just takes a walk

COREY FLOOD

I got out of bed this morning and immediately felt the coldness from the wood floors on my bare feet. I walked over to my laptop to check the weather for the day. I walk home a lot from school because of sins from my past, and like to see what the weather will be like on my trek home. I'm usually the first one out of bed in the morning, make the first pot of coffee and play with our regal cat Ms. Lucy. Most of my days begin in this peaceful way. As Kim was waking up she asked me what the weather was like and I said, "it's only going to warm up to 30 degrees today." "It's better than 25 degrees," Kim replied.

I have been given so many wonderful things in my life from the so-called mistakes from my past. When people hear that I lost my license for 15 years, they immediately think that my life had stopped turning and are amazed that someone could exist without the almighty car and operator's license. The ones who cannot fathom this are the students who live on campus who fight for

parking spots because they refuse to walk 45 yards to class. I felt this way for about a year and remembered all the times I was intoxicated while driving and to miss that was pure selfishness on my part. Kim was once again correct, 30 degrees is much more acceptable than 25 degrees.

It doesn't matter what the situation, it always seems I get where I'm headed, either on foot or by an unexpected ride. I remember back when it was a fun and safe event to hitchhike here or there. I met the most interesting people back in the late 70's in this way. I won't get into the war stories but I enjoyed each event walking gave me. I was never one to stand in one place with my thumb out. I always walked knowing if I didn't get a ride I was one step closer to my goal. It was this motivation that the ones who did pick me up gave as the reason they stopped and offered me

We always feel negative things or feel things could or would be better for us if only... I have found out that when I allow things to happen on their own and stop trying to control the situation, fun and unexpected things occur. I have had many people from the college stop to offer rides. I have had many meaningful conversations from instructors, the youngsters that are younger than my daughters, and also strangers who stop from the kindness of their hearts. This resembles much more a social gathering than a ride home. Bless them all.

When my studies began more than a year and a half ago, I began a daily ritual that brought me pure joy and also became a real test for me. I always notice the many birds that are in flight and especially search the skies for hawks. When walking to and from the college, I pass a stand of trees along the railroad tracks that has a small cornfield close to it. I noticed this hawk as I walked home. I would watch him and wonder what he looked like up close. I made many attempts to try to creep up on him but the sound of the gravel as I walked on the tracks must have spooked him because he wouldn't allow me within

I have learned much in these last 50 years, one of the most important lessons is to never stop trying to improve and when a thought is in your mind and you cannot shake

it, there is a good reason and to acknowledge this and allow this to develop.

I made it a daily mission to get as close to this hawk as I could get. He played many games with me at first. He would fly further down and land on the trees far away as I approached him, so I would simply walk further to reach him. He would tease me and allow me to think I was sneaking up on him and then at the last moment he would fly off with all his power and spread his wings and tail as if to say, "Be gone peasant."

This hawk friend of mine has become a symbol to me, one of perseverance, and also pride. This beautiful hawk is a red tail hawk; I cannot get over the beauty of his tail. This symbol of mine will now allow me to stand under him as he sits on his throne. I'm sure there are many students and instructors who think I have flipped a script because they assume that I'm talking to myself. Most don't look around when driving or look up. I have been given this gift from a so-called handicap because I walk instead of drive, unlike the

rest of the world who cannot exist without that comfort, and notice all the wonderful and beautiful things these last 15 years have blessed me with.

The most unexpected things come from a so-called hardship, such as walking instead of driving. I'm almost afraid to say this, so I hesitate; the route to riches is to make a complete wreck of your life and when you correct your behaviors and cleanse your mind and soul, you will be given your every heart's desire. For me this has been the case. This walk has led me to many special gifts and healings. I pray each one who is suffering and cannot see the way out of this agonizing lifestyle, I pray you find your hawk to try to get close to, the way I have. Each and every day this brings me closer to my purpose and what Tunkasila has in store for me. Mitakuye Oyasin.

Corey Flood is a Sicangu Lakota who hails from the Rosebud Reservation. He is a non-traditional student who writes from Northeast Community College in Norfolk, Nebraska, where he is majoring in Journalism.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

Phone:



918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com
Equal Housing Lender
Native American Owned



TIMES
recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations
Professional Construction,
Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint
Tile • Trim • Plumbing
Electrical • Solar Panels
Windmills • Winterizing
Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com – Mayes & Cherokee Counties –



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:				
Address:				

C:4	Chaha. Zin.
City:	State: Zip:

□ \$65.00 for 52 issues	\$32.50 for 26 issues

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

■ \$1.25 single copy

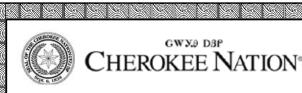
More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

www.nativetimes.com

# CLASSIFIEDS



### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahleguah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES AT** W.W. HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH

**POSITIONS CLOSE 1/17/2012** 

#5674 Medical Case Manager/R/FT

#4869 Supervisory Clinical Nurse/T/PT #5868 Inpatient/RN/R/FT/OR

#4995 Inpatient RN/PRN/OB

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

Cherokee Nation **Human Resources Department** PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Or Visit our website at: www.cherokee.org

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

### **Architectural Project Manager**

Architectural Project Manager, Tahlequah, OK: Responsible for architectural projects including the plan, design, and construction of residential structures in the rustico style. Reports to owner and designated supervising licensed Architect. Bachelor's degree in Architecture, 1 year's experience in construction projects. Resumes to: Chance Properties, LLC, V. H. Wilhelm, 2210 Golf Course Road, Tahlequah, OK,

organizations and tribal members.

### **NATIVE AMERICAN**

Advertise to Native Americans! lisa@nativetimes.com

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is accepting applications for the full-time, regular status position of Title VI Program Coordinator/Department Manager. To apply, please visit our website at http://www.pawneenation.org

### **HIRING PREFERENCE?**

E-mail your ad for a quote to:

Tourism Association

Introducing America's First Nations to the World

AIANTA is a nonprofit association of Native American tribes and tribal businesses

organized to advance Indian Country tourism. The Association is made up of member

tribes from six regions: Eastern, Plains, Midwest, Southwest, Pacific Northwest, and

constituents in advancing tourism, assist tribes in creating infrastructure and capac-

ity, provide technical assistance, training and educational resources to tribes, tribal

AIANTA currently is seeking to fill two positions, Finance Director and

Membership Coordinator. Please visit www.aianta.org/news for complete

vacancy announcement. Please submit resume including salary history and two

references no later than 5:00 p.m. MST, November 28, 2011 to:

AIANTA

Attn: Sherrie Bowman

2401 12th Street NW

Albuquerque, NM 87104

Or electronically at sbowman@aianta.org

Alaska. The purpose of the Association is to serve as the voice and resource for its

### **Director of Native American** Recruitment

Bacone College is looking for a Director of Native American Recruitment. This is a full-time, 12-month position designed to reach out to the Native American market across America and express Bacone College's primary focus and interest in recruiting and retaining Native American students that reflect its mission and heritage. Recruitment will focus primarily on Native American prospective students interested in attending Bacone College and working as a pointofcontactwiththesestudents throughout matriculation.

This position requires extensive travel within Oklahoma and the United States. The person selected for this position is primarily responsible for recruitment of Native American students and maintaining secondary education relationships.

Send letter of application, vita, transcripts, and three references humanresources@bacone. edu or Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

Bacone College is currently accepting applications for the following position:

### **DEAN OF SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**Dean for the School of Health Sciences** (SOHS) will coordinate all aspects of the SOHS programs to include instruction, accreditation, advising, and supervisory responsibilities; and will provide academic leadership for the SOHS programs including AS in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, AAS in Radiography, BS in Medical Imaging, and ADN and BSN. Master's degree required; doctoral degree preferred and documented instruction in educational theory or techniques, plus documented work experiences in the Health Sciences field and in the supervision of a related health science academic program.

Salary competitive. Send letter of application, vita, transcripts, and three references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Rd., Muskogee OK 74403 or email humanresources@bacone.edu. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

**Look for Native American** Times on Facebook and Twitter! Friends get front page scoops, new features and breaking news.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Catching the Dream (formerly Native American Scholarship Fund) seeks an executive director. Superior writing ability, knowledge of proposals and fund raising, knowledge of private scholarships, knowledge of college admissions process, three years of budget and finance experience, and knowledge of school improvement processes. Send resume, sample of writing, and salary requirements to CTD4DeanChavers@aol.

### **SERVICES**

Native American Electrician

### 1st Call Electric

Reasonable Rates • At Cost Material

918-277-1610

Licensed • Insured • Bonded • OK#70011

Serving Northeast Oklahoma

### **Advanced Energy Solutions**

(Heating & Air Conditioning)

Serving Oklahoma City and the surrounding area.

Service, repair and installation of all brands

\* \* American Standard Dealer \* \*

Expert Owner Operation • You can relax when AES is on the job

405-315-6116

**Commercial Janitorial Services/Supplies √**& Landscaping Services Big Time MaintenanceSolutions (405) 338-8180 American Indian Owned

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor





**Discount Cigarettes** Call to reserve your brand today!



702 E Central • Anadarko, Okla.



# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Room TBA, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

cherokeeartistsassociation.

**THIRD TUESDAY of even** numbered months - The **Central Oklahoma Cherokee** Alliance meets at Mayflower **UCC Church, Oklahoma City** at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of** Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS **The Marble City Nutrition** Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Gather for fellowship and friendship. Volunteers welcome. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N.

**YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-

Main, Marble City, Okla.

Phone: (918) 775-2158

**JANUARY 19 South Coffeyville Cherokee** 

2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**Community meeting** at 6:30 p.m. Call Vickie Brokeshoulder 918-822-2893 **JANUARY 21** 

**Tahlequah Farmers' Market** 5th Season's Annual Meeting 7:00 p.m. at the Tahlequah Armory Building, 100 North Water Ave. Info call Marcia Hutchins, (918) 316-5794 or email marcia. hutchins@me.com

**JANUARY 24 Vinita Indian Territory Coalition Cherokee** Community meeting at 6 p.m. Call Lisa Trice-Turtle 918-453-2988

**FEBRUARY 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**FEBRUARY 4 Birthday Dance for Richard** D Roubedeaux at Otoe **Cultrual Bldg, Red Rock** Okla. Starts at 2:00 p.m. Supper at 5:00 p.m. More Gourd dancing after supper - if anyone wants to bring anything please bring covered dish.

**FEBRUARY 4 Gourd Dance in memory of** Dorothy Heap-of-Birds at **Clinton Fairgrounds (South** on HWY 183), Clinton, Okla. Painting Ceremony 2:00 pm Gourd Dancing 3:00pm Supper 5:00pm. Contact for more info:Choya Hammond (580)309-1992 or Ruth Bearshield (580)303-8378

**FEBRUARY 4 Norman First American UMC** will be hosting Native **Open Hand Games Southern** Style, from 2 - 5 PM, at 1950

Beaumont Dr, Norman, Okla. Info call Alan Yeahquo, Coordinator (405) 321-5640. Lunch will be provide after games. Everyone Welcome

February 16-18 **Tulsa Indian Art Festival at** the Glenpool Conference Center, HWY 75 and 121st Street. Entry forms at www. tulsaindianartfestival.com. **FEBRUARY 18** The Arrington -Mcspadden **All Indian Rodeo Association** will have their first rodeo of 2012 in Tahlequah Okla. For more info email

MARCH 2

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or

More (405) 321-5640

dwrshirley@aol.com

# Okla. man shares love of Choctaw language

REBEKA RUTLEDGE The Duncan Banner

MARLOW, Okla. (AP) -Learning a new language is sometimes a requirement loathed by high school or college students, or a necessary task for relocation.

However, sometimes becoming versed in more than one language is a goal for which people strive.

Whatever the case may be, there is an opportunity to for area residents to step away from the usual second languages, such as Spanish and French, and learn a dialect that is historically a little closer to home.

In Marlow, Billy York is offering residents the chance to learn the Choctaw language.

For York, the Native American tribe's vernacular is actually his first language. He didn't learn English until enrolling in the public school system at age 6.

And although he quickly became fluent in English, York never lost the desire to know how to speak, read and write what he considers his native language.

"All my relatives spoke (Choctaw), but I wanted to learn how to read and write it," said York. "I wanted to know the grammar of it."

Spurred by that desire, he signed up for classes offered by the School of Choctaw Language. After a while, his teacher transferred elsewhere. York applied to take her place and was given the go-ahead.

Hehasnowbeeninstructing for about four years, although he noted that as the teacher he is constantly learning along with the students. In fact, that is the biggest reason York enjoys the position.

"I like learning at the same time," he said. "Teaching brings back words I haven't thought about in a long time and I learn new words."

As an educator he has heard different opinions from students on whether or not learning Choctaw is difficult. Some believe it is a struggle and some do not, which he notes is about the

same consensus most people experience in learning any new language.

York said the Choctaw sentence structure is like talking backwards.

He has heard several people say that the syntax of Choctaw is similar to that of Spanish.

As in most cases, York has discovered it is much easier for young children to pick up a new language, and there are several younger folks who attend his courses each year.

"I get young kids, like my grandson, and they are easier to teach," York said. "But they get to junior high and we lose them and their parents because they get involved with sports."

Generally, York sees about a half-dozen students for each class, although that varies depending on the time of year. When school is in session, the attendance drops, but response picks back up in the summer months.

The class is for anyone learning interested in Choctaw, which

colleges will allow to be used for a foreign language credit.

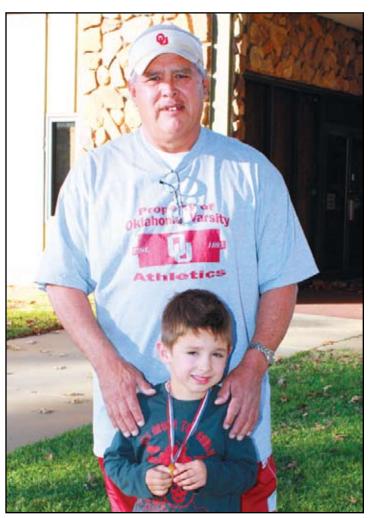
It is a free class and the only fee required is that students must purchase the books required.

Not only is there classroom learning, but sometimes guests come in to teach a little history of the tribe or how to make moccasins, bows or pottery, among other items. Many people return year after year to continue their knowledge and York said their understanding of the language continues to accelerate.

"There are phases one to four and we just go through them," he said.

"If someone new comes, we just go back to the beginning for a while."

York's next session of classes begins soon, with the session running from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The class continues to follow that schedule for 16 weeks. The class is held in the Marlow Chickasaw Center Community Marlow Dr.



REBEKA RUTLEDGE / THE DUNCAN BANNER

Billy York is the instructor for the Choctaw language class located in Marlow. He instructs anyone including young children such as his grandson, Kagen.

# Students embrace Ojibwe sign project

BEMIDJI, Minn. (AP) - Classrooms in the Bemidji School District are getting some new names - in Ojibwe.

Dozens of signs featuring words in Ojibwe are being made by five students at Bemidji High School and will placed throughout the school district, the Pioneer newspaper reported Jan.

A sign for the health office says "Aakoziiwigamigoons." A cafeteria sign will read "Wisiniiwigamig." And an art room sign

will say "Mazinibii'igewigamig."

The project is being funded by Bemidji's Ojibwe Language Project, a branch of Shared Vision, a Bemidji group that's working for friendlier relations between American Indians and the majority culture.

"I think that's a great idea," Bemidji High School Principal Brian Stefanich said. "I think it will benefit all of our students. We want to recognize all cultures and our Native American students are a big part of our high school."

> Other principals also thought the signs were a great idea but the district didn't have the \$2,000 needed for them. So project leaders Michael Meuers and Rachelle Houle raised most of the money from local businesses They also received a grant from Ojibwe scholar and Bemidji State University professor Anton Treuer, who has been helping Meuers and Houle find the correct Ojibwe words for the signs. They still need about \$250 but were confident they'd get it.

> The signs are made of a twolayered plastic. The lettering is engraved by machine. When the top layer is engraved, it exposes the bottom layer's color. Teacher Bryan Hammit said students not only supervise the engraving machine, but also chose the fonts, colors and sizes of the

> Bemidji High School offers Ojibwe language classes, Stefanich said, but not all students and staff know or understand the language.

"I want all our students to feel welcome and feel comfortable at the high school," he said.

Over the past year and a half,

Meuers and Houle have been encouraging local businesses and organizations to install bilingual signage to increase awareness of the Ojibwe language in the community. Their original goal was to have 20 businesses participate. Today, nearly 150 sites in the Bemidji area have gone

Noemi Aylesworth, owner of the Cabin Coffee House, was one of the first to participate. Her shop features table tent signs with numbers, animals and the nearby Red Lake tribe's major clans listed in both English and Ojibwe.

Last year, Bemidji State University and Northwest Technical College added bilingual signs across both campuses, including multimedia materials on Ojibwe translations for nearly 100 English phrases common to northern Minnesota. Treuer also created audio clips that correctly pronounce words and phrases, first in Ojibwe and then in English.

Meuers said often people are not aware an economic benefit as well."

that Ojibwe predates European immigrant languages northern Minnesota. He said he is often asked why more emphasis is not placed on keeping the region's Norwegian heritage

"Ojibwe is the indigenous language of northern Minnesota," he said. "Norwegian and German are imported languages. I want to help preserve the native language. When you lose a language, you lose culture. When you lose culture, who knows what you lose."

Meuers said he Bemidji will become more like the state of Hawaii, where he said the native language is much more a part of the culture.

"This is going to show Indian people 'You are welcome and respected in our community," Meuers said. "It's going to teach non-Indian people about the culture that was here before 1895. And, also, tourists eat it up, so there's also



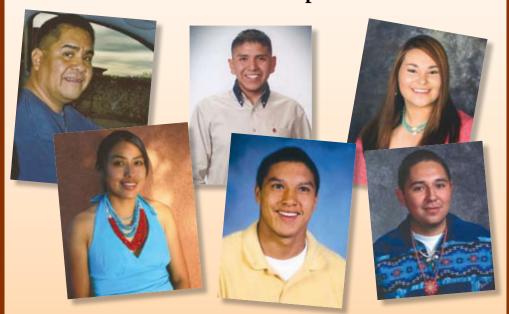
MONTE DRAPER / THE PIONEER

Bemidji High School student Brett Theisen holds a sign that means 'math' in Ojibwe. Theisen, along with students Zach Sauer, Chris Gilbertson, Tyler Bannor and Landon Yerbich, are making numerous signs in the Ojibwe language that will be put up at every school in the Bemidji School District.

# College Scholarships

### **American Indian, Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Students**

\$450,000+ awarded each year! All Undergraduate Majors Are Eligible. Graduate Scholarships Available.



### **Applications Due April 4th!**

**Download Application: aiefprograms.org** 



American Indian Education Foundation 2401 Eglin Street • Rapid City, SD 57703 (605) 342-9968



for individuals as well as small and large companies.

A great looking website provides 24 hour advertising and is a key component to a good first impression! Sites starting at \$999.95

Email: gadmin@ganica.net for more info.

www.ganica.net -204-376-3428



Outstanding American Indian Masters Graduate Catrina Herbert receives her Heard Museum Eagle Spirit Award from Dr. Laura Burgis and Michele Crank (Diné), Heard Museum director of community and government affairs.

# Heard Museum offers new award to Native grads

**DEB KROLL** 

PHOENIX, Ariz. — The Heard Museum recently inaugurated a new award for American Indian graduates who labor to make their tribal communities better places. The American Indian Outstanding Doctoral Masters and Graduate Awards, known as the Eagle Spirit Awards, pay honor to graduates of Arizona State University who are American Indian, and whose careers are creating positive change in their communities. The inaugural awards were given during the American Indian Convocation ceremony on December 15, 2011. Each graduate was given a piece of fine art from an artist representing their tribe and a one-year membership to the Heard Museum. Two Navajo graduates were honored for theircommitmenttoeducation and to their communities.

Jennifer Jackson-Wheeler received her Ph.D. in English while also serving as a full-time faculty at Maricopa Community Colleges. Jackson-Wheeler was responsible for creating Navajo language, culture and humanities curricula for the district as well as teaching courses. She also developed Navajo language curricula for the Phoenix Unified School District and ASU, all while working her way through the master's and Ph.D. programs.

Jackson-Wheeler noted that her experience teaching at a middle school in the Navajo Nation opened her eyes to "how we as educators need to show our American Indian youth that thinking about and having a vision of their future will help shape their educational goals."

Catrina Herbert graduated

with a master's of early childhood education degree obtained through the Mashchamtam Early Childhood Education (ECE) program. The online degree program allowed Herbert to live in her home town of Tuba City, Arizona while completing her coursework. The flexibility of this program allowed Herbert, a single mother of three young children, to remain an active and involved member of the community. She assisted in the pre-school class at Tuba City High School and mentored high school students who are participating in the ECE program. Herbert was also inducted into the Delta Kappa Pi Honor Society in Education, and participated in a project to package and distribute books and bears for underprivileged children.

Herbert is currently awaiting approval from the Tuba City School Board to begin her career as a kindergarten teacher. "Educators are the most essential source in contributing wisdom to guide our youth in their vision and planning," said Herbert. "However, teachers are not our only educators; they are found throughout our entire life, at home, in our community, in school, and most importantly found within us."

"The Heard Museum, an informal educational institution, has established the Outstanding Masters Graduate Award and Outstanding Doctoral Graduate Award to celebrate American Indian leadership in educational degree attainment," said Dr. Laura Burgis, vice president of institutional advancement. "It is our hope that with this prestigious recognition, these individuals, whom we celebrate tonight, will serve as role models for other students, to aspire to reach their personal best, and to share their talents with the community."

To learn more about the Heard Museum Eagle Spirit Award for outstanding graduate students, call 602-251-0210.







11th Annual

# "TO BRIDGE A GAP" **CONFERENCE**

**April 2 - 5, 2012** 

### **Choctaw Casino Resort**

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma will be hosting the 11th Annual "To Bridge A Gap" Conference, in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service. This conference is designed to strengthen Government-to-Government relationships between federal and state agencies, and federally-recognized Tribes with interests in our forests. Topics for this year include:

Regional Executive Session with Forest Leaders and Tribal Leaders Introductory GPS/GIS Preconference Hands-On Workshop

NEPA and Section 106: Procedures and Issues

Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites

NAGPRA: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

**Tribal and Federal Collaborative Partnerships** 

**FCC Tribal Consultation** 

**Tribal Relations Report** 

National Historic Preservation Program: Updates and Application Process

**Guest Speaker: TBA** 

Several federal and state agencies will be present including USDA Forest Service from various regions, Army Corp. of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Offices, National Park Service, and National Resources Conservation Service.

The "To Bridge A Gap" Conference is a wonderful opportunity to discuss tribal relations and cultural preservation issues, and participate with others who are dedicated to improving this relationship.

For more information please contact Dr. Ian Thompson, Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation Department at (580) 924-8280 Ext. 2216, ithompson@choctawnation.com, or Johnnie Jacobs at (580) 924-8280 Ext. 2559, jjacobs@choctawnation.com.

Conference registration and hotel information can also be found on the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma website at www.choctawnationculture.com/TBAG2012.

### More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

# Museum show debunks Twilight movies

PORT ANGELES, Wash. (AP) - An exhibit of 23 Quileute artworks intended to debunk the tall tales of tribal heritage told in the Twilight saga, will open at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian this week.

"Behind the Scenes: The Real Story of the Quileute Wolves" will open in the Sealaska Gallery on the National Mall at Fourth Street and Independence Avenue SW in Washington, D.C., Friday and be on view through May 9.

During the exhibition's opening weekend, Chris Morganroth III, Quileute tribal member and one of only two fluent speakers left in the tribe, will tell traditional stories for children and families in the imagiNATIONS museum's Activity Center and present Quileute culture and stories in the Rasmuson Theater during the Native Storytelling Festival.

The exhibition was organized by the Quileute tribe and the Seattle Art Museum, where it was on view for one year, beginning in August 2010.

The exhibit brings together rare works of Quileute art as a counterpoint to the supernatural storyline depicted in the popular Twilight books and movies.

Wolves are an important part of Quileute legend.

But werewolves – as depicted in Stephenie Meyer's popular daydream set on the West End - never were part of the LaPush tribe's heritage.

According to oral traditions, the first Quileute people were changed from a pair of wolves into human form by the Transformer, Kwati.

Because of the creation legend, wolf imagery is prominent in Quileute art, and to this day, the tribe continues to enact masked dances to honor the original supernatural connection to wolves.

Among the pieces to be displayed in the Smithsonian exhibit are elaborate wolf headdresses, rattles, baskets and a whale-bone dance club.

"We welcome opportunity we have to educate the world about the true story of the Quileute people," said Chairwoman Bonita Cleveland.

"The Quileute Tribal Council decided to take the global spotlight and attention we have received as a result of the Twilight phenomenon and share with the global audience our history, culture and traditions.

"The Smithsonian exhibit is the perfect forum to tell the authentic story of our people, and we are honored to have our ancestral items displayed at this prestigious venue."

Also on view will be historic drawings created by Quileute teens who attended the Quileute Day School at Mora from 1905 through 1908.

The drawings depict wolf ritual dances and shamanistic performances, house posts that were part of the Potlatch Hall and a whaling scene that shows a crew of eight men coming alongside a whale in their cedar

At one time, whaling was an important endeavor for the Quileute.

The exhibition also includes a map of Quileute language place names of the modern village and the vast aboriginal territories that stretched from the Pacific Ocean to the Olympic Mountains.

Also on display will be a time line of Quileute history and a 12-minute looped video that presents interviews with tribal members and teens as they describe the effect of the "Twilight" films in their own

Replicas of items used in the "Twilight" films include a paddle necklace worn by the character Emily portrayed by actor Tinsel Korey, a traditional Quileute hand drum that hangs in Emily's house, a shell necklace of Olivella shells that was on the wall of her house and the dream catcher that Jacob gives to Bella as a gift.

The National Museum of the American Indian, established in 1989, is the 18th museum of the Smithsonian Institution and is the first national museum dedicated to the preservation, study and exhibition of the life, languages, literature, history and arts of Native Americans.



WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTO

Nuu-chah-nulth Wolf Headdress, Early 20th century, Plywood, paint, string, thread spools, fabric, cedar twigs - Washington State Historical Society, catalog no. 1999.105.1

### **Inside this issue:**

- Muskogee VA hospital gets new director
- Filmmaker Eyre accepts academic post
- Exhibit explores Geronimo's legacy









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 4

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**JANUARY 27, 2012** 

# Legislative fight over historic artifacts looms

**THOMAS SPENCER** *The Birmingham News* 

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) – A battle over historic artifacts hidden below the surface of Alabama's rivers, lakes and bays is surfacing in advance of the opening of Legislature's 2012 regular session on Feb. 7.

Sen. Cam Ward, R-Alabaster, has introduced a bill to amend the Alabama Cultural Resources Act, a law that requires underwater explorers to get a permit from the Alabama Historical Commission before going after submerged wrecks and relics.

In Ward's version, the law would still require permits for recovery of artifacts related to shipwrecks and would forbid disturbing Native American burial sites. But treasure hunters would otherwise be able to search state waters and keep what they find.

"The waters, just like the air, belong to the people," said Steve Phillips, an advocate for the changes to the law. Phillips, an owner of Southern Skin Divers Supply Company of Birmingham, is the only person to ever have been arrested under the Alabama Cultural Resources Act.

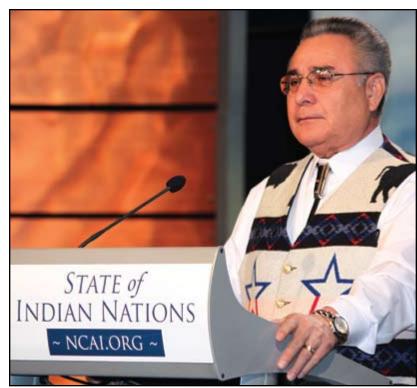
At trial, Phillips was found not guilty of felony theft of a cultural resource but was convicted of misdemeanor third-degree theft. The charge stemmed from Phillips' 2003 expedition in the Alabama River near Selma in search of Civil War relics, which ended with his arrest and the confiscation of a Civil War era rifle he'd found.

The incident sparked a still simmering conflict pitting Phillips and his fellow divers and collectors against the state Historical Commission and professional archaeologists who fear that removing the restrictions would lead to raids on underwater historic sites.

Aside from the protection of burial sites, there are no restrictions on the recovery of historic artifacts on private property, but artifacts on state-owned property -- whether on land or under water - should not be available for wanton scavenging, opponents of the changes say.

Teresa Paglione, president of the Alabama Archaeological Society, said without legal protections, artifacts from the Civil War, the settlement of the state, the age of European exploration and thousands of years of Native American history could be extracted, kept privately or sold, and lost to history. Those

See FIGHT Continued on Page 3



DUOTO COUDTEC

Jefferson Keel, President of the National Congress of American Indians is set to give the State of Indian Nations Address at 9:30 a.m. (CST) Thursday, Jan. 26.

## NCAI broadcasting 2012 State of Indian Nations

■ Congressman Tom Cole of Oklahoma to provide congressional response

THOM WALLACE
NCAI News Release

WASHINGTON - Two days after President Obama delivers the State of the Union Address, President Jefferson Keel of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), will deliver the annual State of Indian Nations Address to a live studio audience consisting of tribal citizens and leaders, members of Congress, federal government officials, students, and advocates. U.S. Congressman Tom Cole of Oklahoma, an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, will provide the Congressional response. The address, which will be webcast live,

by tens of thousands of individuals in American Indian and Alaska Native nations, students throughout the United States, and a worldwide audience.

The State of Indian Nations will be a call to action to U.S. presidential candidates, citizens, tribal leaders, and government partners to chart a clear path forward for strengthening the United States and tribal nations.

The Address will be broadcast live online and on a delayed broadcast to radio stations reaching tribal reservations, Alaska Native villages, and urban areas with large American Indian and Alaska Native populations. Viewers can watch the Address on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. (EST) on NCAI. org and listen on radio stations across Indian Country via the Native Voice One (NV1) radio network and NV1's nationally broadcast Native America Calling radio program.

### They call her 'Songbird'

# Behind the scenes with Joanne Shenandoah

SHELLEY BLUEJAY PIERCE Native American Times

A grandmother waved her over after a concert to tell her that the Inuit believe songs are carried over the ice from the Ancestors' land by the birds.

"She called me a song bird and said that birds bring their songs to me. She could envision where my songs came from. They come from beautiful places," explained Joanne Shenandoah.

In this interview with Native American Times, Shenandoah speaks to some of her personal and cultural history that's guided her to becoming one of the most beloved and awarded Native recording artists in history. Here, she shares from her heart about what has motivated, inspired, and kept her focused on giving to the world community for many decades.



PHOTO BY DOUG WONDERS / COURTESY JOANNE SHENANDOAH Joanne Shenandoah speaks with Native Times about where her music comes from, her upcoming projects, and what it's like going it alone in

*NAT*- Your music draws on Native tradition and you sing in the Oneida language. Your words may be unfamiliar to some listeners, but the music has global approval. What do you feel the reason for this is?

the music business.

Joanne-The vibration of music touches the soul and

See SHENANDOAH Continued on Page 8

### Court rejects appeal by Abramoff partner

WASHINGTON (AP) – An appeals court says it cannot reduce a \$20 million restitution order against the public relations consultant who partnered with lobbyist Jack Abramoff to bilk Indian tribes out of millions in inflated fees.

has been viewed annually in the past

Michael Scanlon is serving a 20-month sentence after pleading guilty in part to defrauding the tribes of their right to "honest services."

Abramoff persuaded tribes that hired him for lobbying to pay inflated fees for Scanlon's public relations services, and the two secretly split the profits.

The Supreme Court weakened the honest services law last year and Scanlon argued the \$20 million he's been ordered to repay his victims should be lowered to reflect that ruling.

# Mexico hit by rumors of Indian famine, suicides

MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) – Mexicans are rushing aid to Tarahumara communities in the remote northern mountains after a local official announced – apparently falsely – that dozens of the Indians had killed themselves because they couldn't feed their children due to severe cold weather.

The Tarahumara have long been a symbol of fierce pride, strength and self-reliance in Mexico. They have served as an inspiration for ultra-marathoners, because the Tarahumara are known for running 50 and 60 miles at a time through the mountains of their homeland in little more than sandals.

The idea that such a proud people might be losing their spirit stung Mexicans into a flurry of drives to collect food and clothing to the Indians.

Mexico City resident Samuel Lopez showed up at an aid collection set up in the city's main plaza with an armful of rice, beans, crackers and canned tuna.

"We cannot leave them adrift like

that," Lopez said as he dropped off his donations. "They are our brothers."

The aid effort sprang up spontaneously over the weekend, when a video was posted on social media sites showing a town official from Carichi, a town in Tarahumara Mountains of northern Chihuahua state, saying the Indians were being driven to despair and suicide after their crops failed because of a combination of severe cold and the worst drought in at least 70 years.

"The Indian women get sad after four or five days when they can't feed their children," Carichi council secretary Ramon Gardea says on the video. "They are so despairing that up through December, 50 men and women went to the mountain valleys ... and threw themselves into valleys. Others hung themselves."

Nobody denies there is a real food emergency in the incredibly rugged mountains, where the Tarahumara have long been so poor that they sometimes live in caves in the winter to take advantage of the earth's heat.

But other officials say they have heard no reports of a mass suicide.

Rafael Gonzalez, spokesman for the Mexican Red Cross, said "we consider this a food emergency." Last year, the Red Cross made two expeditions into the mountains to bring food, but this year there will be three, the latest delivery consisting of 270 metric tons of food and 5,000 blankets. The government says it has also sent millions of dollars in aid.

Gonzalez shares most Mexicans' respect for the Tarahumara, noting "these are people who walk five or six hours to get to aid deliveries." But he has not heard of a single report of any of the estimated 250,000 Tarahumara committing suicide because of

See **RUMORS** Continued on Page 2

# KialegeeTribe moves ahead with casino

**JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS** Associated Press

BROKEN ARROW, Okla. (AP) - A little-known Oklahoma Indian tribe with fewer than 450 members is moving ahead with plans to build a casino a few blocks from the future site of an elementary school and prekindergarten center in this Tulsa suburb, despite protests from federal lawmakers and hundreds of residents who worry the gaming center could bring a flurry of criminal activity to the area.

The Kialegee Tribal Town, headquartered in Wetumka in southeastern Oklahoma, began bulldozing the 20-acre site near the heavily trafficked Creek Turnpike late last month, even as the tribe's application for a gaming license to operate the casino is still under review by the National Indian Gaming Commission.

Temporary buildings for the tribe's Red Clay Casino are scheduled to open in the spring and join several, larger, casinos already operating in Tulsa County. Oklahoma is home to about 115 gaming centers that hauled in more than \$3.1 billion in gambling revenue in 2009, according to the Indian Gaming Industry Report, written by economist Alan Meister.

The casino – about 10 miles from one operated by another tribe quickly drew the ire of residents and school administrators who fear

the tribe is attempting to sneak the development by the conservative bedroom community of 99,000.

Recent rallies have drawn hundreds of opponents and more than 4,000 people have signed a petition to keep the casino out. Thursday, jan. 12, about 1,000 residents, preachers and politicians gathered at a church to voice opposition, saying the casino could set a dangerous precedent of allowing property owners to circumvent the law and offer their land to the highest casino bidder.

In a Jan. 6 letter to the gaming commission and Assistant U.S. Interior Secretary Larry Echo Hawk, U.S. Rep. John Sullivan and Sen. Tom Coburn detailed residents' concerns, including the proposed casino's close location to area schools, the squeeze on public resources such as utilities and public safety and "the perceived below the radar path" the development has taken. A spokeswoman for the U.S. Department of the Interior did not return a message seeking comment. Sullivan is expected to meet with the gaming commission this week.

"They are acting under cover of darkness," said local attorney Jared Cawley, co-founder of the group Broken Arrow Citizens Against Neighborhood Gaming.

Cawley said the tribe has failed to meet the basic requirements of any Indian casino project, including obtaining approval of a land lease from the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and conducting environmental impact studies, which could take several months to complete.

The land is currently owned by two sisters who have attempted to transfer their parcel to the tribe, but a district judge has refused to approve the transaction, deferring instead to the federal government to determine whether the land can be leased.

"On a basic level, one of the fundamental questions is, is it even tribal land?" Cawley said. "We would like to see if what the tribe is doing is legitimate and we would like at a minimum to see if there's some compliance with federal law."

Tribal leaders and a Miamibased attorney representing the casino development group did not return requests seeking comment. In a statement issued last month, days after residents discovered that construction had begun, tribal leader Tiger Hobia said the Kialegee have kept the federal government and the city up to date on the casino plans. Hobia also claimed that the casino is necessary because the tribe lacks enough resources to fund programs that serve its members.

But Broken Arrow Councilman Richard Carter disputed Hobia's statement about the project's transparency, saying the tribe has provided the city "almost nothing as far as information."

"That's not the way to be a good neighbor," Carter said. "We are sending our disapproval to every agency we can think of. We seem to be pretty united against this thing and I hope that we can prevail."

If the casino goes forward, it will be located several blocks from an 80acre parcel purchased by the district for a new elementary school and prekindergarten center, where nearly 1,000 students are expected to attend when the buildings open in the fall of 2013. Dozens of angered parents have lobbied the district to oppose the casino because of the proximity and safety concerns, such as inadequate roads and crosswalks to accommodate the increased traffic.

"We're not against the tribe. We live in the middle of Native American lands and Native American groups, and many of us are of Native American descent," said Broken Arrow Superintendent Jarod Mendenhall. "It's just the location and the way this has been done has not set well with anybody in the community."

Broken Arrow resident Seth Spreiter lives roughly a half-mile from the casino site and has helped organize his neighborhood against the project.

"I bought my home four months ago and I bought it because there wasn't a casino in the area," Spreiter said. "A casino changes the tempo of the entire community.

"This is the wrong type of facility at the wrong place at the wrong time," he

famine.

Nor has the Rev. Guadalupe Gasca, a Jesuit priest whose oversees the Clinica Teresita in the Tarahumara mountain town of Creel, Chihuahua. The Indians, whose life is a constant struggle to wring food out of scraggly corn plots on steep mountain slopes, don't give up

"We (Jesuits) have a history of almost 400 years working in this area, and we can say that in the Tarahumaras' world view, suicide is not an option."

But Gasca notes that in 2011, his clinic did treat 250 Tarahumara children for malnutrition, including 25 severe cases. One 3-year-old girl died of it.

Gasca also blames the food crisis on the drought and cold.

"There has always been hunger in these hills," Gasca said. "There have always been climate cycles, but these cycles are getting more frequent and more severe."

He notes that logging and deforestation in the once pine-covered mountains may play a role in the drought, and is working with others to promote reforestation.

Chihuahua Gov. Cesar Duarte attacked the mass suicide rumors; in a press statement, his office called them "bad faith and alarmist." Gardea, who originally reported the suicides, did not answer calls Monday to the Carichi town office.

But some drew a lesson from the whole affair, even as they acknowledged the reports were

"It is important to help the Tarahumara," said Mexico City resident Elisa Jimenez, who showed up with food donations Monday. "They need our help always, not just now."

# Creek chief comments on casino controversy

OKMULGEE, Okla. (AP) - A a request to the Creek tribal gaming branch of the Muscogee Creek Nation that is seeking to build a casino in a Tulsa suburb hasn't followed proper procedures that would allow for gaming on the site, the tribe's principal chief said in a press conference Jan. 9.

The Creek Nation hasn't received an application from the Kialegee Tribal Town for a business lease from the Bureau of Indian Affairs or

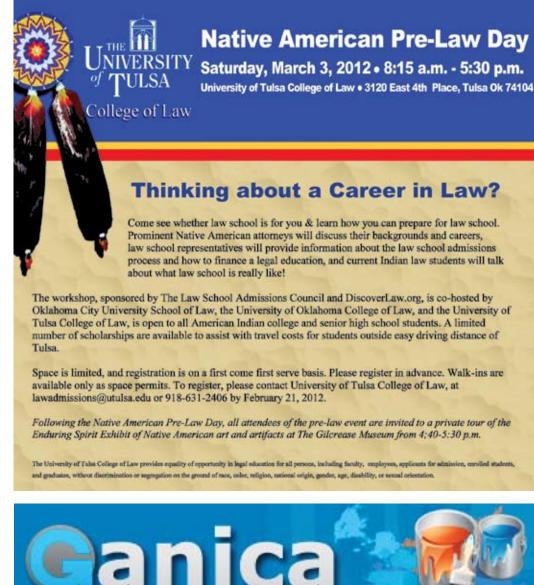
commission to conduct gaming operations on a 20-acre site in Broken Arrow, Chief George Tiger said during the conference. The land is owned by two sisters who are seeking to transfer their property to the Kialegees, but Tiger noted that the allotment falls under the Creeks' jurisdiction.

"Since I took an oath to uphold the laws of the Nation, it is my position

as the principal chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the original restricted Creek allotment in question should not be used as the site of a tribal casino by any other tribe or tribal town without the consent of the Nation or without following all proper procedures," Tiger said in a

"To my knowledge, no request has been made to the Nation seeking consent, nor has an application been submitted to our Tribal Gaming Commission seeking a gaming license for that location," Tiger said. He said he planned to consult with the Creek Nation's legislative branch and national council on how to further address the issue.

Kialegee Tribal Town, whose members are Creek Nation citizens, already has broken ground at the site.







# **Court hears challenge to Voting Rights Act**

The Constitution gives the legislature power over decisions that affect the 15th Amendment's protections of voting rights for racial minorities.

**NEDRA PICKLER** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - Appeals court judges expressed concern last week about whether to overrule Congress' determination that some southern states and other jurisdictions still must have federal election monitoring to protect minority voting

Alabama's Shelby County is challenging a requirement under the Voting Rights Act that governments with a history of discrimination obtain federal approval to change even minor election procedures. An attorney for the county argued in federal appeals court in Washington that the South has changed and that extraordinary oversight is no longer needed.

But two of three judges on the panel hearing the case pointed out Congress renewed the provision of the 1965 Voting Rights Act in 2006 after finding

that discrimination still exists. A lower court endorsed that finding.

"Why shouldn't we defer to the judgment of Congress?" asked Judge Thomas Griffith, the Senate's former top lawyer and a nominee of President George W. Bush. Judge David Tatel, a former civil rights attorney and appointee of President Bill Clinton, asked similar questions.

Griffith pointed out that lawmakers spent a considerable amount of time weighing evidence of continued racial discrimination and that the Constitution gives the legislature power over decisions that affect the 15th Amendment's protections of voting rights for racial minorities.

"But that can't be without limitation," responded Shelby County's attorney, Bert Rein. He said the numbers of blacks registered to vote and elected to office has increased dramatically since the act was first passed and said those who implemented discriminatory practices in the 1960s are no longer in charge. "The South has changed," he

The county, located just south of Birmingham in central Alabama, sued Attorney General Eric Holder in 2010 to stop the monitoring required under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. The

provision relies heavily on patterns of past discrimination to determine which state, county and local governments must obtain "preclearance" for election changes as minor as moving a polling place or redrawing school district lines. That clearance can come either from the Justice Department or from a federal court in Washington.

U.S. District Judge John Bates ruled against the county and upheld the law in September after reviewing 15,000 pages of congressional records and deciding that lawmakers were justified in finding that discrimination still existed in the covered jurisdictions.

The judge pointed to several examples of outright discrimination across the South since the 1980s, including legislators in Mississippi and Georgia using racial epithets during redistricting debates and reports of harassment of blacks at the polls in Texas and South Carolina.

According to the Justice Department Web site, Section 5 currently applies to the states of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. It also covers certain counties in California, Florida, New York, North Carolina and South Dakota, as well as some local jurisdictions in Michigan and New

Hampshire. Preclearance coverage under the act has been triggered by past discrimination not only against blacks, but also against American Indians, Asian-Americans, Alaskan Natives and Hispanics.

The same three-judge appellate panel, which also includes Ronald Reagan appointee Stephen Williams, is scheduled to hear another challenge to the law brought by North Carolina on Feb. 27.

Justice Department attorney Sarah Harrington argued that Section 5 has stopped discriminatory actions and said its protections are still needed. Although the Voting Rights Act has been called the most successful civil rights legislation in U.S. history, she said, "Things have not gotten better enough. There still continues to be a problem."

But Tatel reminded Harrington that the Supreme Court questioned in 2009 whether Southern states should still need advance approval of voting changes more than 40 years after the law was enacted. In that case, the justices avoided deciding whether the requirement is constitutional, which creates the possibility of the Shelby County or North Carolina cases reaching the high court.

### **NATIVE** AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country



## SPACE IN TH **NATIVE** TIMES CALL LISA

# RESERVE YOUR

# carte blanche. I want to make 918-708-5838



### commercialization of new technologies, program Vilsack last week announced the launch of a USDA USDA energy resources, including: agricultural, delivery, outreach, and education activities. It also energy website that will provide stakeholders fast forestry, economic, and social data. This is done in and efficient access to USDA energy efficiency and part through a set of new complementary web-based

USDA streamlines access to energy investment info

WASHINGTON - Agriculture Secretary Tom renewable energy data. Today's announcement builds on the Secretary's commitment to develop a modern and efficient service organization as outlined in USDA's Blueprint for Stronger Service announced

"Improving and modernizing access to USDA energy data and resources is essential in today's highly competitive rural business environment," said Vilsack. "Farmers, ranchers and small businesses across the country will benefit from easier navigation and retrieval of energy and renewable energy investments data and funding opportunities."

to all the people of the state,

"(The changes to the law)

would allow divers like Mr.

Phillips to conduct little more

than scavenger hunts for

relics -- like a game of finders-

keepers, except individuals

get to keep what belongs to

the state of Alabama and its

On a recent afternoon,

Phillips was at the Museum

of Iron and Steel at Tannehill

Ironworks State Historical

Park where more than 100

artifacts he's loaned -- from

Selma-made bullets to a tree

trunk with a large shell lodged

Phillips recovered some of

the items by diving but much

in it -- are on display.

citizenry," she said.

Paglione said.

USDA's energy website provides access to all tools: the USDA Renewable Energy Investment Map, the Renewable Energy Tool and Energy Matrix. These tools focus on USDA's energy, energy efficiency and renewable energy investments and projects; provide information and data to a broad spectrum of stakeholders; and empower the user with the ability to easily navigate USDA's energy web resources. In addition, the site provides a link to all USDA state and local offices and energy resource coordinators.

Vilsack said this newly designed tool is a great step in a more coordinated and efficient effort to increase public awareness of USDA's energy research,

provides a form or technical assistance to people thinking about adopting an energy project. The new site replaces a previous site which was established several years ago. To access the site, go to: www. usda.gov/energy.

USDA Rural Development State Director Terry Brunner joined Secretary Vilsack about the need for new website, "In the past two years we've seen an increased number of applications from ag-producers and small rural businesses wanting to access the funds we have available to make them more energy smart and efficient. I know this web site will help future applicants with an easier way to access our energy program."

of the rest he bought from museums whose collections are overflowing with artifacts. Phillips has more of his personal collection on loan to Confederate Memorial Park in Clanton and other museums, artifacts in state waters belong

for loan, too.

His interest in being able to dive the rivers flows from a personal passion, not profit,

and the remainder is available

"I haven't sold a relic in 25 years," Phillips said. "I want to know what is under there."

Besides, you couldn't make a living selling relics anyway, Phillips said.

"Not a chance. You couldn't make enough to pay for your gasoline," he said.

Phillips doesn't hide the fact he'd like to see more divers in the waters of the state. It'd be good for business, but, he argued, it would also be good for recovery of lost history.

Without amateurs and

collectors, Phillips said, much of the knowledge base professional archaeologists rely on wouldn't exist.

Andbesidessomeshipwreck exploration, there isn't any professional underwater archaeology going anyway. An energized corps of amateurs would likely produce new discoveries.

"Archaeologists don't do it," he said. "Is it better for it to rust and fall apart and be lost forever?"

Paglione and others said that artifacts in freshwater environments are oftentimes off better remaining underwater rather than being brought to the surface where they quickly decay unless carefully preserved. And for archaeologists, random expeditions and finds that might or might not be reported add up to a recipe for lost knowledge.

Knowing where an artifact

is found and what is found near it is often more important than the physical artifact itself, Paglione said.

"A popular saying in archaeology is, 'It is not what you find, but what you find out," she said. "If an object is removed from its context with no understanding of its intrinsic informational value, there is a substantial loss to the archaeological record -and the heritage of Alabama," she said.

The conflict over the issue has led to poor relations and name calling between the two

sides of the issue. Ward said he hoped that through discussion in the legislative process, the conflict can be resolved. Ward said he found the wording of the current law ambiguous. He said he would be open to amendments that would be more protective of valuable historic sites. He doesn't want to lose valuable archeological sites, either. "That is not my intention at

all," he said. At the same time, Ward said, it should be clearer what is permitted. Ward said

he'd like to get suggestions from academics and Historic Commission representatives. "I'm glad to sit down and work with them," Ward said. "I don't want to give the divers

**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50 12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50

36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# DOJ announces grant solicitation for tribes

\$101.4 million is available through the coordinated tribal assistance solicitation

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Justice last week announced that the comprehensive grant solicitation for funding to support improvements to public safety, victim services and crime prevention in American Indian and Alaska Native communities are now posted online at www.justice.gov/ tribal/open-sol.html.

The Community Partnerships Management System will begin accepting electronic applications on Monday, Jan. 23,

"We are committed to helping strengthen and sustain safe and healthy American Indian and Alaska Native communities with a funding process that is responsive and coordinated," said Associate

Attorney General Tom Perrelli. "This effort to streamline the grant application process, with multiple purpose areas, offers tribes and tribal consortia an opportunity to develop a comprehensive and communitybased approach to public safety and support for victims."

A total of more than \$101.4 million is available through the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 Coordinated Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) and is administered by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). The funding can be used to conduct comprehensive planning, enhance law enforcement, bolster justice systems, support and enhance tribal efforts to prevent and control delinquency and strengthen the juvenile justice system, prevent youth substance abuse, serve sexual assault and elder victims, and support other

efforts to combat crimes. To view the fact sheet on the FY 2012 CTAS, visit www.justice.gov//tribal/ctas2012/ ctas-factsheet.pdf.

The updated FY 2012 CTAS reflects improvements and refinements from earlier versions. Feedback was provided to the department during tribal consultations and listening sessions, from a specially developed assessment tool about the application experience and from written comments from applicants and grantees.

That feedback was incorporated in the following changes to the FY 2012

- a new strategic planning pilot
- a question and answer template
- adjustment to purpose areas to allow for greater flexibility in funding requests; and
- a request for data on tribe

demographics to better capture and describe the unique characteristics of each tribe.

For the FY2012 CTAS, a tribe or tribal consortium will submit a single application and select from 10 competitive grant programs referred to as purpose areas. This approach allows the department's grantmaking components to consider the totality of a tribal community's overall public safety needs. The deadline for submitting applications in response to this grant announcement is 9:00 p.m. EST on Wednesday, April 18,

The 10 purpose areas are:

- Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities
- Comprehensive Planning **Demonstration Program**
- Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance Program

- Corrections and Correctional Alternatives
- Justice Systems and Alcohol and Substance Abuse
- Juvenile Justice
- Public Safety and Community
- Tribal Governments Program
- Tribal Sexual Assault Services
- Tribal Youth Program

Tribes or tribal consortia may also be eligible for non-tribal governmentspecific federal grant programs and are encouraged to explore other funding opportunities for which they may be eligible. Additional funding information may be found at www.grants.gov or the websites of individual agencies.

Last week's announcement is part of the Justice Department's ongoing initiative to increase engagement, coordination and action on public safety in tribal communities.

# Years after Wounded Knee trials, a judge reflects

Some witnesses were allowed to testify in the Lakota language, and Urbom let some tribal leaders sit in the jury box.

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - It's been more than 37 years since the federal trials of protesters who took over the Wounded Knee massacre site in South Dakota, and the Nebraska-based federal judge who presided remembers his efforts to respect the Native Americans and their traditions.

U.S. District Judge Warren Urbom spoke last week to students involved in the Native Sovereignty Youth Project, a yearlong leadership project organized by the Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Nearly a dozen students from each of Nebraska's tribes - Omaha, Ponca, Santee and Winnebago - have been introduced to university professors, politicians, attorneys, state senators and football

The Lincoln Journal Star said Urbom talked to the students about the 1890 massacre of dozens of Native Americans by U.S. cavalry troops and the 1973 standoff at the site between American Indian Movement protesters and federal

The protesters occupied the village of

Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota and held it for 71 days. One FBI agent was paralyzed and two activists were killed during the siege. The trials of about 150 protesters began in 1974 after the siege ended, and they were consolidated under Urbom.

Urbom said he tried to respect the activists, even allowing many of them to be sworn in using a medicine pipe rather than a Bible. He ignored a warning that accommodating the activists' wishes would lead to chaos in the courtroom.

"Nothing they did signaled to me that they were there to cause trouble," Urbom told the students. "They didn't cause

Some witnesses were allowed to testify in the Lakota language, and Urbom let some tribal leaders sit in the jury box.

The judge dismissed charges against about 100 of the activists. There wasn't enough evidence against them, he said.

Of the remainder, he found six guilty. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned four of those convictions, citing insufficient evidence. Convictions against two for assaulting a federal officer and interfering with a federal officer were upheld. Both people got probation.

Cherish Mallory, a 16-year-old from Winnebago, said she was impressed by Urbom's accommodation of the activists' cultural requests.

"He was understanding about the traditions," Cherish said. "It's just interesting."

### Residents of SD county sue over early voting

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) of the Constitution's guarantee Twenty-five residents are suing South Dakota's secretary of state and other government officials to extend the early voting period in Shannon County, claiming current provisions violate the Constitution.

The county on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation contracts with neighboring Fall River County for some services, including elections. That leaves residents with no permanent location within Shannon County to register to vote and to pick up and submit an absentee ballot. They must do it by mail or drive to Hot Springs, a trip of more than 2 1/2 hours for some.

The lawsuit filed against Secretary of State Jason Gant and government officials in the two counties claims violations

of equal protection under the law and of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Shannon County commissioners last month agreed to set up an early voting site in the town of Pine Ridge for six days before the June 5 primary and the Nov. 6 general election. The lawsuit seeks 46 days of early voting before both elections, which is what other counties provide. Shannon County maintains it cannot afford that.

"We don't even have the money to fight this lawsuit," Commission Chairwoman Lyla Hutchison told the Rapid City Journal. Commissioners on Jan. 6 voted to give up their salaries to help with the financial problems.

Less than 14 percent of the land in Shannon County is taxable. The rest is individual trust or tribal land that is not subject to property taxes necessary to support a county government.

Gant is named in the complaint because plaintiffs want him to use federal Help America Vote Act money on early voting. Gant told the Argus Leader that his office's policy has been to reimburse certain costs only after an election, so that there are receipts that prove the expenses. In the past, the dollars have paid for such things as voting machines for people with disabilities and Lakota language interpreters.

"It sounds like Shannon County is low on county funds and they were asking for additional funds ... but all counties struggle with their finances," Gant said.

## Muskogee VA Medical Center welcomes new director

NITA MCCLELLAN

MUSKOGEE, Okla. - The Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center is pleased to announce the appointment of a Muscogee (Creek) citizen, James R. Floyd, MPA, FACHE, as the facility's new Medical Center Director.

As Director, Floyd will provide leadership strategic guidance to this primary and secondary care center that employs over 1,100 people. The medical center serves a 25-county with approximately 58,000 veterans currently enrolled. The medical center operates an outpatient clinic at the Muskogee facility and community based outpatient clinics in Tulsa, Hartshorne, and Vinita, OK.

Floyd arrives from Missouri where he served as the VA Heartland Network VISN 15 Network Director from October 2008 to January 2012. He administered health care services to Veterans from seven medical centers on nine campuses and more than 47 community based outpatient clinics in Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky.

"The Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center has an excellent track record of providing Oklahoma Veterans with world-class health care," said Floyd. "I am humbled and honored to be able to serve our Veterans in this role."

Floyd is a graduate of the 2009 class of the Department of Veterans Affairs Executive

Fellows Program and a 2009 recipient of the coveted federal Presidential Rank Award for outstanding career achievements for leadership in health care. In 2008, he was appointed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to serve as a member of the Veterans Rural Health Advisory Committee. Also that year, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States presented him the Ray E. Brown Award for his advocacy in federal health care leadership.

He was originally appointed within the VA as Director of the VA Salt Lake City Health Care System in 1997. In 2004, he was recognized with the Under Secretary for Health's Diversity Award for his work in establishing innovative outreach and treatment programs to Native American Veterans and, in 2002, he received the VA Secretary's Medal for Meritorious Service for exceptional performance in coordinating federal agencies' medical and security support for the 2002 Winter Olympic and Paralympics' Games.

Prior to working in VA, Floyd served in the U.S. Public Health Service, Indian Health Service, for more than 10 years. During that time, he served as Director of the Portland Area Indian Health Service from 1992 to 1997 and directed the management of federal health care facilities in the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho. He also assisted tribal governments in the development of communitybased health care programs.



James R. Floyd

During his tenure with Indian Health Service, he served a special assignment

in the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs developing legislative authority Native American health care programs.

Floyd's health care career began in 1978 with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma where he served as the Director of Community Services. In that capacity, he designed and established the first tribal-owned and operated health care system in the United States, which consisted of a 39-bed community hospital and four outpatient health clinics.

He is Board Certified by the American College of Healthcare Executives, holds a master's degree in Administration/ Health Administration, post-graduate Certificate in Managed Care Administration.

# Steve Ortiz elected co-chairman of HHS **Advisory Committee**

**SUZANNE HECK** Prairie Band Potawatomi

MAYETTA, Kansas Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation (PBPN) Chairman Steve Ortiz was elected today as co-chairman of the U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC) in Washington, D.C. Ortiz will co-chair the committee along with Ken Lucero (Tribal Council representative from the Pueblo of Zia), who has been the chair of the committee since it first formed in December, 2010.

The purpose of the STAC is to exchange information and to provide advice and recommendations between HHS and Indian tribal governments in a government-to-government capacity. The committee

operates under H.H.S. Secretary Kathleen Sebelius who is in Obama's cabinet and a former governor of

The Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee is composed of tribal leaders from the twelve U.S. Indian Health Service regions and five at-large representatives and two alternate at-large representatives. Ortiz represents the Oklahoma that region includes Oklahoma, Kansas Texas and has been actively involved in Indian Health Service issues and concerns.

In addition, at the national level Ortiz sits on the Department of Interior's (BIA) Tribal Consultation Committee, and on the Local Government Advisory Committee, made up of tribal leaders who advise



Lisa Jackson, the federal administrator for the EPA. At the state level, Ortiz is on Gov. Sam Brownback's Economic Development Council. At the tribal level, Ortiz has been the PBPN chairman since July 2010 and a member of the Tribal Council periodically for several years.

# US working with tribes to stem drug trafficking

In May 2010, a Canadian kingpin confessed to running 2,000 pounds of marijuana a week through the forests of upstate New York.

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) - Federal law enforcement agencies will help tribal officers obtain equipment and training on Indian lands near the U.S.-Canadian border as part of the White House's newly released strategy for reducing the flow of illegal drugs and drug proceeds between the two countries.

Tribal officers also should be included in criminal intelligence sharing and interagency task forces, according to the Office of National Drug Control Policy report released

"Drug smugglers have been known to seek out tribal jurisdictions in order to smuggle illegal drugs into the United States," said the report, the first of its kind since being required under the Northern Border Counternarcotics Strategy Act of 2010.

The goal is to stop Canadian marijuana, Ecstasy and methamphetamine from entering the United States and to keep cocaine that originates in South America from flowing north. Authorities have also targeted bulk cash smuggling in both directions that finances criminal organizations.

President Barack Obama and Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper signed a Feb. 4 agreement to share more information on travelers and better coordinate cross-border investigations.

The report identified more than 60 miles of the northern border classified as "Indian country" and under tribal jurisdiction. Tribes with lands directly adjacent to the border include Bay Mills Indian Community and the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribe in Michigan, the Blackfeet Tribe of Montana, the Grand Portage Band and Red Lake Band of Chippewa in Minnesota and St. Regis Mohawk Tribe in New York.

To intercept drugs elsewhere along the more than 5,000-mile border, the policy office recommended enhancing already established partnerships among U.S. and Canadian law-enforcement counterparts, along with intelligence sharing and cooperation among federal and local agencies. The strategy also relies on those living near the long and geographically diverse border to fill in the

"The U.S.-Canada relationship already supports successful bi-national and multiagency task forces, but it must work to improve these entities with limited resources," the report said. "Law enforcement agencies must reach out to community coalitions to develop effective prevention, treatment and law enforcement partnerships."

Agents seized about 9,470 pounds of marijuana along the northern border in fiscal 2011, according to Customs and Border Protection statistics, less than 1 percent of the roughly 2.4 million pounds seized along the southwestern border.

Recent arrests have highlighted the holes in the northern boundary. In May 2010, a Canadian kingpin confessed to running 2,000 pounds of marijuana a week through the forests of upstate New York. Later that year, in December, Canadian officials arrested 29 smugglers on charges of using boats to run tons of marijuana, Ecstasy and methamphetamine across the Great Lakes to Michigan and New York.

"Vast drug networks along our northern border are exacerbating violence in communities all across the state ... This is the right strategy to fight this scourge at its source," Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., said of the written strategy.

The 2010 law requires the Office of National Drug Control Policy to release a northern border plan every two years.

"Improving communications between the courts, immigration officials and law enforcement and increasing accountability, as this plan will, should enhance our ability to keep drugs off our streets and out of our schools," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

# COMMENTARY •

# Not all crime declining



Ann Dapice

### **SHERRY CLARK &** ANN DAPICE

Recent reports tell us crime is coming down. Stalking Awareness Month reminds us that the reverse is true with stalking.

In 2008, 1 million U.S. women and nearly 400,000 men were stalked. By January 2009, the Bureau of Justice Statistics numbers had risen to 3.4 million. Last month, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported stalking numbers to be more than 6 million.

Is it because more stalking crimes are reported? Stalking has long been under-reported, but so are many crimes. Is it because new technology makes it easy to stalk? The crime is now without geographical limits through the Internet, cell phones and global tracking devices.

What we do know, as international expert Reid Meloy said in a recent interview, is that stalkers believe they are above the law and can stalk with impunity. Research shows them to be right since they are rarely arrested or prosecuted.

For other than humanitarian reasons, why should you care? You too are in danger if your neighbors, co-workers and classmates are victims.

Recall the public stalking where innocent nders were killed and d. Stalkers are the most gent and violent of riminals. Unlike other criminals, when incited to violence, stalkers don't just attack their "designated" victims, they attack everyone in their way.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes. com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

and neighbors are often threatened by perpetrators as well - in attempts to force the intended victim to comply with their demands. This was the case in Tulsa in 2005 with Carrie Tudor, who was murdered by her ex-husband after he stalked and harassed her and her family for months.

Research denies stereotypes that stalking victims are either entertainers, public figures or in domestic violence situations. Forty-five percent of victims do know the perpetrators, but they are not in intimate relationships.

Stalkers are co-workers, clients, neighbors, teachers and counselors. Twenty-five percent of perpetrators are strangers or unknown to the victim. Twenty-seven percent of victims are men. Only 30 percent of victims are in present or past relationships.

While stalkers may also batter, in most cases they are physically non-violent at first; they obsessively plan and scheme ways to make their victims' lives miserable so they will give in to their demands. They become violent only when rejected or stopped. The longer they stalk the more desperate and dangerous they become.

all-volunteer, Two nonprofit organizations, T.K. Wolf Inc. and Families and Communities Empowered for Safety (f.a.c.e.s.) began working together a number of years ago to expand knowledge about stalking and to find better interventions.

The groups have worked cooperatively to educate community individuals, groups, professionals, media and law enforcement about

The lives of family, friends a crime that is so poorly understood. Recently a Community Coordinated Response specialist said, "When it comes to fighting crime, we get what the community as a whole demands."

> It is often said that since stalking includes many crimes - identity, mail and bank account theft, wiretapping, breaking and entering, destruction of property and more - long before violence begins, it is a difficult crime to prosecute.

"Not so," said a law enforcement veteran at a recent police training session. "These are all crimes and I can arrest them for each and every one at the time - and I do. I have a list in my patrol car and when I arrest them I go through every single crime on the list to be certain I haven't omitted any. I also don't depend on detectives to do my work. I collect pictures, recordings, emails, journals, and all the evidence they have, and I interview neighbors, co-workers, relatives, bosses everyone who has had access to the perpetrators and victims. I don't leave it to someone else."

This officer sets excuses aside and shows us in specific ways that we as a community can ask for, demand and obtain better enforcement.

Sherry Clark of Tulsa, Okla. is founder and president of Families and Communities Empowered for Safety. Ann Dapice, Ph.D., Lenape/ Cherokee, of Skiatook, Okla., is director of education and research for T.K. Wolf Inc., a 501(c)(3) American Indian organization.

ahlequah

tahlequahrecycling.com

918-316-5856



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

Equal Housing Lender

Native American Owned

"Changing the culture of waste."  $\top N$ Native TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated...

shouldn't you?

·	
McCORD - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER-115 MARY RD	bystan
JANUARYY 20, 10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 7, 10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.	injure
HULAH - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -1924 CR 3575- JANUARY 23, 11:00 A.M 1:00 P.M.	all cr

PRUE - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -209 WAH GRA SEE- JANUARY 24, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

**NOTICE FOR OSAGE COUNTY** 

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

THE OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR WILL BE

AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

TULSA - GILCREASE HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOC. - 1919 W. SEMINOLE - MARCH 6, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

BARTLESVILLE - LABADIE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH - SW OF CITY, JANUARY 25, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

SPERRY - CITY HALL - 115 N. CINCINNATI - JANUARY 26, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

BURBANK - CITY HALL -105 FIRST ST - JANUARY 27, 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON

TAKING NEW APPLICATIONS FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, DOUBLE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, SENIOR FREEZE, VETERANS EXEMPTION, REPORTING CHANGES MADE TO YOUR PROPERTY AND/OR BUILDINGS, TURNING IN MANUFACTURED HOMES, RENDERING BUSINESS PERSONALS, REPORTING FARM EQUIPMENT, TRACTORS, BOAT DOCKS, ETC., AND APPLYING FOR AGRICULTURE FUEL EXEMPTION.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF

### **DEADLINE FOR FILING IS MARCH 15, 2012**

ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: AN ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION WILL BE GRANTED FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS WITH A GROSS INCOME (COLLECTIVE INCOME OF ANY AND ALL SOURCES OF ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD) NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00 FOR THE PRECEEDING CALENDAR YEAR. THERE ARE NO AGE REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER, FOR A PERMANENT EXEMPTION, YOU MUST FILE AT AGE 65, AND YOU MUST BE 65 AS OF MARCH 15TH. IF 66 YEARS OR OLDER AND QUALIFIED IN 2011, NO ANNUAL APPLICATION IS REQUIRED. FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 918-287-3448.

VETERANS EXEMPTION: 100% DISABLED OR SURVIVING SPOUSE MAY NOW APPLY FOR A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION THAT WILL ELIMINATE THEIR TAX BURDEN ON HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT U.S.D.V.A. BENEFITS AWARD LETTER WITH QUALIFICATIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS EXEMPTION THAT CERTIFIES THE 100% SERVICE RELATED DISABILITY.

PROPERTY VALUATION FREEZE (AKA: SENIOR FREEZE): THE OWNER MUST BE 65 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AS OF JANUARY 1ST, 2012; AND GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME LEVEL CANNOT EXCEED \$59,600.00 FOR THE 2011 YEAR. TO QUALIFY THE TAXPAYER MUST PROVIDE COPIES OF 2011 PAPERS TO VERIFY TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF ALL OCCUPANTS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME INCLUDES ALL TAXABLE AND NON-TAXABLE INCOME SOURCES. THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WILL VERIFY ALL APPLICANTS.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TAXPAYER TO NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IF INCOME EXCEEDS THE QUALIFIED AMOUNTS.

HOUSE BILL #1724: IF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES ARE DELINQUENT, YOUR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION WILL BE CANCELLED.

> GAIL HEDGCOTH, OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR 600 GRANDVIEW, RM 101, OSAGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE PAWHUSKA, OK. 74056 HOURS: 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. 918-287-3448

NATIVE A	MERICAN	TIMES
----------	---------	-------

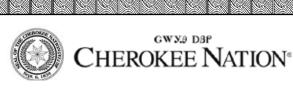
Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

# CLASSIFIEDS



### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah. Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES AT** W.W. HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH **POSITIONS CLOSE 1/24/2012** 

> #5426 Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (8-12 Rotations)

**#5768 RPT Medical Technologist** (Hours Vary/Nights/Weekends/Evenings)

**#5745 RFT Medical Technologist** 10:30 pm-7:00 am/Rotating Weekends)

#5941 TPT Inpatient Registered/PRN (Hours Vary)

**#5433 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN** (8-12 Rotations)

#5431 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (8-12 Rotations

#5572 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN

(12 Hour Shifts as Needed)

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org Cherokee Nation **Human Resources Department** PO Box 948

> Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Or Visit our website at: www.cherokee.org

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

### **Architectural Project Manager**

Architectural Project Manager, Tahlequah, OK: Responsible for architectural projects including the plan, design, and construction of residential structures in the rustico style. Reports to owner and designated supervising licensed Architect. Bachelor's degree in Architecture, 1 year's experience in construction projects. Resumes to: Chance Properties, LLC, V. H. Wilhelm, 2210 Golf Course Road, Tahlequah, OK,

organizations and tribal members.

### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

at http://www.pawneenation.org

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is accepting applications for the full-time, regular status position of Title VI Program Coordinator/Department Manager. To apply, please visit our website

Tourism Association

**Introducing America's First Nations to the World** 

AIANTA is a nonprofit association of Native American tribes and tribal businesses

Alaska. The purpose of the Association is to serve as the voice and resource for its

organized to advance Indian Country tourism. The Association is made up of member

tribes from six regions: Eastern, Plains, Midwest, Southwest, Pacific Northwest, and

constituents in advancing tourism, assist tribes in creating infrastructure and capac-

ity, provide technical assistance, training and educational resources to tribes, tribal

AIANTA currently is seeking to fill two positions, Finance Director and

Membership Coordinator. Please visit www.aianta.org/news for complete

vacancy announcement. Please submit resume including salary history and two

references no later than 5:00 p.m. MST, November 28, 2011 to:

**AIANTA** 

Attn: Sherrie Bowman

2401 12th Street NW • Albuquerque, NM 87104

Or electronically at sbowman@aianta.org

FORT OAKLAND, OKLAHOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT

### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Fort Oakland Police Department is accepting applications for the position of School Resource Officer. All applications will be accepted with Indian applicants receiving preference.

### OUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be certified with at least 3 years experience; will accept most State certifications.
- · Must be able to work closely with parents, students and members of the community.
- Must not have been convicted of a felony or convicted of any crimes of moral turpitude.

A medical certificate; drug test and an extensive background investigation and Federal LEO Adjudication is required for this position.

All interested persons may apply at the Fort Oakland Police Department located at 1 Rush Buffalo Rd., Tonkawa, OK 74653

You may also request an application by e-mail to police@tonkawatribe.com.

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs!

-New jobs posted throughout the week-

Bacone College is currently accepting applications for the following position:

### **DEAN OF SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

**Dean for the School of Health Sciences** (SOHS) will coordinate all aspects of the SOHS programs to include instruction, accreditation, advising, and supervisory responsibilities; and will provide academic leadership for the SOHS programs including AS in Diagnostic Medical Sonography, AAS in Radiography, BS in Medical Imaging, and ADN and BSN. Master's degree required; doctoral degree preferred and documented instruction in educational theory or techniques, plus documented work experiences in the Health Sciences field and in the supervision of a related health science academic program.

Salary competitive. Send letter of application, vita, transcripts, and three references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Rd., Muskogee OK 74403 or email humanresources@bacone.edu. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!

### **SERVICES**

Native American Electrician

### 1st Call Electric

Reasonable Rates • At Cost Material

918-277-1610

Licensed • Insured • Bonded • OK#70011 Serving Northeast Oklahoma

### **Advanced Energy Solutions**

(Heating & Air Conditioning)

Serving Oklahoma City and the surrounding area.

Service, repair and installation of all brands

★ ★ American Standard Dealer ★ ★ 405-315-6116

Expert Owner Operation • You can relax when AES is on the job



### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor





702 E Central • Anadarko, Okla.



# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Room TBA, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

cherokeeartistsassociation.

**THIRD TUESDAY of even** numbered months - The **Central Oklahoma Cherokee** Alliance meets at Mayflower **UCC Church, Oklahoma City** at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of** Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS **The Marble City Nutrition** Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Gather for fellowship and friendship. Volunteers welcome. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla.

**YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-

Phone: (918) 775-2158

**JANUARY 24 Vinita Indian Territory** 

2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**Coalition Cherokee** Community meeting at 6 p.m. Call Lisa Trice-Turtle 918-453-2988 **JANUARY 28** 

**Native American Church** of Oklahoma Cheyenne **Chapter No. 1 benefit dance** at Watonga Multipurpose **Center. Gourd Dancing at** 3pm, Dinner at 5pm. Tiny Tot winner take all contest sponsored by head little girl dancer Tatiana Barcindebar. Vendors welcome, raffle item required.

**FEBRUARY 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or

**FEBRUARY 4 Birthday Dance for Richard** 

More (405) 321-5640

D Roubedeaux at Otoe **Cultrual Bldg, Red Rock** Okla. Starts at 2:00 p.m. Supper at 5:00 p.m. More Gourd dancing after supper - if anyone wants to bring anything please bring covered dish.

**FEBRUARY 4** 

**Gourd Dance in memory of Dorothy Heap-of-Birds at Clinton Fairgrounds (South** on HWY 183), Clinton, Okla. Painting Ceremony 2:00 pm **Gourd Dancing 3:00pm** Supper 5:00pm. Contact for more info:Choya Hammond (580)309-1992 or Ruth Bearshield (580)303-8378

**FEBRUARY 4** 

**United Keetoowah Band** Council Meeting at 10 a.m. in the Community Services Building, Tahlequah, Okla.

**FEBRUARY 4 Norman First American UMC** will be hosting Native **Open Hand Games Southern** Style, from 2 - 5 PM, at 1950 Beaumont Dr, Norman, Okla. Info call Alan Yeahquo, Coordinator (405) 321-5640. Lunch will be provide after games. Everyone Welcome

**FEBRUARY 6 - MARCH 12** Free tobacco cessation course from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. çççççWhitney Nuttle (918) 762-3873 or Suzy Knife Chief (918) 762-2153.

February 16-18 **Tulsa Indian Art Festival at** the Glenpool Conference Center, HWY 75 and 121st Street. Entry forms at www. tulsaindianartfestival.com.

**FEBRUARY 18 All Indian Rodeo Association** 

The Arrington -Mcspadden will have their first rodeo of 2012 in Tahlequah Okla. For more info email dwrshirley@aol.com

### **Seminole Tribe of Florida**

### **APPLY TODAY!**

www.Seminoletribe.com



### **Tribal Wide Recreation Director**

Administration of recreational programs for the Seminole Tribe of Florida children, youth, adults and senior citizens. Effort includes the planning, organizing, directing, coordinating, controlling and budgeting of recreation activities and programs. Bachelor 's degree in recreation, parks management, public administration or a related field; or any equivalent combination of education and experience, with at least seven (7) to ten (10) years of progressively responsible experience managing a variety of recreation programs.

### **Tribal Wide Youth Services Director**

Develops and implements goals, objectives, policies, procedures and work standards for multiple Programs such as the: Boys & Girls Clubs, Community Youth Centers, the Florida Cooperative (4-H), the Financial Literary Program and the Youth Ranches. Integrates the departments with comprehensive programming of the tribal community/ organization. Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, Business Administration, or similarly related field /and in specialty area/and five (5) years of experience in management/administration services and programs. Seven (7) to ten (10) years in a senior leadership capacity. Knowledge of tribal regulations and business commercial laws and regulations is highly desirable.

### **Tribal Wide Elder Affairs Director**

Responsible for providing leadership and direction to the Elder Affairs Department. Develops and oversees the implementation of a comprehensive gerontological program for Tribal Elders. Provides education for staff and the community on issues facing elders and vulnerable adults, such as: elder abuse, ageism, concepts on aging, and intervention strategies for Alzheimer's prevention and intervention. Act as a liaison with State and Federal Agencies. Bachelor's degree in Sociology, Social Work or Psychology or other related field plus five (5) to seven (7) years of experience working with the aging population. Five (5) years of experience in a leadership capacity, managing a comprehensive program.

Send Resumes to: Fax 954-967-3477 or Email: KaBienaime@semtribe.com

 $\label{thm:complete} \textit{Visit www.semtribe.com} \ for \ complete \ listing \ of \ all \ opportunities \ within \ the \ Seminole \ Tribe \ of \ Florida.$ 

# **College Scholarships**

### American Indian, Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Students

\$450,000+ awarded each year! All Undergraduate Majors Are Eligible. Graduate Scholarships Available.



### **Applications Due April 4th!**

**Download Application: aiefprograms.org** 



American Indian Education Foundation 2401 Eglin Street • Rapid City, SD 57703 (605) 342-9968

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS.
VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# Eyre named Chair of SFUAD's Film Dept.

SANTA FE, N.M. - Awardwinning filmmaker Chris Eyre has been appointed chair of Santa Fe University of Art and Design's Moving Image Arts Department (film/video), effective Feb. 1. Eyre directed the highly acclaimed Smoke Signals, which won a coveted Sundance Audience Award and the Sundance Filmmakers Trophy. Eyre and his films have amassed numerous other awards, including a Peabody and an Emmy. His latest film, Hideaway, starring Josh Lucas and James Cromwell, is due for release in May 2012.

After graduating from New York University's film school, Eyre was invited to participate as a fellow in the Sundance Institute's Directors Lab under the mentorship of Robert Redford. His relationship with Redford was instrumental in helping Eyre produce his early films: Smoke Signals (1998), which was the first featurelength film directed by a Native American to receive national theatrical release by Miramax Films; Skinwalkers (2002); and A Thief of Time (2003). Eyre's 2004 film Edge of America was selected to show on Opening Night at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival, and it garnered Eyre the highly prestigious DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement from the Directors Guild of America. He later directed A Thousand Roads (2005) for the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, followed by Imprint (2007), for which he served as producer.

"I am thrilled to hear of this inspired appointment," said Robert Redford. "Chris Eyre is a successful and authentic voice in cinema and perfect for this position. His vision and imprimatur on this program will be profoundly valuable in ways that Chris, alone, is uniquely positioned to fill," continued Redford. "His influence on a new generation of storytellers will be significant."

Eyre's work for television includes three episodes of



Filmmaker Chris Eyre

the PBS miniseries We Shall Remain (2009)—"After the Mayflower," "Tecumseh's Vision" and "Trail of Tears." He also directed episodes of the critically acclaimed NBC show Friday Night Lights (2009 and 2011).

Eyre has received a Foundation Rockefeller Intercultural Film Fellowship, an NHK/Sundance Cinema 100 Award, the Martin Post-Production Scorsese Award, a Humanitas Prize, the Warner Brothers Post-Production Award, a United States Artists fellowship, an Independent Spirit Award, multiple First Americans in the Arts awards and multiple Best Film awards at the American Indian Film Festival.

"We are thrilled to have one of the most charismatic and successful storytellers of our time directing our film program," said Larry Hinz, president of Santa Fe University. "Chris will be a powerful inspiration for our students."

Eyre spoke passionately about his decision to join the faculty. "I am thrilled that I can remain active in the film industry while mentoring and inspiring a new generation of filmmakers," he said. "My goal as department chair is to transform the Moving Image Arts Department into a world-class film school where students understand the power of telling a story in film and making the world a better place through it."

The school's location was also a key element in Eyre's decision. "Santa Fe is a flagship destination for

artists," he said, "a place where all forms and expressions of creativity are nurtured by the community as a whole. Santa Fe University is a school with an outstanding faculty and unparalleled resources, from Garson Studios to the sound stages, the Garson Theater and The Screen, which are outstanding on their own."

Eyre holds a BA in Media Arts from the University of Arizona and an MFA in Film and Television from New York University's Graduate Film program. He is a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes.

About Santa Fe University

of Art and Design Santa Fe University of Art and Design is an accredited institution located in Santa Fe, New Mexico, one of the world's leading centers for art and design. The university offers degrees in arts management, contemporary music, creative writing, digital arts, graphic design, moving image arts (filmmaking and video production), performing arts, photography, and studio art. Facultymembersarepracticing artists who teach students in small groups, following a unique interdisciplinary curriculum that combines hands-on experience with core theory and prepares graduates to become wellrounded, creative, problemsolving professionals. As a Laureate International Universities Center Excellence in Education in Art, Architecture and Design, the university boasts an international student body and opportunities to study abroad, encouraging students to develop a global perspective on the arts. Santa Fe University of Art and Design (formerly the College of Santa Fe) is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association, www.ncahlc.org.

# Smithsonian architect to work with UW AI Studies program

LARAMIE, Wyo. – Johnpaul Jones, lead design consultant for the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, has contracted to work with the University of Wyoming American Indian Studies Program to develop a project profile for a proposed American Indian center on the UW campus.

Jones' work with UW is partially supported by a grant from the Wyoming Cultural

Trust Fund.

Jones will visit UW Feb.

21-24 to meet with project stakeholders and begin gathering information for the project profile.

"We are pleased to have an internationally known Native American architect working with us on this project," says Judith Antell, director of the American Indian Studies Program. Jones' tribal affiliation is Cherokee-Choctaw.

The proposed center would house the American Indian Studies Program as

well as provide space for cultural events and a research institute.

Jones is a founding partner of Jones & Jones, an architectural firm in Seattle. Some of his other notable projects include the Southern Ute Museum and Cultural Center in Ignacio, Colo., which opened in 2010; and the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, N.M.

For more information, call the American Indian Studies Program at (307) 766-6520.

### Potawatomi to build hotel next to casino

MILWAUKEE (AP) – The Forest County Potawatomi say its casino in Milwaukee is the largest in the nation that lacks a hotel. The tribe is about to change that.

The Potawatomi say they'll begin construction this spring on a \$97 million hotel next to the casino in the Menomonee Valley if financing and zoning approval are secured. The 20-story hotel would add another 230 jobs to Potawatomi's workforce, now numbering 2,500. In addition, about 1,000 construction jobs could be generated by the 382-room hotel.

Casino general manager Mike Goodrich says the Potawatomi Bingo Casino draws 6 million annual visits. The Journal Sentinel says the tribe opened a bingo hall at the casino site in 1991 with 100 employees.



## Major exhibit exploring Geronimo's legacy opens Feb. 11

movie posters and ephemera.

Using Geronimo's life story as a window into the overall Apache experience, Beyond Geronimo will also portray other significant Apache events and leaders, such as Cochise, Daklugie, Alchesay and others.

**DEB KROLL** 

PHOENIX, Ariz. - Geronimo. The name looms large in the history of the American West, the American Indian legacy and the colorful narratives of popular culture. But who was he really, this figure who has come down to us through a century of legends and a handful of sepia-toned photographs?

A compelling answer to this question, and a fascinating glimpse at the man behind the myth, will be offered by Beyond Geronimo: The Apache Experience, which opens at the Heard Museum on February 11, 2012 and runs through January 20, 2013. Curated by the Heard Museum and presented by JP Morgan Chase, the exhibit is an Arizona Centennial Legacy Project, commemorating the 100th anniversary of Arizona statehood in 2012.

Unprecedented in scope and depth, Beyond Geronimo: The Apache Experience will combine objects from the Heard's world-class collection with exemplary pieces from the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History and National Museum of the American Indian, the Autry National Center, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Southern Plains Indian Museum, Allan Houser, Inc., the Amerind Foundation, the Arizona Historical Society, the Desert Caballeros Western Museum and a number of private lenders. Combining examples cultural and fine art, the exhibit include historic artifacts never before seen by the general public, such as the celebrated Naiche hide painting. Beyond

Geronimo will bring this fascinating figure to life via personal possessions, painted and photographic portraits, and other artifacts. The exhibit will also trace Geronimo's passage into legend via dime novels,



portray other significant Apache events and leaders, such as Cochise, Daklugie, Alchesay and others, through personal objects,

photographs works of art. Moving into our own time, the exhibit will include the works of 20th and 21st century artists reflecting the Apache experience. Among the celebrated contemporary American Indian artists represented are Allan Houser, Bob and Phillip Haozous, and Oliver Enjady.

"We are fortunate to bring together collections from across thecountry," said Heard Curator Janet Cantley, "including historical ethnographic artifacts as well as contemporary artists' works which help tell the story of the strength and endurance of the Apache people. A personal highlight has been working with individuals

from the Apache communities in Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma."

> Born in 1829, the person the world came to

Sculpture by Allan Houser

Apache scouts

COURTESY PHOTOS

Skateboard art tribute to

know as Geronimo was a medicine man of the Apache people who became a fearless and infamous warrior in the Arizona Indian Wars

> of 1880-86. Following his capture in 1886, Geronimo spent the remainder of his life as a prisoner of war, making the best of his fate by becoming a showman, appearing publicly in Wild West shows, at the 1904 World's Fair and in President Theodore Roosevelt's 1905 inaugural parade. Never allowed to return to his homeland, Geronimo died at Fort Sill, Oklahoma on February 17, 1909.

"Supporting renowned Heard Museum this Arizona Centennial Legacy Project is especially gratifying for the bank, which has been serving Arizona customers for 112 years," said Joe Stewart, chairman JPMorgan Chase in Arizona. "Beyond Geronimo: The Apache Experience is an important exhibit showcasing a vital part of Arizona."

Illuminating a dramatic and often misunderstood chapter in American history and culture, Beyond Geronimo: the Apache Experience is an exhibit that will be remembered for years to come.

SHENANDOAH

"Lifegivers" is Joanne Shenandoah's first independent recording from start to finish.

hearts of people. Music has been called the 'universal language' and speaks to us all. While I was in Istanbul, the call to prayer was a constant reminder throughout the land, and affected me although I did not understand the words. Music in different languages is vibrations of sound that bring us to a place of celebration or enlightenment.

A great artist, A. Paul Ortega, a Mescalero Apache Medicine man, once told me that I should never refuse to sing, as my voice will bring people together in a place which may never be otherwise together because of my gift. This is what I aim to do through my music. I have received so many letters and emails from people around the globe whose lives are positively affected by my music. What a blessing!

NAT-You recently participated in a concert held

in Bethlehem on Christmas, 2011 with Steve Robertson's, "ProjectPeaceonEarth"(http:// www.projectpeaceonearth. org/) that served as a global, musical prayer for peace. This must have been a lifechanging event for you as you performed live on Christmas Eve at Manger Square, directly in front of the Church of the Nativity and across from a Mosque. On Christmas Day, you performed in the full "Project Peace on Earth" concert at the Bethlehem Convention Palace which is next to the famed Solomon Pools. Bringing thousands of people together live, and tens of millions from every nation and faith through the full concert broadcast, is a powerful experience. How did this concert and visit to the region impact you?

Joanne- Several thousand people were at Manger Square

on Christmas Eve day and it was a moving experience to sing and share the message of peace. I was blessed to gift the Iroquois Hiawatha Belt to the minister of Tourism and Women's Affairs of Palestine, Dr. Khouloud Diabes. I told her this flag represented Hiawatha, one of our prophets of peace. At a special dinner held for our delegation, I was given opportunity to explain to her in detail about how our Peacemaker brought the message of peace to the Iroquois through forgiveness.

It was with sacred respect that I visited the birthplace of Jesus and the Garden of Gethsemane and was so moved to sing an Iroquois Women's song with my daughter Leah in the church of Mary Magdalena in Jerusalem. (http://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=26usZUTvQXk)

Going to the Holy Land was an adventure that I never knew was in my future, but it affected me greatly. Since I've had a chance to sing and dance with the Aborigines in Australia, with the Buddhists

> Korea, chant and dance with African women in Cape Town, I have come to realize that each culture has their form of worship along with their prophets peace.

> NAT- What are your plans for 2012 and what priorities do you feel we need to place before us as a global and united human race?

Joannebelieve that a lot of people live in fear of the future. 2012 represents a transition to many people and our prophecies

tell us that we will continue to survive as human beings. The key to survival will be the ability to live within sustainable societies which secure balance between basic human resource needs and the rights of other species. Iroquois have a constitutional obligation do nothing that causes harm which qualifies the rights of the unborn to clean fertile water, land and clear skies. To achieve this, the Iroquois incorporate the rights of othersfrom the earth

to water, insects, animals, plants and trees-all have legal standing which must be respected.

NAT- You have recently gone out on your own and taken creative control of your music. What benefits has that brought you as an artist?

Joanne- "Lifegivers" is my first independent recording from start to finish. Creative management of the actual recording allows me to have direct control in respect to the buyers and then reaching the fans that have purchased my recordings in the past. I am honored to have been involved with helping to bring about the first Native American Music Awards through Ellen Bello. I am much honored to hold 13 Nammys which is the most any Native artist has received to date. It is wonderful seeing so many artists involved now and many of them are independent.

deeply about the womentheir growth and positive movement forward and your newest CD, "Lifegivers" is a



Joanne Shenandoah plays the flute at the Project Peace on Earth concert held in Bethlehem on Christmas, 2011 with Steve Robertson's, "Project Peace on Earth."

the entire lifecycle that women motivated this recording?

testament to your honoring

Joanne- "Lifegivers" pays tribute to the life cycles of women and each song is meant to celebrate the cycle of life. It has been my great honor to be embraced by many women of the world! The Iroquois hold that every human being is a remarkable gift of life, experience and creativity from the spiritual world. Each being has specific abilities and talents which must be nurtured by the extended family. Communal stability and peace is realized when children are free to explore the world and apply their talents without coercion or qualification. I have written songs to my daughter Leah and to other women directly in respect to our love, peace, and the commitments we hold to our children by helping them realize their dreams.

Ever since my daughter NAT- I know that you care Leah was born, I have been began singing to her. Now, she is a magnificent singer and has been blessed with a golden voice. Her first recording will

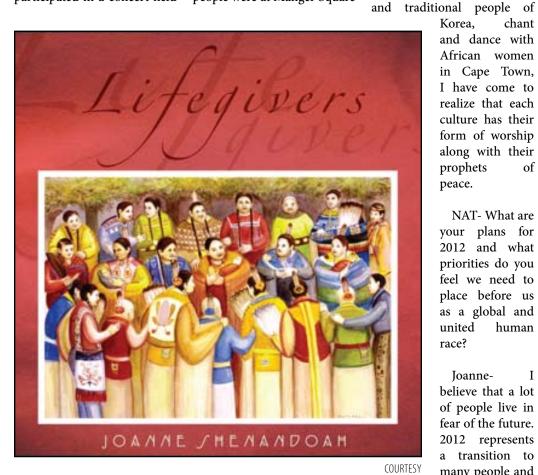
be out this year. I am so very proud to be her mother. She evolve through. Tell us what is a Cum Laude Graduate of Syracuse University and has her Master's Degree from Rochester Institute Technology. (www. leahshenandoah.com)

> NAT- What is your wish for future generations?

Joanne- My biggest wish is that all people will have clean air, water, and fertile land to grow their food, sing their songs and dance their dances. I hope that people awaken, stand up and be counted, and they will love their children so much that they will care for the earth and use their Creator-given gifts to do so. I will continue my efforts to bring music that lifts the spirit and heals the soul.

Purchase Joanne's new CD "Lifegivers" at: http:// www.cdbaby.com/cd/ joanneshenandoah

Follow her home website at: http://www. joanneshenandoah.com/ WELCOME.html



Joanne Shenandoah's new CD, Lifegivers, may be purchased online at www.cdbaby.com/cd/ joanneshenandoah

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

### **Inside this issue:**

- Obama hosts fundraiser for tribal donors
- Weaver uses bullet-proof material in art
- Bead worker makes a statement









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 5

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**FEBRUARY 3, 2012** 

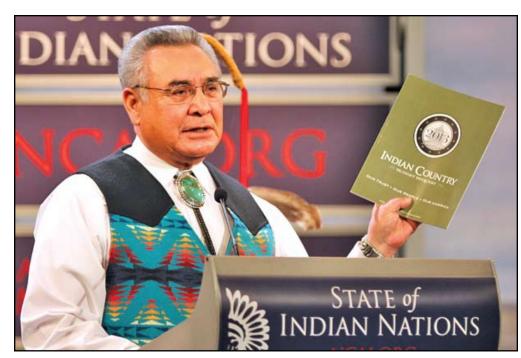


PHOTO COURTESY NCAI

Jefferson Keel, President of the National Congress of American Indians gives the State of Indian Nations Address Jan. 26.

### State of Indian Nations: Keel calls for more flexibility

TIM TALLEY
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – The president of the National Congress of American Indians urged the federal government Thursday to be more flexible in its relationship with tribal governments and put decision-making power back in the hands of the people who live in Indian Country.

Jefferson Keel, who's also lieutenant governor of the Oklahoma-based Chickasaw Nation, said restoring authority to tribal governments would eliminate administrative burdens at the federal level and make programs and spending more efficient because decisions would be made by the people who can best respond to the community's needs.

"We run dozens of social programs previously administered by federal agencies or states," Keel said while delivering the State of Indian Nations address in Washington. "And, we protect reservation environments in the manner that states regulate off-reservation lands.

"Tribal governments have proven our capacity to grow our economies, educate our people and manage our resources."

Federal red tape can deprive tribes of opportunities and jobs, Keel said. As an example, he noted that in Washington state, the Swinomish Tribe had worked out a deal with Wal-Mart for a new store on the reservation that would have given the tribe \$1 million a year in lease revenue and created new jobs. But the federal government took more than a year to approve the deal, a delay that led Wal-Mart to make other plans, Keel said.

"This is why our federal partners have already proposed crucial lease reforms to free our economies," Keel said. "We don't need the government involved in all our business decisions, we need flexibility."

Keel urged the government to consult the tribes when developing policies that affect them.

"There would be a public outcry if the federal government tried to impose policy on a state without its consent," he said. "But the concerns of tribal nations are routinely overlooked, even when more than a dozen tribes are larger than some Northeastern states."

Keel called on President Barack Obama to

See KEEL Continued on Page 4

# Officials look for payoff in Native Mob sweep

**AMY FORLITI**Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)

– Members of the Native
Mob gang have shot rivals in
Minneapolis, sold drugs in
Duluth, and thrown boiling
water in a person's face in Crow
Wing County. Authorities
say they've also assaulted an
informant on the White Earth
Indian Reservation and shot
up houses from Cass Lake to
Mille Lacs.

This week's federal indictment of 24 suspected Native Mob members will disrupt the activity of one

of Minnesota's most violent gangs and could bring some communities a reprieve from violence, authorities said. But it likely won't dismantle the organization – which is highly structured, active in prison, and wields power from the Twin Cities to reservations throughout Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

"I consider Native Mob to be one of the most significant and problematic Native Americanbased gangs in the country, because of their organization ... their influence in so many communities and because of their clear propensity to engage in criminal behavior," said Christopher Grant, a national Native American gang specialist in Rapid City, S.D.

The gang, made up of mostly American Indian men and boys, started in Minneapolis in the 1990s. Some of its original members were connected to another street gang, but broke off and formed their own group, Grant said.

The gang has about 200 members, according to the

See MOB Continued on Page 3

# Tribal leaders sound off on water rights

TIM TALLEY
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – The leaders of two American Indian tribes that have filed a federal lawsuit with the state and Oklahoma City over water rights in southeastern Oklahoma say the growing legal case was born out of frustration with state officials who they say ignored them while developing plans to transfer water out of their historic homelands.

Choctaw Nation Chief Greg Pyle and Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby jointly issued a series of statements over the past week hoping to define for the public their goal for a lawsuit filed last August in U.S. District Court. The tribal leaders say they would rather negotiate a water rights agreement than litigate one.

"Our goal is to have our voice - and our rights - respected and included in any decision on proposals to remove waters from our homelands," they wrote. "While we are confident we have strong legal claims, we want to make it clear that we have always preferred negotiation rather than litigation."

In a separate statement,
See WATER Continued on Page 4



Gov. Bill Anoatubby



Chief Greg Pyle

# Navajo filmmaker still shining at Sundance

**BERNIE DOTSON** *Gallup Independent* 

GALLUP, N.M. (AP) – Ramona Emerson swept into Park City, Utah, in 2010 as one of four writers and filmmakers selected to participate in the Sundance Film Festival's Native Filmmakers Ford Foundation Fellowship Program.

As a part of that program, she worked with industry professionals during what was a five-day intensive workshop. That fellowship continued into 2011, when Emerson, originally from Tohatchi, developed even more professional connections at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival.

Emerson's Sundance connection continues through the 2012 festival, Jan. 19-29, with "Opal," a screenplay written, directed and co-produced by Emerson and still making its way through Sundance circles.

"We watched films," Emerson said about the Fellowship. "We thought about films. It was an inspiring experience."

"Opal" is a short film about a young Navajo girl who takes on the town bully. When Opal is

beat up by the bully, she and her friend Bunny take matters into their own hands.

"The importance of 'Opal' goes beyond just getting my story on the screen," Emerson explained. "It is also a portrait of a tough little girl who won't take no for an answer. It serves as a metaphor for all of the places that little girls aren't allowed to go, the things they are forbidden to do. This is every little Navajo girl's chance to power through diversity, to push by the people who are keeping you from what you want to do."

Raised in Tohatchi and Santa Fe, where her mother attended art school, Emerson said she gravitates toward subjects she encountered as a youngster growing up around the Navajo Nation. Emerson said she chose the name of the film because it relates to a scene that was taken out of the final draft in which Opal's mother has a large opal ring that she received the night Opal was born, so she got two opals on that day, Emerson explained.

"The scene was cut, but the name stayed," Emerson said.

See NAVAJO Continued on Page 7



COURTESY OF RAMONA EMERSON / ASSOCIATED PRESS

This undated photo shows actors and crew filming a scene from the movie "Opal" in Tohatchi, N.M. Ramona Emerson swept into Park City, Utah, in 2010 as one of four writers and filmmakers selected to participate in the Sundance Film Festival's Native Filmmakers Ford Foundation Fellowship Program. Emerson's Sundance connection continues through this year's festival with "Opal," a screenplay written, directed and co-produced by Emerson and still making its way through Sundance circles.

# Tribes join forces to save petroglyph site

PAULINE ARRILLAGA
AP National Writer

TUBA CITY, Ariz. (AP) – In the far reaches of northern Arizona, where city sprawl gives way to majestic canyons and a holy place is defined not by steeple and cross but rather by earth and sky, lies a monument to a people's past and a symbol of the promise of peace between two longwarring Indian nations.

The Hopi people call it Tutuveni, meaning "newspaper rock," and from a distance this place is just that – a collection of sandstone boulders set on a deserted swath of rust-stained land outside of Tuba City, some 80 miles from the Grand Canyon and a four-hour drive north of Phoenix.

It is only when you step closer that you begin to understand what Tutuveni really is: a history of the Hopi Indian tribe carved into stone.

The site contains some 5,000 petroglyphs of Hopi clan symbols, the largest known collection of such symbols in the American Southwest. According to researchers with the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office, the many etchings on the boulders of Tutuveni date as far back as far back as A.D. 1200.

On the dark desert varnish of the boulders are rows of bear paws, corn stalks, spiders, coyotes, kachinas, clouds, cranes. Some of the symbols represent various aspects of Hopi cultural life, but most are the markings of the Hopi clans, or family systems, which are usually named for animals or other natural objects.

The Hopi made these engravings during ceremonial pilgrimages from their land to the Grand Canyon to mark the passage into adulthood for Hopi young men.

would stop at Tutuveni and camp there, and they would peck their clan symbols on those rocks to mark their participation in that pilgrimage. And they did this for four or five centuries at least," said Wes Bernardini, an archaeologist and professor at the University of Redlands who has been studying Tutuveni for years. "When people from the same clan would visit the site, they would put their symbols next to the previous symbol that somebody had left earlier. There's no other site that we know of like that, that shows these repeated visits.

"It's a very important place."

It is also a place threatened by modern-day vandals who

College of Law

view Tutuveni not as the sacred site and archaeological treasure that it is, but rather a canvas for their own graffiti.

Scattered among the many ancient impressions are the markings of lovers, history buffs and random visitors looking to leave their mark with etchings such as: "Aaron Myrianna 07," "The Victor 10-20-85," "Van.B," "Ramon Albert," "Ariz. Hy. Dept." Even: "1969-Man Land on Moon."

On one rock is a carved image of the two World Trade Center towers, with a plane heading for them. Elsewhere, clan symbols have been chiseled away or spraypainted over.

The Hopi had long known that what they considered a religious place had become, instead, a gathering spot to drink beer and act out. There was talk over the years of erecting a fence or building berms to help keep out vehicle traffic.

But the question of how to protect Tutuveni was complicated by its mere location: The site, while recognized as a Hopi traditional cultural property, actually sits on land now owned by the Navajo Indians, the result of a decadesold dispute that saw these neighboring tribes fighting over land each considered its own. The conflict was finally resolved in 2006 with much of the disputed 1.5 million acres going to the Navajos, but bitterness lingers still.

It might have been easy for Tutuveni to get caught up in all of that – and its needs overlooked – but for the small group of researchers, archeologists and preservationists from both tribes and beyond who came together in common cause: to save this important cultural resource.

"It's something that's really unique and very special to the Hopi," said Ron Maldonado, supervisory archaeologist for the Navajo Nation. "In my mind, it didn't matter who it belonged to. It needed to be protected, and that was it."

Maldonado talked with Jon Shumaker, a fellow archaeologist at electric utility Arizona Public Service, to see if the company might contribute some funding for fencing materials. APS came up with some \$13,000.

Meanwhile Bernardini, in collaboration with the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office, nominated Tutuveni for inclusion on the World Monuments Fund 2008 "watch list" of endangered cultural sites around the world. Among the treasures listed in years past: the Great Wall of

China, India's Taj Mahal and ancient Pompeii, Italy. The fund pitched in some \$100,000 toward a protective fence and surveillance cameras, but also a laser-scanning project that captured many of the petroglyphs for an educational website that was launched this past December.

Today, a chain-link fence stretches around the rock site, with only a narrow opening to allow for visitors on foot. Hidden cameras capture the movement of people and animals. Some beer bottles still litter the ground, but far fewer than what once was found at Tutuveni.

On a recent visit, Lee Wayne Lomayestewa of the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office and Patrick Secakuku, who works with the Hopi schools, walked slowly among the boulders, stopping to run their fingers over the clan symbols and talk about their significance to their people. It was Secakuku's first visit to Tutuveni, and he stared in awe as he discovered just how many engravings represented his own ancestry in the bear strap clan.

"I'm really amazed. I didn't realize there were this many," he said. "This tells you a lot of history about our tribe, our Hopi people, and for people to desecrate, vandalize ... you're losing a lot of rich culture, history. It's sad. But how do you control it? You just wish that out of respect they'd leave them alone."

Lomayestewa comes out to the site regularly to check that the surveillance cameras are still working and to document any new vandalism with his digital camera. The fence, completed in 2010, has helped, he said. But educating both outsiders and the Navajo and Hopi people who live near Tutuveni about the importance of the site is the only real way to help preserve the place – and allow the past to live on.

"I wish we could have protected it before all this happened," Lomayestewa said, as he sought to explain just what Tutuveni means to the Hopi. "White people don't understand that we have these places where we pray. Their way of thinking is that you have to pray in a church.

"Ours is out here," he said, standing on the earth where his ancestors walked so long ago, on the soil that is his sanctuary.



PETE SOUZA / WHITE HOUSE PHOTO

President Barack Obama delivers remarks on Dec. 2 during the 2011 Tribal Nations Conference at the Department of Interior in Washington.

# Obama holds fundraiser with tribal supporters

**KEN THOMAS**Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) – President Barack Obama, raising money for his campaign among tribal leaders, said Jan. 27 he wants American Indians to be "full partners" in the economy.

Obama met with 70 to 75 supporters from Native American tribes. Democratic officials said the fundraiser would benefit the Obama Victory Fund, a joint committee of the Obama campaign and the Democratic National Committee. Tickets started at \$15,000.

Obama told participants that he has worked to include American Indians in his administration and wants Native Americans to be "full partners in our economy." The president noted that he had signed laws to improve health care for Native American tribes and pushed for better educational opportunities and more improvements to tribal economies.

"We want new businesses and new

opportunities to take root on the reservations," Obama said. Attendees included Democratic National Committee chairwoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz, a Florida congresswoman, and former Rep. Patrick Kennedy, D-R.I.

Obama raised more than \$220 million for his re-election campaign and the Democratic National Committee in 2011. The president returned to Washington after completing a three-day, five-state trip following his State of the Union address.

When Obama ran for president in 2008, he visited Montana's Crow Indian reservation and was adopted into the nation during a private ceremony.

Obama quipped, "If my adoptive parents were here, I know what they'd say, "Kids just grow up so fast."

The transcript of the President's remarks are posted along with this article online at www. nativetimes.com and filed under News/Politics.



# We're all paying the bill.

### **Native American Pre-Law Day**

Saturday, March 3, 2012 • 8:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
University of Tulsa College of Law • 3120 East 4th Place, Tulsa Ok 74104

### Thinking about a Career in Law?

Come see whether law school is for you & learn how you can prepare for law school. Prominent Native American attorneys will discuss their backgrounds and careers, law school representatives will provide information about the law school admissions process and how to finance a legal education, and current Indian law students will talk about what law school is really like!

The workshop, sponsored by The Law School Admissions Council and DiscoverLaw.org, is co-hosted by Oklahoma City University School of Law, the University of Oklahoma College of Law, and the University of Tulsa College of Law, is open to all American Indian college and senior high school students. A limited number of scholarships are available to assist with travel costs for students outside easy driving distance of

Space is limited, and registration is on a first come first serve basis. Please register in advance. Walk-ins are available only as space permits. To register, please contact University of Tulsa College of Law, at lawadmissions@utulsa.edu or 918-631-2406 by February 21, 2012.

Following the Native American Pre-Law Day, all attendees of the pre-law event are invited to a private tour of the Enduring Spirit Exhibit of Native American art and artifacts at The Gilcrease Museum from 4;40-5:30 p.m.

The University of Tuba College of Law provides equality of opportunity in legal education for all persons, including faculty, employees, applicants for admission, enrolled students, and graduates, without discrimination or segregation on the ground of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation.

Every Oklahoma household pays \$548 each year

in state and federal taxes related to smoking.

Visit **StopsWithMe.com** to learn how you can help improve Oklahoma's fiscal and physical health.

**Tobacco-Free**Oklahoma Week

January 29th - February 4th, 2012

### TOBACCO STOPS WITH ME.

StonsWithMe.com

TSET. Better Lives Through Better Health.

### Complying with NAGPRA: Museum gives back artifacts

■ NAGPRA has resulted in attitudes changing over time regarding the final placement of Native American remains.

ANDY FITZPATRICK Battle Creek Enquirer

BATTLE CREEK, Mich. (AP) - In the basement and back rooms of Kingman Museum, the remains of people from long ago wait to return home.

That's the goal of the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, which became law in 1990. Since then, the museum has been working to return the remains of Native American people and artifacts back to the tribes from which they originated.

It can be a daunting task, correctly identifying and returning such materials for any institution; notices of the remains have to be sent to the relevant tribes and the National Park Service's NAGPRA Program, which then publishes notices for Native American tribes to

review to see if there are remains to be repatriated to them.

Kingman is no exception and has been working on becoming fully compliant with NAGPRA while dealing with, they say, understaffing and limited space. That's why the museum has announced an opening for an intern to help with the task of returning a dozen or so items and

"Because of snail mail it takes a little while," Collections Manager Beth Yahne said. "Between that and in 2000, with the museum kind closing down for a couple of years, we tried to pick it back up since the museum's been open. The Internet has made it a little easier."

Western Michigan University Professor Archaeology Michael Nassaney said the remains would be given to museums with an eye toward scientific

"The idea was that these would have some research potential, that they would be studied and so forth, and in some instances they were," he said. "In other instances, they just lay in boxes and bags on museum shelves."

One of the items Kingman would like to return is a mummified human head originating from the Alaskan Tlingit tribe.

Yahne said it was sent to Dr. John Harvey Kellogg from a missionary named Esther Gibson about 100 years ago. The inventor of Corn Flakes and proprietor of the Battle Creek Sanitarium gave it to the museum.

Being carefully watched over in the Kingman basement, the head is in a box and covered with a protective wrap.

Nearby, in another container, sits a buckskin sack found with the head.

According missionary's letter to Kellogg, the box also contained the long-lost man's ashes, but she could not send them.

Taking the lid off the box recently, Yahne revealed the face of someone undoubtedly with a story to tell. The top of his head was full with long hair. His face was thin, even when accounting for the decay

Above his top lip, a thin layer of facial hair still clung.

Whatever story this man had that led to his remains being found in a box in an Alaskan cave by two Native American boys is long gone. A few marks on his face show where Yahne thinks the two boys struck him with an axe while opening the box before they knew what was inside.

"We think it's a shaman or a warrior; someone that's pretty important," she said.

Other human remains were returned to places such as Muskegon and Mesa Verde, Colo., over the years the museum has been working on compliance.

There are other objects that need to be returned that are still important, if not as dramatic. For example, a rattle-like device made out of a tortoise shell and head sits in a storage room near Kingman's large collection of artifacts.

It, too, needs to find its way back home.

That's because the museum receives federal funds, and any institution that does is required to conform to NAGPRA. Nor is the museum allowed to display such artifacts and remains, or allow photography of them, out of deference to the tribes.

Nassaney said NAGPRA has resulted in attitudes changing over time regarding the final placement of Native American remains.

"In the past, archaeologists didn't have much to say to Native people," Nassaney said. "Understandably, Native people didn't want to talk to archaeologists because they were seen as grave robbers. Now those relationships are beginning to change, partly as a result of NAGPRA."

After an archaeological dig uncovers remains, Nassaney said the first step is to contact local police, a medical examiner or a state official, such as the Michigan Office of the State Archaeologist. Once it is determined that the remains are not from a person who has been missing, then the ethnicity must be determined through genetic

If they are from a Native population, the search for the relevant tribe is made and it will determine what is to be done with the remains. Sometimes any handling of the remains is not permitted, resulting in them being reburied.

Still, some artifacts can be displayed, and Kingman is planning an exhibit featuring local Native American pieces of history.

gang members and the outside

world is monitored but isn't

cut off entirely, Rothstein said,

because part of a prisoner's

rehabilitation includes contact

with family members and the

Bill Ziegler, president and

chief executive of Little Earth

of United Tribes, an American

Indian housing community

in Minneapolis, said his

community is a gang-free zone,

but the indictments will have

an impact on violence in the

He said the American

Indian community needs to

use this break from violence

to show kids other ways to

feel a sense of belonging and

"We failed these kids

somewhere along the line,"

he said. "We as a community

better view this as maybe we

have a little bit of a reprieve,

surrounding neighborhood.

outside world.

### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country







**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned

### Maine **Indian tribe** aims to build wind project

COLUMBIA FALLS, Maine (AP) - Maine's Passamaquoddy Indian tribe wants to build a commercial wind farm in eastern Maine.

The Bangor Daily News reported the tribe has reached an agreement with Idaho-based Exergy Development Group to build a \$120 million project in a remote area of dirt roads, blueberry barrens and cranberry bogs north of Columbia

Former lawmaker John Richardson, who's has been hired as an adviser, said the tribe expects to purchase the land and finalize plans by the end of the year. He said the project would have between 18 and 50 turbines, depending on the results of an ongoing environmental study.

Passamaquoddy Chief Joseph Socobasin of the Indian Township reservation said the project should result in 50 to 100 construction jobs and 15 to 20 permanent jobs once it's built.

# MOB

Continued from Page 1

According to the Department of Corrections, as of Dec. 30, 144 of the state's 9,158 inmates had some affiliation with the Native Mob.

indictment, and is actively recruiting new ones, including

Inspector Mike Martin, a gang expert with the Minneapolis Police Department, called the Native Mob one of the most violent gangs in Minnesota and said it is feared by other community members. He said the gang has been especially problematic on Indian reservations, which typically have fewer resources to deal with crime.

He said week's this indictment - one of the largest indictments gang-related in Minnesota - will have an impact because of its scope. It contains 47 counts going back several years, and charges all 24 defendants with conspiracy to participate in racketeering, alleging they used violence and intimidation to keep the gang in power.

"One of the problems traditionally has been these individuals feel they can

commit crimes in the city or on one reservation and then go hide in another reservation or another state," Martin said. "I think the federal authorities and state authorities here have sent a message to them that you can run but you can't hide and we will bring them to

The indictment paints a picture of a structured, violent gang that held monthly meetings where members encouraged the assault or murder of their enemies, including rival gang members, government witnesses, informants or anyone who showed disrespect.

While there are hundreds of American Indian gangs in the country, Grant said, most are loosely organized and might have as few as five members.

According to indictment, the Native Mob is different. It's led by a chief and a co-chief, who delegate and encourage criminal acts, maintain discipline, and facilitate meetings. Other leaders are responsible for duties such as responding to external threats or punishing those who disobey the gang's rules and bylaws. And leaders from other regions represent their area at meetings.

New members need a current member to vouch for them, and members identify themselves through gang tattoos, clothing or jewelry. They also refer to each other by gang names or use the term

"fam" - short for family, the indictment said.

The indictment shows a clear connection between gang members on the street and its members in prison. About half of the people indicted already were in custody, authorities said, and the indictment prompted a statewide prison lockdown to keep word about arrests from getting out.

According to the Department of Corrections, as of Dec. 30, 144 of the state's 9,158 inmates had some affiliation with the Native Mob - with roughly 60 of those people classified as active members.

Don Rothstein, assistant director of Department of Corrections' office of special investigations, said the Native Mob is one of many active, violent groups in the state's prisons. Only about one-third of all inmates are affiliated with gangs, he said, yet that population accounts for about two-thirds of violent crimes inside prison walls.

Communication between

a little bit of breathing room, and we better plug something in to replace gang violence." Elying Eagle Trading Post

protection.

**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

# DRUMRIGHT DENTAL CENTER Advanced Dental Technology

We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

### **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50 12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50

36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

### **WATER**

Continued from Page 1

the tribal leaders suggested a plan to manage the region's water resources that includes meeting the growing needs of urban centers like Oklahoma City and Tulsa while maintaining a sustainable supply in the region for recreation and tourism, agriculture and other rural uses and as a defense against drought. The tribes are currently working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a regional water plan that meets those goals.

"The seven-point plan we have developed outlines the key points – the essentials, if you will – that any water management plan must address in order to ensure the continued sustainability of our water supply and prosperity of our great state," Anoatubby says in the statement.

"The lawsuit filed against state officials and Oklahoma City was designed to ensure that our rights are taken into account in any future plan to remove additional water from our historic homelands," Pyle states.

J.D. Strong, executive director of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, said the tribes' public statements do not match the allegations and demands in their lawsuit.

"The Tribes talk about protecting the water needs of Oklahoma City, yet they asked a federal court to declare Oklahoma City has no right to use the pipeline that currently supplies its citizens with water," Strong said. Among other demands, the lawsuit asks the court to declare that Oklahoma City has no right to transport water through the Atoka pipeline, which has delivered water to the city and other areas in central Oklahoma for

almost 50 years.

"The State of Oklahoma has spent more than a century managing and regulating Oklahoma's precious water resources with great success," Strong said. "The State has long been, and intends to remain, the protector of all Oklahomans' water rights."

The tribes' lawsuit asks a federal judge stop a plan approved by the resources board in 2010 to sell its water storage rights to Sardis Lake in southeastern Oklahoma to the Oklahoma City Water Utility Trust without first reaching an agreement with

the tribes. The trust wants a water-use permit to withdraw water from the reservoir, which is within the historic territories of both tribes.

In exchange, the city agreed to pay the \$22 million balance owed to the federal government for the lake's construction in the 1970s and 1980s.

Pyle told The Associated Press the agreement followed years of unsuccessful attempts by the tribes to work with state officials to reach a water rights agreement that would benefit the state and the tribes.

"For over a decade, we made repeated attempts to establish productive government-to-government dialogue with the state on our shared water issues. But our efforts were never able to get the state to meaningfully engage," Pyle said in an email.

The Choctaw Nation even offered to pay the balance on what was owed on the Sardis Lake project, but the board wouldn't consider it, Pyle said.

"This, once again, made it clear the state would ignore our requests and our rights and our interests," he said.

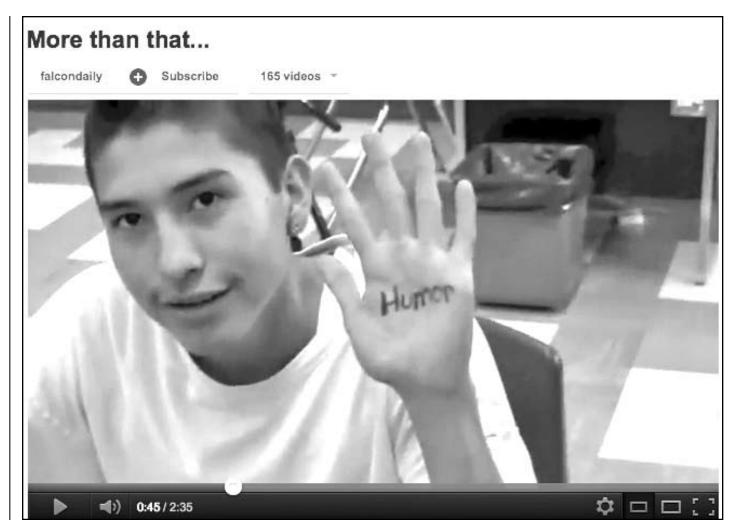
Anoatubby said the tribes want a seat at the table when plans for usage of water in southeastern Oklahoma are being developed by the state.

"We do have rights that must be recognized. And it's my responsibility and Chief Pyle's responsibility to make sure that our rights are protected as a nation," Anoatubby told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

"Water was something that we needed to settle," he said. "We had talks with various people at the state level. However, there was never any acknowledgement of our rights"

The tribes claim that an 1830 treaty gives them authority over water resources in their southeastern Oklahoma jurisdictions. State and city officials say the tribes relinquished those rights in subsequent treaties.

State officials have announced plans to file a separate lawsuit in state court to determine the extent of the tribes' water rights in the region, something the tribes say could takes years to resolve and will not settle the water rights dispute.



VIDEO STILL IMAGE YOUTUBE

A YouTube video posted by students from Todd County High School in Mission, S.D. responds to the stereotype of those living on Indian reservations: 'We're more than that.'

# Students combat Indian stereotypes

KRISTI EATON

Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – They're powerful words routinely used to stereotype people living on American Indian reservations: poor, violent, alcoholic and obese.

Students at one high school on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota, home to the Rosebud Sioux tribe, have one response: We're more than that.

Behind the attention-grabbing headlines and pictures of reservation life, there's a rich culture and sense of pride that often goes unnoticed, students from Todd County High School in Mission, S.D., said.

Students describe their life in a YouTube video with terms such as bravery, determination and love. The video was created to refute a recent "20/20" special, "A Hidden America: Children of the Plains," which details the hardships of growing up on the Pine Ridge Reservation. According to U.S. Census statistics, Todd County, part of the Rosebud Reservation, and Shannon County, which is part of the Pine Ridge Reservation, are the secondand third-poorest counties in the nation.

In the special that aired last October on ABC, Diane Sawyer spoke with Robert Looks Twice, 12, who is the quarterback of his middle-school football team, a prize-winning powwow performer and who dreams of becoming the first American Indian president. He lives in a dilapidated trailer with his grandmother, uncle and eight cousins. In another segment, Sawyer speaks with a 12-year-

old girl who lives without heat and little food, and is dealing with her mother's alcoholism. The girl tried to hang herself but survived.

After watching the "20/20" special, several of the students at Todd County High School worried that American Indian students were being incorrectly portrayed and decided to create a rebuttal, said Steve Elwood, assistant principal at the high school.

Instead of simply talking to the camera, the students – about 50 in total – came up with the idea of presenting one word that described a personality or character trait that would showcase what they do have on the reservation. The students shot, directed and edited the video, said Johnny Whirlwind Soldier, a 17-year-old senior

The YouTube video, titled "More Than That," has been watched more than 40,000 times since it was uploaded in December, and several of the students who created it have been invited to attend a national conference on Native American education

Whirlwind Soldier is among six students traveling to Washington next month to present the video at the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools conference. NAFIS is a nonprofit organization created to educate Congress on the importance of federal aid.

The students will take part in a question-and-answer session about the video on Feb. 27 to share how they battle stereotypes.

Feather Colombe, an 18-year-old senior at Todd County High School,

also is going to Washington. She said she wants people to understand that she and other American Indian students don't need money or possessions for a rich life. Colombe is featured in the video with the word "honesty" written on her arm.

"I think we wanted to make this video and needed to, because what the other people – the outsiders – they don't know is that us Natives, we choose to live a certain way and we never wanted all this poverty. We just live our lives happily ... We see ourselves rich," she said.

Colombe said the stereotypes about American Indians used to bother her, but she has learned to focus on herself and the positives.

"I focus on sports, school, focus on graduating. It really keeps me going, taking that leadership role and moving forward, basically believing in myself and knowing I'm capable of it," she said.

ABC has not responded to an email seeking comment about the students' video.

Whirlwind Soldier is among six Indian education for about 10 years, udents traveling to Washington next said the video is helping to change nonth to present the video at the National perceptions.

"We want people to know outside the reservation system that we have great kids here and they have a lot of potential and have the means to do great things," he said.

Watch the video:

http://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=FhribaNXr7A

# Tribes talk with Colorado on Animas-La Plata water rights

CATHERINE TSAI
Associated Press

DENVER (AP) – Colorado and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are getting closer to finalizing a contract for the state to pay for its share of water from the Animas-La Plata Project and costs for building it.

The half-billion-dollar project, decades in the making, fulfills a settlement of water-rights claims of the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute tribes, but it also will provide water for the state of Colorado and four other entities in Colorado and New Mexico.

Colorado's Legislature

has authorized paying \$36 million to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for its share of 10,460 acre-feet of water, plus interest on construction costs. But the interest has been building, and the \$36 million likely won't cover everything Colorado owes.

The tribes had proposed that Colorado allow its share of water to revert back to the tribes, which weren't assessed for construction. The tribes would then sell the water back to the state at what they say would be a much lower price than what the state would pay the bureau.

"When we heard what the state would spend to get water, our first thought was, "Why?" said Peter Ortego, general counsel for the Ute Mountain Ute tribe. "We can make it cheaper for the state. Sure, it puts money in our coffers, but it keeps it in Colorado."

However, after two years of talking with tribal representatives, the Colorado Water Conservation Board has directed its staff to move forward on contract talks with the Bureau of Reclamation, board director Jennifer Gimbel said.

Gimbel said the board took the tribes' proposal "very seriously." However some board members questioned whether outside parties would challenge the proposal in court. Though legislators have already approved \$36 million for project water, some board members also questioned how willing legislators would be in future years to spend on Animas-La Plata project water.

Gimbel noted the state may still have to talk with the tribes in the future about buying project water, especially if it turns out Colorado is unable to afford its entire share today.

Ryan Christianson of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation said that following a meeting with state officials last week, he is optimistic a final contract could be reached this year. Another date for negotiations has not yet been set.

# Native American hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans!
E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

KEEL

Continued from Page

send a message to Congress on the importance of the nation-to-nation relationship between the federal government and sovereign Indian tribes and establish a permanent, yearly nation-to-nation summit that would institutionalize the Tribal Nations Summit started in 2009.

Keel also urged the federal government to appoint American Indians to important government positions, including the federal courts, and to create an office for Native American programs at the Office of Management and Budget. He encouraged presidential candidates to engage tribal members in their campaigns.

"We invite each candidate to visit Indian Country to outline your policy positions," Keel said. "We also urge the campaigns to make sure tribal nations are part of the discussion at the presidential debates."

Keel said the Interior Department is working to streamline lease approvals for renewable energy development and he urged Congress to pass legislation to expand leasing reform and create an Indian energy self-determination law. He also urged the Senate to pass the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization and other legislation to address violence against tribal women.

Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., provided a congressional response to Keel's comments in which he said there is bipartisan cooperation on American Indian issues in Congress.

"Native American issues are not partisan issues," said Cole, who is also a member of the Chickasaw Nation.

Cole said Congress has made "substantial progress" in addressing tribal issues, including increasing funding for Indian health programs. But he said there needs to be more bipartisan cooperation between the Republicancontrolled House and Democratic-controlledSenate concerning appropriations issues.

Cole also said tribal governments should not rely solely on the federal government for their needs but turn to self-reliance and self-determination to move forward.

Miss An Issue?
Download back issues for
FREE
www.nativetimes.com

# COMMENTARY

## Tribal Constitution is supposed to be 'law of the land'

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

How can a tribal court be fair if the judges are afraid of losing their jobs? Therein lays the dilemma facing Native American tribal courts all around Indian country.

In 2007 a group of Sicangu ladies (Rosebud) formed a group they called Lakota Women for Change. They petitioned the Bureau of Indian Affairs to conduct a specially monitored election to oversee an election amending the Constitution of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe.

Seventy one percent of the RST voters approved Article XI that the tribal court is a "separate and distinct from the legislative and executive branches of the tribal government." One distinguished law professor wrote in 2010 that the "Rosebud Sioux Tribe had "insured its legitimacy by adopting Article X1. The odd thing is that the RST has never fully adopted this amendment to their Constitution.

As a portion of the new amendments the election also set a time limit on the tribal council members to two consecutive terms in office. Now mind you, this was a legal amendment to the RST Constitution. A law to be obeyed? Not at Rosebud because despite the amendment setting time limits to terms in office a member of that august body ran for and was elected to his third consecutive term in office.

There is fear among some members of the Rosebud community that this Constitutional amendment will be ignored in total when the next election comes around because several council members, including the office of tribal president, will face term limits in the 2012 elections and may decide to follow the example of the council representative now serving his third term and completely ignore the Constitutional amendment. In this case the Rosebud Supreme Court ruled orally that it would not be fair to enforce the term limits. The RST Supreme Court ignored the voices of the people who voted for the Constitutional amendment on term limits.

This presents an odd situation for the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. The 20 elected members of the tribal council and the four elected officers can only stay in power if they ignore the Constitutional amendment blocking them from more than two terms in office. The Tribal Court judges are selected by a Judiciary Committee that is appointed by the Tribal Council. In other words, the jobs of the judges are in the hands of the Tribal Council and few people, if any, can recall the last time the Rosebud Tribe or a Tribal official lost a case in Rosebud Tribal Court.

The big problem is one that was overlooked by legal scholars and a BIA wearing blinders: The Rosebud Tribal Council refused to implement the decision of the voters for an independent tribal court.

According to the dictates of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, the authenticity of tribal constitutions is the law of the land.

One tribal official described it this way; "In 2008 at least 217 criminal cases were dismissed at the demand of the Rosebud Judiciary

Committee because the arresting officers had not properly renewed their certification under a tribal ordinance. The lesson is clear, if minor failure to comply with a tribal ordinance leads to a dismissal of criminal cases, what is the obvious remedy for blatant violation of the Rosebud Constitution?"

There are those members of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe who see no effective remedy. They fear that during the next election more council members will be elected to serve third consecutive terms in direct violation of the Rosebud Constitution.

Todd County (home of the Rosebud Reservation) beat out Shannon County (home of the Pine Ridge Reservation) as the second poorest county in America. Shannon County came in a very close third. Rosebud receives an estimated \$150 million annually from the federal government to sustain a variety of tribal programs including the judiciary.

When tribal governments ignore the dictates of their own Constitutions, and this is happening at Pine Ridge also, they also ignore the rights of their own people. Constitutions are written by the people for the people and they are the foundation of legitimate governments.

Every tribal member should ask for a copy of their tribal Constitution. Read it and memorize it because those Constitutions are the basis of your freedom and rights. A tribal judge is only as strong as his or her fear of losing a job because of conflict with the tribal council.

If the tribal council is also the boss over the tribal judges they also have the right to fire them at will. This is exactly the thing the



Tim Giago

Lakota Women for Change had in mind when they brought this touchy issue to an election to get it changed. Remember, 71 percent of the Rosebud voters approved the change. Does the RST Supreme Court have the authority to overrule the Constitution of the tribe?

One RST member said that the problem is not the Indian people: The problem is the Indian government.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

## Scientists link racism, prejudice to simply being dumb

S.E. RUCKMAN

Even the article was blunt and to the point. It seems there's no sweet way to sugarcoat the findings of a recent study conducted by psychologists at Brock University in Ontario, Canada. This longitudinal study followed a group of babies born in 1958 who had their intelligence assessed at various ages.

The study concluded they found a correlation to racism and prejudice were linked to simply being dumb.

I was not stunned, but rather fascinated. This is a bit like discovering a long suspected truth for which there was no particular answer but merely a sharpened intuition. And to make it clearer, the study asserted that low intelligence individuals were more apt to hold to conservative political

ideologies.

Findings postulated that an individual's willingness to cling to simplified beliefs (like, the world is a dangerous place, etc.) were more consistently resistant to change. Those who fit this belief category were also more likely to clutch onto a hierarchy in which people or things are classified. I was giddy, flushed, and savored every word of their findings.

We know that prejudice is a preconceived opinion or feeling. In almost any human social setting, this sorting phenomenon is inevitable. People of a like mind seem to gravitate toward one another. Understandable, after all, who wants to hang out with folks whose views are radically different than yours? We find comfort in consensus.

But carried too far in the other direction, it becomes

xenophobia. That is to say, it morphs into an unreasonable fear of that which is strange or foreign from oneself. To me, this is the life's blood of racism. The article goes on. These faithful scientists said they found a correlation to lowered intelligence in childhood with a tendency to polarized thoughts on race in adulthood. Brains and bias were linked with a tendency to social conservatism and a lack of abstract reasoning. Plus, they found people with lower cognitive abilities (smarts) had less real contact with those from other racial backgrounds.

These were loaded statements. As a disclaimer, the study emphasizes it did not want to over generalize that there was no such thing as bright conservatives or dumb liberals. Since I know people

who fit into both categories, this is reasonable.

Now the context of this study is plain. Not so much that prejudice exists, but why it exists. It is alive and thriving not only in this country, but in virtually any nation where ethnologies mix. The purging of such polarizing views is one of the first steps to social equality.

While the study linking dumbness and racism can probably be disproved, the evolution of civil rights in the 1960s is a prime example of how xenophobic societies can legally exist. We can see that state laws backed up the artifice of categorizing people within their hierarchal position. At the time, it was one that the larger society felt comfortable with and perpetuated.

Besides the obvious, the bright spot here remains that

Name:

efforts to alter prejudiced thinking encourages folks to see a broader point of view, scientists said. They speculate that prejudice is often based on emotional, rather than cognitive factors. If so, then the key to changing racial bias lies with modifying peoples' different feelings about groups. This implies that belief systems, even long held ones, have the ability to evolve. These are seeds of hope even in a modern society.

"Nothing in the world is as dangerous as sincereignorance or conscientious stupidity," wrote Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. over forty years ago. The reasonable conclusion of which seems to be backed up by this remarkable Canadian study.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated



S.E. RUCKMAN

Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com
Equal Housing Lender
Native American Owned



NATIVE
TIMES
recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint
Tile • Trim • Plumbing
Electrical • Solar Panels
Windmills • Winterizing
Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com – Mayes & Cherokee Counties –



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

NAH	VE A	MEKI	CAN	IIMES

Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:
Phone:		

□ \$65.00 for 52 issues□ \$32.50 for 26 issues□ \$16.25 for 13 issues□ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

shouldn't you?

www.nativetimes.com

# CLASSIFIEDS

## **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES AT** W.W. HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH POSITIONS CLOSE 1/31/2012

#4500 INPATIENT/RN/PRN/OR/T/PT

#4869 SUPERVISORY CLINICAL NURSE/T/PT Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

> Cherokee Nation **Human Resources Department** PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Or Visit our website at: www.cherokee.org Employment will be contingent upon drug test results.

Indian preference is considered

#### **Architectural Project Manager**

Architectural Project Manager, Tahleguah, OK: Responsible for architectural projects including the plan, design, and construction of residential structures in the rustico style. Reports to owner and designated supervising licensed Architect. Bachelor's degree in Architecture, 1 year's experience in construction projects. Resumes to: Chance Properties, LLC, V. H. Wilhelm, 2210 Golf Course Road, Tahlequah, OK,

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is accepting applications for the full-time, regular status position of Title VI Program Coordinator/Department Manager. To apply, please visit our website at http://www.pawneenation.org

#### FIELD INVESTIGATOR (ELECTRICAL TRADES)

**Construction Industries Board** Responsible for enforcing licensing act. Gathers information, prepares reports, and testifies at hearings on inspections and violations.

#### **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:**

FEBRUARY 10, 2012 (4 p.m.) See full job description and job requirements on agency website at

www.cib.state.ok.us.

Salary Range: \$37,956 - \$41,700 E-mail resumes to HR@cib.state.ok.us

Mail to: Human Resources **Construction Industries Board** 2401 N. W. 23rd St., Suite 5 Oklahoma City, OK 73107

OR

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!

#### **OKLAHOMA INDIGENT DEFENSE SYSTEM**

#### RECEPTIONIST

The Oklahoma Indigent Defense System (OIDS) has a position opening within the Executive Division, Norman office. Duties of this position involve answering multi-line phone system and handling various projects for the executive division.

Salary for this position is commensurate with qualifications and within agency salary schedule range. Excellent benefits.

Any interested applicant should submit a letter of interest and resume by February 3, 201 to:

Angie L. Cole, Personnel Officer Oklahoma Indigent Defense System P.O. Box 926 Norman, OK 73070

**OIDS** is an Equal Opportunity Employer

#### **EXECUTIVE** DIRECTOR

**Catching the Dream (formerly Native** American Scholarship Fund) seeks an executive director. Superior writing ability, knowledge of proposals and fund raising, knowledge of private scholarships, knowledge of college admissions process, three years of budget and finance experience, and knowledge of school improvement processes.

Send resume, sample of writing, and salary requirements to CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted

throughout the week-

#### **SERVICES**

Native American Electrician

### 1st Call Electric

Reasonable Rates • At Cost Material

918-277-1610

Licensed • Insured • Bonded • OK#70011

Serving Northeast Oklahoma

**Metal Roofing & Siding** Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

#### **Advanced Energy Solutions**

(Heating & Air Conditioning)

Serving Oklahoma City and the surrounding area.

Service, repair and installation of all brands

\* \* American Standard Dealer \* \*

405-315-6116

Expert Owner Operation • You can relax when AES is on the job

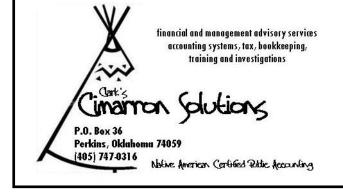




Call to reserve your brand today!

405-933-2474

702 E Central • Anadarko, Okla.





# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Room TBA, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY** Cherokee Artists Association expense of the program. meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.

**THIRD TUESDAY of even** numbered months - The Central Oklahoma Cherokee The Native Nations Youth Alliance meets at Mayflower Council (NNYC) bimonthly **UCC Church, Oklahoma City** at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone FEBRUARY 3 College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall, Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org MON/WED AND THURS **The Marble City Nutrition** Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the Gather for fellowship and friendship. Volunteers welcome. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM** - 2:00 PM at Norman First

American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**FEBRUARY 4 Birthday Dance for Richard** D Roubedeaux at Otoe **Cultrual Bldg, Red Rock** Okla. Starts at 2:00 p.m. Supper at 5:00 p.m. More Gourd dancing after supper - if anyone wants to bring

**FEBRUARY 4 Gourd Dance in memory of** 

anything please bring

covered dish.

**Dorothy Heap-of-Birds at Clinton Fairgrounds (South** on HWY 183), Clinton, Okla. Painting Ceremony 2:00 pm Gourd Dancing 3:00pm Supper 5:00pm. Contact for more info:Choya Hammond (580)309-1992 or Ruth Bearshield (580)303-8378

**FEBRUARY 4 United Keetoowah Band** Council Meeting at 10 a.m. in the Community Services Building, Tahlequah, Okla.

**FEBRUARY 4 Norman First American UMC** will be hosting Native **Open Hand Games Southern** Style, from 2 - 5 PM, at 1950 Beaumont Dr, Norman, Okla. Info call Alan Yeahquo, Coordinator (405) 321-5640. Lunch will be provide after games. Everyone Welcome

**FEBRUARY 6 - MARCH 12** Free tobacco cessation course from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. çççççWhitney Nuttle (918) 762-3873 or Suzy Knife Chief (918) 762-2153.

**FEBRUARY 9** Blood drive hosted by **Cherokee Nation in the** Ballroom/Restaurant building, 9 am to 3:30 pm. Donors will receive an ice scraper, choice of t-shirt, free health screenings and **Donor Rewards Points.** Donors from 11:30 until the end of the drive will enjoy free pizza. For more info or to make an appointment, contact Oklahoma Blood Institute at 877-340-8777 or visit www.obi.org.

**FEBRUARY 11 Freedmen History Program** at the Martin Luther King

Center, 627 N 3rd Street, Muskogee Okla. at 1pm. Free and open to the general public. For more info call 918-683-2753, 405-227-9810 or visit www.

freedmen5tribes.com

February 16-18 Tulsa Indian Art Festival at the Glenpool Conference Center, HWY 75 and 121st Street. Entry forms at www. tulsaindianartfestival.com.

**FEBRUARY 18** The Arrington - Mcspadden **All Indian Rodeo Association** will have their first rodeo of 2012 in Tahlequah Okla. For more info email dwrshirley@aol.com

**FEBRUARY 22 & 29 Smoke-Free Homes** workshops sponsored by Osage Nation and Native **American M-Power from 10** a.m. until Noon. sponsored by Osage Nation and Native American M-Power, are held from 10 a.m. until noon. Info call Osage Nation **Native American M-Power** at (918) 287-5380.

**FEBRUARY 25 3rd Annual Hoops Basketball** Tournament - Men's 5 on 5 **Basketball Entry Fee: \$110 Deadline:** 

Feb. 22. Prizes: 1st place long sleeve shirts, 2nd place - t-shirts Contact: Cristine Hooper-Ben 918-316-1111

MARCH 2 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM

- 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

MARCH 10 Red Earth Run, Regatta Park, **Oklahoma City** 

MARCH 17 **2011 OKC Princess Honor** 

Dance at Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center, 1700 W. Independence, Shawnee, **OK.** Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@sbcglobal.net

Miss Indian Oklahoma City

MARCH 23

**Competition & Performance** at 6:30 pm, 3801 SE 29th St. Del City, OK. Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@ sbcglobal.net

# Tlingit artist using bulletproof material for weaving work

Teri Rofkar plans to draw on the tradition of robe-making for ceremonial use in Native American culture, by weaving modern composite materials into robes.

SHANNON HAUGLAND Daily Sitka Sentinel

SITKA, Alaska (AP) – Artist Teri Rofkar is going boldly into the future with new artwork that features modern materials and a political edge.

"It's not your grandfather's regalia," Rofkar said, with her customary sense of humor.

Creation of the two pieces for her "Tlingit Superman" series is being made possible with the help of a 2012 Creative Capital grant for visual artists, announced last week.

Rofkar was one of two dozen artists or art groups in the U.S. to receive the grant, and the first Alaskan chosen in the history of the program. The grant is worth about \$90,000 over two years in funding and other assistance.

Creative Capital is known for giving a leg up to artists who push the envelope. A news release from the organization said the goal is to provide support for projects that are "singularly bold, innovative, genre stretching and of this moment; ideas of scope and ambition expressed through audacious combinations of form and content; varied projects that engage or even create new technologies and works that take traditional approaches into new carriers, teaching something new about the world and ourselves."

Rofkar's plans for projects that combine traditional weaving techniques with bulletproof material, and nano



Artist Teri Rofkar

technology, definitely qualify in several of the categories.

Rofkar was pleased to receive the news about the grant, since she will be able to stretch her abilities and creativity, while combining her art with a political message.

"It's kind of fun; it's kind of exciting," she said.

Rofkar plans to draw on the tradition of robe-making for ceremonial use in Native American culture, by weaving modern composite materials into robes.

The first will be "Bulletproof Regalia," woven from Kevlar, which will symbolically address such issues as homeland security and the loss of land by tribes across the U.S.

Rofkar, who is Tlingit, loves the black and white poster of four Native Americans with rifles that says: "Homeland Security: Fighting Terrorism since 1492." She said she likes the idea of creating a traditional Tlingit robe that would offer protection in modern times, as a way of "integrating the homeland security concept."

The second piece, "Robe of Illumination," will be "programmable" with lights activated by sound or movement, and suitable for choreography rooted in – or new to – Native American ceremonial dancing. She said it will be light-sensitive and

possibly woven out of optical fiber

"These are political," she said. "I guess art sometimes is that; sometimes it's history and sometimes it's political. ... I want something that's going to inspire younger people to get involved and have integrated technology with dance, song and regalia."

Rofkar said Native art is seen as traditional art, and most people have a preconceived notion of what "Native art looks like." She likes the idea of changing those prejudices and expectations.

"In a few hundred years, this will be traditional," she said. "(Art) is our written language. If that's the medium for the language, we have to start thinking about what's happening today, and using materials that are available now."

She said she doesn't know whether either piece will be "marketable," but the grant from Creative Capital takes the pressure off. She hopes to feature the Kevlar piece at an international wearable art show in New Zealand, and has to be ready for auditioning the piece in June 2013. She also plans to exhibit one or both at Celebration 2014 in Juneau.

Rofkar has been busy lately, working on a mountain goat robe featuring a double-helix design representing DNA strains of two distinct mountain goat populations on Baranof Island. In November, she lectured at Oxford University in England about the science embedded in the traditional methods of spruce root basketry.

Besides getting started on her "Tlingit Superman" series, Rofkar is looking ahead to June 2012, when she will host a group of visiting conservators from the National Museum of the American Indian from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., who are interested in the spruce root baskets discovered in Southeast that are more than 5,000 years old.

In Sitka, Rofkar said she plans to pair up the conservators with kids from the Sitka School District and staff from the Sitka Native Education Program for a project. Sheldon Jackson Museum will host public presentations. In Juneau, the Washington, D.C., scholars will study the ancient baskets currently housed at the Alaska State Museum. The project is the kickoff event for the Sitka Fine Arts Camp "Our Town" program.

The mountain goat robe Rofkar is working on is the 15th she has created. The two "Tlingit Superman" robes will be numbers 16 and 17. She estimated that each robe takes about 2,000 hours to create, since she follows the traditional freehand weaving techniques from some 6,000 years ago.

Information provided by Creative Capital said that Rofkar's goal is "to continue broaden research and awareness about traditional Native American crafts by expanding the discourse to include new stories. By combining innovative materials and themes with traditional techniques, Rofkar reflects the expanded relationship of Native people to a more global community."

Rofkar's work is on display at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., and gives presentations nationally and internationally.

# Arvel Bird pays tribute to RMS Titanic with new album

JODY ROBERTS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - On the night of April 14, 1912, the passenger liner RMS Titanic struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage and sank on April 15, resulting in the deaths of 1,517 people, making it one of the deadliest peacetime maritime disasters in history. On the 100th anniversary of that tragic event, world renowned violinist Arvel Bird pays tribute to the "unsinkable" ship and honors the survivors and those lost in a powerful new album Titanic Centennial: Commemorative Special Edition. In Titanic Centennial, Bird has created an hour-long musical journey dedicated to the passengers, crew and musicians aboard RMS Titanic in April 1912.

Titanic Captain Edward Smith, the radiomen, bandleader Wallace Hartley and a host of others who sailed on that fateful voyage come to life in a powerful, musically cinematic and an emotionally riveting performance that will immerse the listener in the sights and sounds of the tragic events in the North Atlantic in 1912. The album features eight original compositions, including a beautifully haunting violin solo and soul-stirring "a cappella" vocal song, along with three popular previously released songs. The album includes a 20page booklet with factual stories and historic pictures of the people and the mighty ship Titanic. No doubt, this is Bird's finest work to date.

"Titanic is one of the most emotional albums I've ever recorded," said Arvel Bird. "I felt like an actor preparing for each new role with each composition I wrote. Bandleader Wallace Hartley and three band

members, for example, continued playing and doing what they loved best until the very end, comforting the distraught passengers. I hope that I would have been that brave and done my best to keep the scared passengers calm, but no one knows for sure until they're in that situation. The music created an exciting range of emotions in me, and the studio musicians on the album experienced the same emotions in their performance of the scores."

Traditional songs that

were performed on the Titanic, "Nearer My God to Thee" and "Songe D'Automne," are beautifully woven throughout the original arrangements "Adrift in the Dark" and "Over the Airwaves." In "Fire & Coal," the Celtic violin melody pounds out a swift, lilting beat, in rhythm with the speed and intensity with which the 177 firemen and stokers worked to shovel 630 tons of coal a day to keep Titanic moving at her optimum speed. "Over the Airwaves," begins with melodic Morse Code, recreating the frantic distress signals tapped by Marconi wireless operator Jack Phillips in attempt to summon help from passing ships.

This Collector's Item CD, on the Singing Wolf Records label, includes a 20page booklet of fascinating, factual stories and pictures to follow along on the voyage as the music unfolds. The booklet was developed by Pat Cummins, an authority on Titanic history and of the only known photos taken aboard Titanic by Father Francis Browne, who disembarked the Titanic in England, before it began crossing the Atlantic.love.

- For more on Arvel Bird, visit www.arvelbird.com.

## **NAVAJO**

Continued from Page

The film, shot mostly around To' hajiilee, is in the final stages of the editing process for yet another evaluative go-round at Park City.

"We began production in late

August through October of 2011," Emerson said. "Since everyone on the cast is under 12 years old, we had to work around schedules, during weekends and when we

could get our lead actress (Magdalena Begay) into town from Flagstaff, Ariz. The production was spread out over three months, was plagued with unpredictable weather and was very challenging in just about every aspect. But we had a great cast and crew that helped us battle through it all – and we got it done on the first week of October, right before the first big winter storm."

Emerson, along with her husband Kelly Byars, runs an Albuquerque production company called Reel Indian Pictures. Byars, 48, is an actor, educator and film producer. The company makes films and sponsors film programs for young adult filmmakers. Emerson explains that officials at Sundance's Native Film Program were the first to see "Opal," after which it got passed on to the shorts jurors. The Native Film Program scouts Native American artists, taking them through the mechanisms of support at the bigger Sundance Institute to get their work made and shown.

"Yes, Ramona Emerson's film is still technically a part of Sundance," N. Bird Runningwater, who oversees the Native program, said. "I would say it's in the process of development. The institute continues to work with (Emerson)."

Emerson, 38, said she's eager to enter "Opal" again at Sundance come 2013. She said she's also considering putting it up for Sundance's



Ramona Emerson

Screenwriting Labs - if not this year, then

"I also continue my work with the Milagros at Los Luceros writers program, which is part of (Sundance founder) Robert Redford's new program up in northern New Mexico," she said.

The film festivals where Emerson's films – "The Back Road" (2000), "The Last Trek" (2006) and "The Return Home" (2008) – have been shown include: ImagineNative in Canada, the Native American Film and Video Festival in New York City, and the American Indian Film Festival in San Francisco.

"I knew at a very young age that I wanted to make films and somehow I have managed to keep at it for many years. The ability to transfer those early memories on the reservation of going to the movies with my grandmother, to the actual reality of making films, has been a dream come true," she said. "'Opal' is a reflection of that and of the personal stories I love to tell. My hope is to create a story that reflects a very true representation of what it's like to grow up on the Navajo Nation, but more importantly, questions the roles of women and girls both on and off the reservation."

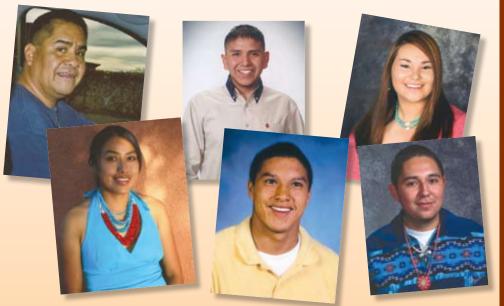
Besides readying "Opal" for entry into the 2013 Sundance Film Festival, Emerson said she's working on finishing a documentary entitled "Hidden Talents," about Navajo painter James Woolenshirt King, of Shiprock, N.M.

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS.
VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# College Scholarships

# American Indian, Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Students

\$450,000+ awarded each year! All Undergraduate Majors Are Eligible. Graduate Scholarships Available.



## **Applications Due April 4th!**

**Download Application: aiefprograms.org** 



American Indian Education Foundation 2401 Eglin Street • Rapid City, SD 57703 (605) 342-9968

#### More than pretty things

## Artist makes critical statement with beadwork

**KAREN SHADE** 

Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - Native beadwork artists are proud of their skills when dancers wear their work at powwows. Molly Murphy Adams knows the feeling, but you're more likely to see her craft in an art gallery.

The Tulsa bead worker from Montana is finishing details of a new piece to be included in a group art show featuring artists connected to Oklahoma. H2OK: Native Response to the Water Issues in Oklahoma opens at Mainsite Contemporary Art, 122 E. Main St., Norman, on March 10.

The piece, titled Water Serpent, is different for even this contemporary artist, who uses the traditional craft to make statements on the world Indian people face today. She is anxious to show it with the other works.

"Sometimes artwork can be a little egotistical. You're always talking about yourself and your ideas and there's not as much opportunity to say, 'Well I'm interested in art, not just because I want to make art, but because there's amazing artwork out there," Murphy Adams said. "I'm interested in all of it."

Her interest likely began with her mother, Laurie Tynes of White Fish, Montana. Tynes, part Oglala Lakota, was born on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. After moving to Great Falls, Montana, as a child, she quickly connected with the Cree people living at the nearby Hill 57, an acreage

of land where a band of thenlandless Cree settled after having obtained squatter's rights to be there.

After Murphy Adams was born, Tynes began beading with a Cree woman named Ruby StiffArm. StiffArm helped single mothers learn as they waited for their children's headstart lessons to finish each day.

Adams recalls the "guild mentality" prevalent among those who beaded in that day.

"In any traditional skill - whether it's singing or drumming or beadwork or ceremonies - sometimes the person who teaches you has the right to put restrictions on how you use that skill because you have a community role when you learn that skill," Murphy Adams said.

StiffArm forbade anyone she taught to bead images. The teacher felt that she and her own sister had been restricted from creating anything but abstract patterns and floral designs. That belief was reinforced when StiffArm's sister lost her sight soon after making a buckle with an eagle

Tynes did not impart restrictions on her daughter. Around the time that she began beading full dance regalia, Murphy Adams became interested, too. Her first project was beading three straight lines on a keychain fob. It was an exercise in patience and the first of many lessons she would learn.

"You weren't allowed to have materials until you could prove that you weren't going to waste them, and you

weren't allowed to make your own stuff until you could prove that you were willing to iust do the background work," she said. "Most people who say they want to learn how to bead ... have no idea how much time and patience and sometimes just drudgery that goes into making the pattern, getting the beads, endlessly threading needles and just filling in background."

"Very little of it is that fun part where you make all the colors come together," she said. "The rest of it is sewing, doing the edge work, making sure it's strong and tying off your knots."

Soon, Murphy Adams began beading images. Later, she earned a Bachelor's in Fine Arts from the University of Montana. It wasn't until after she finished school that she stepped beyond her known boundaries. Murphy Adams began making beadwork projects that didn't fit the criteria she had used before. Her work was not made just for powwows, ceremonies or as family heirlooms. Neither was it functional. She also began using untraditional

"And then I really wondered, 'Does this cross the line and become something that doesn't relate to my culture anymore?' Because beadwork has to function. It's not just a picture to go on the wall. That would be a white way of making art. The Native way is to make something that has function," she said.

Gradually the work began to make statements about Indian peoples' lives, such

as the triple-extra large T-shirts she beaded to look like warrior shirts reading "Rez Ball Legend" and other praises of Indians' "natural athleticism" made obsolete by rampant obesity and diabetes rates among tribal people.

They went on exhibit, and she expected outrage, but it never came.

"It was scary to put it out there and say, 'I'm going to use beadwork to be critical of my own people, to use something traditional and positive to say something critical, but I never did get a backlash so I felt a little more free to use it and make artistic messages and not just to make pretty things for people to wear," she said.

For H2OK, her water serpent will draw on the myth of the creature's descent into the three levels of the world to reflect the water cycle. She's already exhibited work based on plant cells - a logical step for a former pre-med major.

"I'm a total nerd, and I like doing this just for its own sake," she said. "I would bead anything."

H2OK runs through March 10 in Norman before moving to Bacone College's McCombs Hall Art Building in Muskogee from April 6-May 13. For more, go to www.ahalenia. com/h2ok.

For more about the Molly Murphy Adams, visit online at www.mollymurphybead.com.



KAREN SHADE / NATIVE TIMES PHOTOS

Molly Murphy Adams puts the finishing touches on some pieces last week in her Tulsa





# Three Dog Night

Saturday, February 11 • 7 pm Tickets are \$25

Osage Event Center • Tulsa

#### **COMING SOON!**

Glen Campbell The Goodbye Tour With Special Guest Instant People

Tuesday, March 27 • 7 pm Tickets are \$35



Ticket Info

**Order your Event Center tickets** at osagecasinos.com!

Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.



End of Tisdale Parkway near Downtown Tulsa.

osagecasinos.com (918) 699-7777 | f Find us on Facebook!

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.



- Leader says casino could help tribe
- Haskell teams with EPA on program
- Woman makes charity runs for 'the rez'









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 6

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

FEBRUARY 10, 2012

# Cobell Class Members question settlement, attorney conduct

■ Attorneys released names, addresses and phone numbers of the four case appellants in an email to the public and media Jan. 20

DANA ATTOCKNIE

Native American Times

WASHINGTON – Class Counsel for the Cobell v. Salazar class action lawsuit sent out a letter Jan. 20 to Class Members throughout Indian Country explaining the reason for the delay in their monetary payment rests with four Class Members who are appealing the settlement.

"What they did by sending out this letter is very, very unethical," Mary Lee Johns, Cheyenne River Sioux/Lakota, said. "They sent out this email to all the individuals and listed our names, addresses and telephone numbers. One of the individuals that appealed is getting death threats and now they got her address. This is not the way to conduct business in Indian Country."

Johns is appealing the settlement along with Carol Eve Good Bear, Fort Berthold Reservation, and Charles Colombe, Rosebud Sioux. They are represented by David Harrison, an attorney based out of Albuquerque, N.M. They are in the early stages of their brief, which is due to be filed in March with oral argument set for May 15.

Harrison said the suggestion in the letter, dispersed by the plaintiff's counsel, that the appellants don't believe fellow Class Members are entitled to relief or payment from their trust funds is not true.

"It's not that they're just trying to make sure that nobody's paid; they're trying to make sure that this deal is



AP FILE PHOTO / GERALD HERBE

This Dec. 8, 2009, file photo shows Elouise Cobell, center, posing for a photo with her legal team in the law offices of Kilpatrick & Stockton in Washington. From left are Bill Dorris, Cobell, Keith Harper, Dennis Gingold and Geoffrey Rempel, the attorneys involved in a class-action lawsuit by American Indian land trustees against the U.S. government over the alleged mismanagement of Native American land royalties.

legal," Harrison said.

Another appeal is from Class Member Kimberly Craven, Sissten-Wahpeton Oyate, who is represented by Ted Frank, an attorney with the non-profit Center for Class Action Fairness located in

Washington, D.C. The Craven brief was complete Jan. 6 and

See COBELL Continued on Page 4

# Casino tribes culling citizenship, cutting scores from profit shares

■ Other tribal citizens have had their benefits suspended through banishment.

SUDHIN THANAWALA
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) – Two casinoowning tribes in California have thinned their membership ranks over the last several months, cutting off scores of people from a share of casino profits and other benefits of tribal membership.

Officials with The Picayune Rancheria of the Chukchansi Indians and the Pala Band of Mission Indians say the former members' ancestral blood lines disqualified them.

Critics, however, have a different explanation: greed.

They accuse tribal officials of trying to increase their share of profits from their casinos, a charge that tribal officials vehemently deny.

 $Many\,expulsions\,have\,occurred\,around$ 

the country, but they are particularly numerous in California, where many tribes reconstituted over the last several decades then entered the casino business, advocates say.

Exact expulsion figures are hard to come by, but Laura Wass, Central California director for the American Indian Movement, estimates that about 2,500 tribal members have been purged since 1997, most in California.

The Chukchansi, owners of the Chukchansi Gold Resort and Casino in the Sierra foothills near Yosemite National Park, have expelled dozens of members since around November. The Pala Band of Mission Indians in northern San Diego County – owners of the Pala Resort and Casino – expelled more than 150 people on Feb. 1.

Still other tribal citizens have had their benefits suspended through banishment – the fate recently of several members of the United Auburn Indian Community, operator of the Thunder Valley Casino Resort outside Sacramento.

Expelled and banished tribal members can be cut off from thousands of dollars in monthly stipends and other benefits. With the tribes claiming sovereign status, experts say these people have little recourse to challenge tribes' enrollment decisions in courts

"Native people to this day have no voice," Wass said. "We can't go anywhere with this to get human rights or civil rights upheld."

Nancy Dondero, 58, said she lost a \$1,000-a-month stipend and her daughter, Nikah, stopped receiving college funding and had to drop out of California State University, Fresno when she and her family were removed from the Chukchansi tribe in November.

"I know who I am," Dondero said. "I know who my dad is. I will always be Chukchansi."

Dondero traces her heritage back to her great grandfather, Jack Roan. Tribal officials say a 1929 application with the state and Roan's own will list him as

See **PROFIT** Continued on Page 3

## Interior seeks comments on Cobell Land draft plan

**NEDRA DARLING** Bureau of Indian Affairs News Release

WASHINGTON - The Department of the Interior today announced important steps in the ongoing commitment to fulfilling this nation's trust responsibilities to Native Americans. Today, Interior announced the publication of a draft plan and a request for comment on implementing the potential Cobell Land Consolidation Program. Additionally, Interior announced that the first meeting of the Commission established to undertake a forward-looking, comprehensive evaluation of Interior's trust management of Native American trust funds is set for the first week

of March.

"Interior's continued rapport and outreach



U.S. Interior Department

through consultations with Indian Country are crucial components to accomplishing truly open government-to-government communication," said Deputy Secretary of the Interior David J. Hayes. "We are thankful for the participation of all of the tribal leaders as we continue to move forward with this landmark program in a

See INTERIOR Continued on Page 4

PHOTO COURTESY COMANCHE NATIONAL MUSEUM Josephine Myers-Wapp turns 100-years-old Feb. 10, 2012.

# Oldest living Comanche elder hits the century mark, celebrates

Family, friends, and former students all invited to celebrate Josephine Myers-Wapp's 100th birthday

CANDY MORGAN

LAWTON, Okla. – When Josephine Myers-Wapp was born in Apache, Okla., on Feb. 10, 1912, the Sooner State was just four-years-old. One hundred years later, family and friends will gather to celebrate the life of this accomplished artist and beloved teacher. A very special birthday gathering is being held at the Comanche Nation Elderly Center Feb. 10 at 3:00 p.m. A special invitation is being extended to Wapp's family,

friends and to her former Indian school students. The center is located at 1107 SW H Avenue in Lawton.

Wapp, an enrolled citizen of the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma, grew up on her parents' ranch south of Apache. She attended school at St. Patrick's Mission in Anadarko and continued her education at Haskell University in Lawrence, Kansas. The turning point in her life came when the Bureau of Indian Affairs established an art education program at the Santa Fe Indian School, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, a curriculum was designed to educate American Indians as art teachers and place them in American

Indian boarding schools.

Wapp entered the program, choosing fiber and traditional arts as her major areas of study.

After completing her education, she taught arts and crafts at Chilocco (Oklahoma) Indian School. In 1963, she joined the faculty at the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Santa Fe, where she taught American Indian traditional arts and culture.

Wapp was involved in all aspects of arts including Native dance. She helped coordinate a dance exhibition at the 1968 Summer Olympic Games in Mexico City featuring IAIA students.

She retired from teaching in 1973 to focus on creating traditional and contemporary finger weaving. Her creative work has been exhibited throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, South America and the Middle East. She has received many awards for her artwork and teaching and has influenced thousands of people with her extraordinary talent.

Historical Facts:

- · William Howard Taft was president the year Mrs. Wapp was born.
- ·18 U.S. Presidents have taken office in her lifetime.· She lived through the
- · She lived through the Great Depression and the Oklahoma Dust Bowl of 1930.
- · The United States has participated in 7 wars since she was born.

# Interior releases \$1.9B plan to buy Indian land

MATT VOLZ Associated Press

HELENA, Montana (AP) -Federal officials released their proposal Feb. 2 on how they plan to spend up to \$1.9 billion to buy up Native Americanowned fractionated lands and turn them over to tribes.

The program is a major part of the \$3.4 billion settlement of a class-action lawsuit brought by the late Elouise Cobell of Browning, Montana, over American Indian land royalties mismanaged by the government for more than a century.

The program aims to reduce

the number of fractionated lands within 10 years by prioritizing tracts with the most individual owners, finding landowners willing to sell and targeting land that can be bought with little preparatory work and where controlling interest can be gained quickly. The program is for voluntary for people willing to sell their individual allotments.

Land fractionation was caused by the 1887 Dawes Act, which split tribal lands into individual allotments often inherited by multiple heirs with each passing generation. In some places, individual allotments now have dozens to more than 1,000 individual owners.

The Interior Department has identified 88,638 fractionated land tracts owned by nearly 2.8 million people.

John Dossett, the general counsel for the Native Congress of American Indians, said the draft proposal appears to address most of the tribes' major concerns. Of particular importance was that the tribes be involved in implementing and administering the land consolidation program through cooperative agreements, which addressed in the draft plan.

There is still room for discussion in other areas. such as how the lands are to be appraised and whether the Interior Department should place liens on the acquired land, but it appears the government is making good on its pledge to have an open discussion, Dossett said.

"It's a problem that has been sitting around for a hundred years or more," he said. "I think tribes are really interested in doing this right. You don't get a do-over on \$1.9 billion."

Out of the \$1.9 billion allotted the program through the Cobell settlement, only 15 percent, or \$285 million, can be used for administrative costs. Another \$60 million will be used for scholarships for Native American students.

The draft plan was compiled after a series of meetings last summer and fall with tribal representatives in Montana, Minnesota, Washington, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

The proposal is open to public comment for the next 45 days. The Cobell settlement is still being appealed, and the land consolidation plan won't be implemented until those appeals have run their course.

Under the settlement, another \$1.4 billion would go to compensate individual Native American account holders. The settlement is being challenged by four people in separate appeals.

Their issues with the settlement include claims that it did not achieve the lawsuit's goal of accounting for how much money actually went missing from those land trust accounts and that the tribes should have been involved in the lawsuit from the beginning.

Cobell died in October, just months after the settlement was approved by federal judge in Washington, D.C.

## Okla. Gov. asks tribes to drop water rights suit

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Gov. Mary Fallin wants two tribal leaders to dismiss their lawsuit against the state over tribal water rights in southeastern Oklahoma.

Fallin sent a letter Feb. 2 to Chief Greg Pyle of the Choctaw Nation and Gov. Bill Anoatubby of the Chickasaw Nation. Fallin asks them to dismiss their federal lawsuit and allow an ongoing mediation process to resolve disputes between the state and the tribes.

In exchange, Fallin says the state will not file a separate state court action to determine the extent of tribal water rights in their historic territories.

The tribes said in statement they hope a resolution can be reached at

The lawsuit asks a federal judge stop the state's plan to sell water storage rights to Sardis Lake to Oklahoma City.

# Kialegee leader says casino would help tribe

Opponents say the casino will sit too close to a vocational-technology campus, a proposed daycare center and a church.

WETUMKA, Okla. (AP) - The head of a branch of the Muscogee Creek Nation says his tribe has jurisdiction over land in Broken Arrow where a proposed casino is to

Kialegee Tribal Town King Tiger Hobia told the Tulsa World the Red Clay Casino is an economic opportunity that would mean more self-sufficiency for the tribe and less reliance on the federal government.

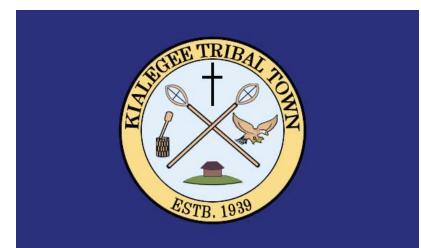
The Creek Nation was once a confederacy of about 44 tribal towns that were eventually removed from their homelands in what is now Alabama and Georgia. Tribal town members also are members of the Muscogee Nation.

Opponents have criticized the proposed venue, saying it will sit too close to a vocational-technology campus, a proposed daycare center and a church. Sen. Tom Coburn and Rep. John Sullivan have sent letters expressing residents' concerns to the National Indian Gaming Commission, which must approve the gaming license.

Commission members have said they haven't yet approved a gaming license for the site. The landowners, two Creek members, are leasing the property to the tribal town, which is subleasing it to a development company.

Kialegee Tribal Town, which has about 400 members, is one of dozens of tribal towns that made up the Muscogee Creek Nation when members lived in the southeastern United States.

The Kialegees have their own housing program and a contract with the Department of Human Services for its Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program. The Creek Nation has a food distribution center in Wetumka and last year opened



Kialegee Tribal Town, which has about 400 members, is one of dozens of tribal towns that made up the Muscogee Creek Nation when the tribe lived in their southeastern homelands.

its Southern Regional Offices in Wetumka.

Hobia's sister, Mary Givens, previously served as a "town king."

"The funding we receive isn't enough for the things we would like to do for education, housing and health," she said.

The Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town, of similar size to the Kialegee, operates the Red Hawk Gaming Center in Wetumka within the same structure as the U.S. Post Office.

The Thlopthlocco Tribal Town has the Golden Pony Casino on Interstate 40 near Clearview.



### for ourselves. for our families. for future generations.

Oklahoma ranks 48th nationally for health. That is unacceptable. We can no longer sit idle when our health hangs in the balance.

There is a plan to create healthier lives for all Oklahomans - the Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan. Endorsed by the legislature, this plan outlines a clear path of action to save lives and improve our health. Join us by supporting:

- Restore the rights of local communities to pass smokefree policies that are stronger than state law
- Assure health education is taught in sixth, seventh or eighth grade for all state public schools
- Prohibit the use of a hand-held electronic device while driving for all drivers under the age of 18

Let's pull together to Shape Our Future. Your state is counting on you.

Find out more at **ShapeOurFutureOK.com** 



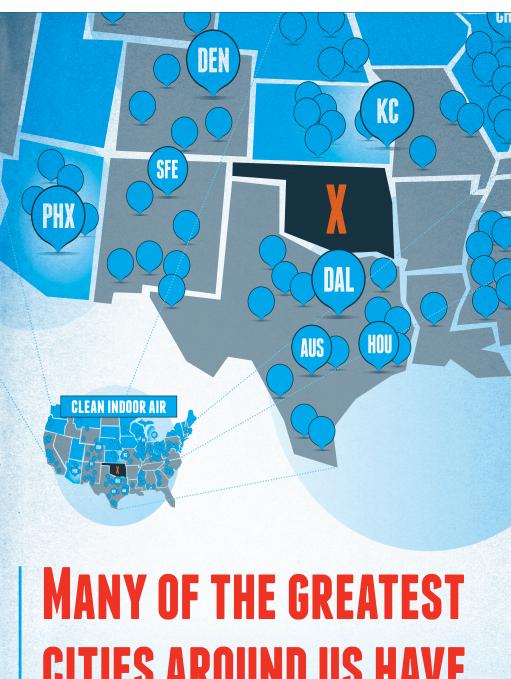
THE JOURNAL RECORD

get lean tulsa









# **CITIES AROUND US HAVE CLEAN INDOOR AIR.**

It's time we catch up. Oklahoma communities are great places to live and should have every chance to compete for regional jobs. Oklahoma communities should have the right to choose to have clean indoor air in public places and workplaces.

Clean indoor air... It's good for health and great for business.

**TOBACCO STOPS WITH ME.** 

StopsWithMe.com

# Task force eyes rural, tribal exposure to violence

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) – The epidemic of children being exposed to violence in communities across the nation will have to become more of a public discussion before the cycle can end, members of a national task force assembled by U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder said Tuesday.

The National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence held its second public meeting in Albuquerque to gather testimony from victims and experts on violence in rural and Native-American communities – two areas often plagued by higher incidents of poverty and child abuse but with fewer options for help.

Robert Listenbee Jr., cochair of the 13-member task force, ticked off a list of statistics that painted a grim picture of the challenges facing those communities.

Native Americans and Alaska Natives have the highest poverty rate of any racial group in the nation, he said. They also have a higher rate of gang involvement than Latinos and African-American youth, and suicide ranks among the leading causes of death for young Native boys.

"These facts are staggering," Listenbee told the crowd. "But perhaps even more alarming is the difficulty many children and families face in getting help."

The isolation of tribal and rural communities complicates matters. Victims

of domestic violence and clergy sex abuse testified about having nowhere to turn for help and the difficulties of finding help outside their communities.

Elsie Boudreau of the Alaska Native Justice Center said there are no roads in or out of some of Alaska's Native communities and a \$600 plane ticket to the nearest city is out of reach for many.

In New Mexico, many reservations are far from population centers, and public transportation doesn't exist.

Another challenge is the private nature of domestic violence. Experts and task force members said it's a difficult conversation to have when victims – and even community leaders – are not willing to talk about the problem.

"We address drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, all of these things, but we never look at the impacts on our children," said Gil Vigil, a former governor of Tesuque Pueblo who testified Thursday. "We address symptoms but never the whole problem. That's what we're trying to do here."

The task force will be hosting additional hearings in Miami and Detroit later this year. In December, it plans to issue a final report to Holder that will include policy recommendations and a national blueprint for preventing and reducing the negative effects of children being exposed to violence.

That blueprint won't be based on just one recipe, said U.S. Attorney Kenneth Gonzales of New Mexico. He said the needs of children and their families can be drastically different depending on whether they are Native American or Alaska Native, from a rural area in middle America or from the big city.

Despite the differences, Gonzales said the lasting effects of being exposed to violence can lead to similar results, with children acting out and getting tangled up in the justice system. Finding a solution could help keep children from becoming defendants in the future, he said.

Joe Torre, former New York Yankees manager and cochair of the task force, shared his own story. His father abused his mother, but it was never talked about. It was only decades later that he came to understand the implications.

"The lasting effects were feelings of fear and embarrassment, and I thought I was the only one who felt this way, that there was something wrong with me," Torre said. "The feelings of inadequacy that I was experiencing were really tied to what went on in my home during my childhood."

Torre acknowledged that limiting children's exposure to violence, whether it be on a reservation or elsewhere, won't be easy.

"You have to take baby steps and start making inroads and getting some tools to work with," he said. "Then down the road, we anticipate that we can make a big impression. It's not going to be easy and it's not going to be quick."

### **PROFIT**

Continued from Page 1

For those who have been disenrolled or banished, fighting the tribe can be nearly impossible, said David Wilkins, a professor of American Indian Studies.

Pohoneechee, a Miwok band.
But Dondero said her great grandfather didn't understand English, so someone else may have filled out the forms and inserted the wrong tribal affiliation. He was allotted land as a Chukchansi, she said.

Ricginda Dryer, 50, another Chukchansi member, said she received a letter from the tribe last month informing her that she had been expelled. Tribal officials said she failed to petition to be a member after the tribe was reconstituted in the 1980s, according to Dryer.

"They're trying to lower the numbers down to be exclusively a couple of families, so they can make as much money as possible a month," she said.

But Rob Rosette, an attorney for the Chukchansi, said the expulsions have nothing to do with casino profits. The remaining tribal members will only see an approximate \$25 increase in their monthly checks, he said.

"It's painful, it's not easy," he said of the removals. "But these leaders are doing their jobs. They are elected to office to follow the tribe's Constitution and laws."

For those who have been disenrolled or banished, fighting the tribe can be nearly impossible, said David Wilkins, a professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Minnesota and a Lumbee tribe citizen.

When tribes do have their own judicial branches, Wilkins said they tend not to be independent from political influence. And the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs has largely stayed out of enrollment decisions since a 1978 U.S. Supreme Court decision affirmed tribal

sovereignty in citizenship decisions.

"They have no recourse in either tribal proceedings or federal court proceedings," he said. "They're in a legal wonderland."

Jessica Tavares, 62, said she and several other United Auburn members were recently banned from tribal lands and had their per capita payments suspended just for speaking out against the tribal council.

Tavares and the other suspended citizens were involved in a petition to recall the council, accusing it, among other things, of denying funding for tribal schools and pledging \$1 million to the Sacramento Kings basketball team without proper consultation.

Now, Tavares cannot set foot on tribal land for 10 years and won't receive per-capita payments for four years.

"This banishment means a lot because some of those properties we played on as kids," said Tavares, a former tribal chairwoman. "That's a piece of me."

In a Nov. 29 letter explaining their decision, the tribal council said Tavares was not suspended for the petition itself, but defamatory statements that violated tribal law. The tribe has maintained its commitment to tribal schools and did not need the entire tribe's approval for the casino advertising commitment to the Kings, the council said.

Tribe spokesman Doug Elmets declined comment, saying the suspensions were an "internal tribal matter."

Elmets, who also represents the Pala tribe in San Diego County, said expulsions there had nothing to do with casino profits and noted disputes over tribal citizenship have been going on since the late 1980s, well before the tribe even thought of a casino.

But Fred Hiestand, Tavares's attorney, said his client's free speech was violated.

"The irony here is we spend trillions of dollars trying to export our Bill of Rights to other countries," he said. "But in our own country we have these pockets of despotism that we allow to exist under the guise of sovereign immunity."

#### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
DANA ATTOCKNIE
WESLEY MAHAN
KAREN SHADE

Advising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
ROB WALTON
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country -





## Native American hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans!
FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY
E-mail your ad for a quote to
lisa@nativetimes.com





We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

	yk propa	
Cylinders RV_Motor Homes Motor Fuels Residential Commercial	Service Area:  Blackwell  Raiston  Yost	Toll Free: 855, 723, 4433 Phone: 580, 723, 4433 PKpropane.com
NOW	GY UN WIM PKI	

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	
	s <b>3</b> \$32.50 for 26 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

### Kaw company completes renewable energy project

PONCA CITY, Okla. - In the first joint project of its kind in north central Oklahoma, Southwind Energy, an enterprise of the Kaw Nation partnered with Pioneer Technology Center, and Ponca City Energy to assemble and install a wind and solar lighting unit in Ponca City.

Career tech students and instructors received hands experience assembling and wiring the turbine and solar panels. Students were enthusiastic about the experience of participating in a green energy project.

Ponca City Energy supervisors and crews assisted with technical and foundation advice, raising and setting the hybrid unit.

Luttrell, Southwind Energy spokesperson said "the Kaw Enterprise Development Authority has been excited to work

with these students from career tech and with Ponca City Energy to bring innovative alternative energy technology to the area. The Kaw Nation, known as The Wind People has a long heritage and relationship with the south wind and a commitment to renewable green energy."

Southwind Energy is a distributor and installer of wind and solar hybrid lighting. Cost effective and easy to install the devices provide strong, bright lighting for large parking lots such as shopping, medical and corporate centers. Streets, sidewalks, bike paths, security, farm and ranch lighting are all perfectly suited for their application.

Businesses interested in lowering energy costs, reducing their carbon footprint and pollution find hybrid lighting products as a viable economical option.

Designed to operate with no line voltage, trenching or metering the units offer significant benefits over traditional grid based electrical lighting reducing pollution, power consumption and carbon dioxide emissions. The LED lighting should last 100,000 hours compared to conventional lights 10,000 hour life with substantial energy savings. Turbines and solar panels have a life expectancy of 20-25 years with virtually no maintenance. There is a substantial cost savings over five years compared to usual systems. .

Southwinds upcoming projects include career tech involvement in a vertical axis wind turbine generator assembly and the installation of a lighting unit at the Kaw Nation tribal complex in Kaw City illuminating the Warrior and Horse statue.

David Myers, Ponca City Development Executive wrote about the project in his weekly update. "Our friends at the Kaw Enterprise Development Authority have themselves a wind and solar dual energy generator for their newest public lighting project. The Sepstar Hybrid system is a customized stand alone, self-sufficient clean energy power source that can generate electricity through both solar and wind resources and store it off the utility grid in high performance batteries." "The unit installed by KEDA uses a 400 watt wind turbine and two 75 watt solar panels to power the lighting and store the excess energy. The light created by the high efficiency low voltage LED unit is impressive. Congratulations on their sustainability efforts."

## **INTERIOR**

manner that incorporates tribal priorities and promotes tribal participation in reducing land fractionation in a timely and efficient

The Cobell Land Consolidation Program will not be implemented until all court approvals are final; however, Interior has prepared the draft plan to continue the tribal consultation on the development of the program. In May, 2011, the District Court allowed representatives of the United States to communicate with Cobell class regarding to the land consolidation component of the settlement. Since then, Interior has conducted seven regional government-to-government tribal consultations on the issues.

In accordance with the \$3.4 billion Cobell Settlement, a \$1.9 billion land consolidation fund is to be used to purchase fractionated interests in trust from willing sellers to benefit tribal communities and aid in land consolidation. Up to \$60 million of the \$1.9 billion will be set aside to provide scholarships for post secondary higher education and vocational training for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Last week's publication in the Federal Register opens a 45-day comment period on the draft implementation plan that seeks to remedy the proliferation of thousands of new trust accounts caused by the increasing subdivision or "fractionation" of trust and restricted fee land interests through succeeding generations. The draft implementation plan proposes a voluntary buy-back and consolidation of fractionated trust and restricted fee land interests that would occur over a 10-year period after the Cobell Settlement becomes final.

Deputy Secretary Hayes also announced that the first meeting of the National Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform is scheduled for March 1-2, 2012 in at the Interior Department in Washington, D.C. The March meeting will mark the first time the five recently-named members of the Commission will meet to move forward on their comprehensive evaluation of Interior's management and administration of the trust assets, as well as recommendations for improvement.

"Building upon the progress made with the historic Cobell Settlement, this commission will help usher in a new era of trust administration," added Hayes. "Our trust administration must be more transparent, responsive, customer-friendly accountable in managing these substantial funds and assets."

More information on the Cobell Trust Land Consolidation Program can be found at: www. doi.gov/cobell.

## Tribe teams with lab on energy policy

**FELICIA FONSECA** 

Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - One of the country's largest American Indian tribes has partnered with a national laboratory to study what technologies would be best for developing natural resources on the vast reservation.

The Navajo Nation has large deposits of coal and uranium, along with potential for wind and solar energy, but it hasn't historically been a major player in developing those resources. The tribe signed a three-year agreement with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory on Wednesday to look into carbon capture and sequestration, clean coal technology and renewable energy, among other things.

Navajo President Ben Shelly said the expertise of leading scientists and engineers will lead to better investments for the tribe.

"With the lab's help, we will have a better picture of what technologies are best for our resources and nation," Shelly said in a prepared speech. "This assistance will carry us for many generations and position our nation to compete with the rest of the world."

Under the agreement, the tribe and the laboratory also could look into power plant design and siting, combustion and geothermal technologies and energy security. The agreement comes as the Navajo Nation is revising its energy policy and considering whether to adopt renewable energy standards.

Lawrence Livermore, along with Los Alamos and Sandia national laboratories in New Mexico, is part of team that is laying the groundwork to provide long-term technical assistance to tribes on energy development and resource management. American Indian tribes own about 15 percent of the country's natural resources, according to Lawrence Livermore.

Navajo officials visited the Livermore, Calif.-based lab last July to discuss a formal partnership. It was signed in the tribal capital of Window Rock - the only such agreement the lab has reached with an American Indian tribe, said Lawrence Livermore spokeswoman Linda Lucchetti.

The Navajo Nation has long depended on revenue from coal mining, oil and gas, and lease payments to support its general fund. But tribal officials know those revenue sources could dry up and always are looking for ways to guarantee funding for future generations and to boost the tribal economy, where unemployment hovers around 50 percent.

The advantage for the Navajo Nation, which reaches into parts of New Mexico, Arizona and Utah, is its land base. At 27,000 square miles, the reservation is larger than that of any other American Indian tribe and is about the size of West Virginia.

The tribe already has some wind and solar projects in the works through its utility authority, including the Boquillas Wind Farm to be built on land owned by the Navajo Nation near Seligman. The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority is the majority owner, a position the tribe will seek with any large-scale energy projects moving forward, tribal officials have

Studies on carbon capture and sequestration, clean coal technology, and power plant design, engineering and siting appear to be geared toward another generating station on the reservation. The tribe once touted a planned \$3 billion, 1,500 megawatt coal-fired plant as one of the cleanest such plants in the nation even without capturing carbon emissions and storing them. Critics said there was no such thing as clean coal.

Shelly once denounced the so-called Desert Rock Energy Project but has said more recently that it's still on the drawing board.

The tribe's energy policy also covers uranium mining, which was banned on the reservation in 2005 over concerns about disease and death it brought upon Navajos. Shelly has said the tribe would monitor technology and techniques to extract the ore, as well as market conditions, to determine whether it might be viable in the future.

## **COBELL**

Continued from Page 1

oral argument is scheduled for Feb. 16 in Washington, D.C. before a three judge panel.

Frank said Craven believes the settlement is illegal and it's in the best interest of the Indian community that it be overturned. He said the Historical Accounting Class is not giving Class Members an opportunity to opt out if they feel their right to an injunction is more valuable than the monetary relief. In addition the structure of the settlement payments contradict what the D.C. circuit said would be permissible in earlier Cobell litigation, because it's not rationally related to the damages Class Members have suffered, he

"So you have a problem that Class Members who have suffered the most injury are getting the same as or less than Class Members who have suffered no injury at all," Frank said. "(Also) There's the problem of conflict of interest created by the fact that Ms. Cobell negotiated a settlement that would pay \$12.5 million dollars to herself."

The beneficiaries of the settlement fall into two groups; the Historical Accounting Class and the Trust Administration Class. Harrison's clients also question the fairness of the Accounting Class and the blanket \$1,000 payment everyone would

"The courts have been saying all this time, and the plaintiffs have said, the case is about an accounting, we want an accounting, and now they're saying 'Oh heck with the accounting, just give everybody \$1,000 and we'll call it even," Harrison said, adding that some account holders have a great deal of money go through their account while some people have very little. "One hundred and seven thousand Indians, collectively, only have \$15,000 between the whole bunch of them in their accounts in recent years, but every one of those 107,000 people is going to get \$1,000 ... to them the settlement probably seems like a very good deal."

Harrison also said the leftover money to be divided between land owners is based on a formula that measures how much money has gone thru a person's account, which would not be fair either.

"They're not going to be paid out based on how much (a person) lost or how much you have coming; it's going to be based on how much you got. The people who got paid improperly; If they got paid more than they had coming they get unjustly enriched again and if they got paid less than they had coming they're going to get victimized again, and that's just the way the formula works."

Last year some Individual Indian Money (IIM) account holders also questioned why their attorneys may receive more money than them from the \$3.4 billion settlement. The Class Counsel is requesting \$223 million, which is 14.75 percent of the 1.5 million dollars to be dispersed to Class Members. Lead attorneys for the settlement include Keith Harper, of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, and Dennis Gingold.

Harper toured Indian Country last year with other Cobell attorneys explaining the settlement and defended their request for remuneration. During a March 2010 meeting in Anadarko, Okla., Harper said the amount requested by the attorneys is not double the expenses. He then quoted Gingold, who said they are only asking for what their expenses were, and at the end of the day it's up to the courts to decide what they will get paid.

Class Counsel's letter to Class Members stated there is little doubt the appellants do not have the same desires or care about the needs of their fellow Class Members, and the appellants' behavior does not seem

to be in the best interest of Class Members.

Johns said she hasn't received many calls because of the letter, but most callers were supportive and one person just wanted to understand the settlement and the appeals.

"This has nothing to do with Elouise Cobell, please understand that. People always use her passing away and all that to try and make us feel bad, but this has nothing to do with her. The reason why I did what I did was based upon what I believe was wrong with the suit," Johns said. "Now it has nothing to do with the money, it has nothing to do with any of that. It has to do with the protection. I'm doing it because I believe that they're opening up the gate to a lot of serious problems for Indian Country in the next 20

Johns said she was upset when she initially found out that IIM account holders were, "jerked into this class action suit without our consent" and also that tribes weren't involved. She said since the class action was brought about by four individual Indians there was not the unique government-togovernment relationship. She feels individualizing Indians will help break up the tribes and references the Dawes Act to illustrate her point.

"You know the intent of the Dawes Act was to break up these tribes so that's one of the reasons why I was very concerned," she said. "We're standing basically by ourselves without the protection of our tribe."

Another concern is the land. Johns said the settlement was originally supposed to be about an accounting and not about the land. She said the lands were severely mismanaged by the federal government and people put too many cattle on their land so it was overgrazed and ended up with prairie dogs and the grasses were just not the same.

"...the biggest rip off was when the federal government sat down with the Cobell lawyers and made this deal because they were basically getting away free for this amount of mismanagement...," Johns said. "The federal government is winning on this one. They got home free without ever having to restore lands, and they didn't ever have to pay individual Indians for mismanagement of their land. They made this deal, and to me, it's an unholy deal that these attorneys have negotiated with the federal government so that they could collect \$99 million dollars. So who loses on this? They keep saying, 'Oh, you know, you're going to get this money.' What kind of money? You know maybe everybody is going to get maybe \$1,200 dollars ... and yet look at what we're losing."

Johns said the Cobell attorneys should have made sure the lands were restored back to their original state before an agreement was made. She said Class Counsel sat down with the federal government when they originally lost the case and that's when the government said it would throw in \$3.5 billion if an Administration Class was included for the mismanagement of lands, plus some of the money would be used to purchase lands that were

fractionated shares. "Now, there's another part of this that people didn't understand, was this whole \$1 billion dollars that they're giving the federal government to buy the land back. That's a bait and switch deal," she said. "Before that land that they purchased for \$100 can be given back to your tribe, your tribe has to pay the federal government \$100. So basically, all it did was give the federal government\$1 billion dollars to buy Indian land ... to me it's a shell game and the Indians are the ones who are losing out."

Johns other concerns are: the settlement is a complicated process, the Bureau of Indian Affairs could not participate in explaining to the individual Indians what their rights were, and it was not clear how to opt out. She said there are cases, with

members of the Three Affiliated Tribes for example, where Indian people are seeking justice in court but because of the class action settlement they cannot seek a claim against the federal government.

"If you didn't opt out, you're forever barred from ever going to court on mismanagement," Johns said. "One of the things that the federal government wanted to do was hurry up and get this done so they could wash their hands of us. They opted out."

Frank also mentioned the case of Ramona Two Shields v. United States, where "the government is arguing that the Cobell settlement is preventing these Indians from getting their fair recovery."

Johns also questions who the lead plaintiff is now. In other words who is directing Class Counsel? Lead Plaintiff Elouise Cobell died Oct. 16, 2010. The remaining plaintiffs are James Louise Larose, Thomas Maulson and Penny Cleghorn.

Johns said people may say she's being unfair by appealing the case but questions who is looking out for the Indian people - "People like the four of us that really truly want to make sure that this is good for the people," she said.

"Everybody's glad that I did it," Johns said. "My tribe passed a resolution that was totally against the Cobell (class action suit/settlement). I feel very confident that what I'm doing is in the best interest of ... my family and those who got up and objected to Cobell all along."

spokesperson McAllister told Native Times that Class Counsel is not commenting on the case.

Craven appeal be found online at http:// centerforclassactionfairness.blogspot. com/2011/08/cobell-v-salazarindian-trust-appeal-no.html

# COMMENTARY

# Slamming the door on the government thieves

NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY

**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Before you decide to throw rocks at Carol Good Bear, New Town, N. D., Kimberly Craven, Boulder, Colo., Charles Colombe, Mission, S. D., or Mary Lee Johns, Lincoln, Neb., the four plaintiffs appealing the Cobell settlement, stop and think about it because these four souls may be the last line of defense between you and another government rip-off.

Two of the complaints say the settlement does not include an accounting for how much money was lost. This is what Cobell's original suit set out to prove and they say that many of the class action members did not understand that they could have opted out of the entire settlement. The others object to the class of landowners that the settlement creates because they believe that each is different. They also believe that the Indian nations should have been involved in the process from the beginning.

What started out as a lawsuit that would address all of the land, oil, timber, money, grazing and other resources ripped off from the Indian people and the tribes for all of these years was pared down for expediency and rolled into the pitiful settlement that eventually evolved.

And now rather than address the very legitimate complaints of the four plaintiffs, the case has become one of finger pointing and accusations that overlook the main objections of the plaintiffs.

A year ago I wrote about one of the areas

of the settlement that was extremely onerous. The settlement gives \$2 billion dollars to the government to buy up fractionated tribal lands from individuals willing to sell and then turn them over to the tribes. We are talking about \$2 billion dollars which is two-thirds of the money secured in the settlement. This amounts to taking \$2 billion dollars and giving it back to the very government responsible for creating the mess in the beginning. It was the Bureau of Indian Affairs that failed so miserably to adequately maintain the land records which became such a mess that in some cases there are hundreds of relatives owning a single 160 acre allotment. Talk about fractionated. The poorly maintained records and the lack of a system to probate the wills of the Indian landowners was the main reason the land is so fractionated and it is the very government now willing to take \$2 billion dollars from the cash poor Indians to straighten out the mess they created that really bothers me and many, many Indian people.

Do you see the ridiculous joke that is being played upon the Indian people? It goes like this: "You (Indians) won \$3.4 billion dollars from us thieves, but we believe you should give us back \$2 billion of that money so we can straighten out the land mess we made while we were stealing from you."

The Cobell attorneys led by Dennis Gingold of Washington, D. C.,, wrote a letter on Jan. 20 that says, "The hopes and wishes of 500,000 individual Indians had been delayed by those four people. If it weren't for them the first payments would have been made before Thanksgiving"

When Gingold accused the complainants

of not sharing the desires of the 99.9 percent who support a prompt conclusion to "this longrunning acrimonious case," what was he trying to say?

The Indian people entered this case with high hopes. At one time a settlement could have been reached without litigation and the outcome would have put more than \$10 billion into the hands of the poorest people in America, and without all of the deal-making that finally deprived the Indian people of those extra billions.

How much money will eventually go to those Indian individuals Mr. Gingold is so concerned about? \$1,000? \$2,000? How about just enough to buy a good used car? The federal government is responsible for the theft of untold billions from the Indian people and to offer them a pittance and then demand that two-thirds of it is returned to clean up a mess they made is simply ludicrous.

The ways and means of achieving the settlement were never clearly made to the 500,000 plaintiffs in the case. The plaintiffs had no input in how the money was to be divided and disbursed. Should it not be the job of the attorneys in any case to keep the plaintiffs informed and to ask for their input?

Elouise Cobell is no longer with us. She died last year and she will never see the end results of the case she pushed for nearly 16 years. The Indian people have waited for more than 100 years and the one thing they have learned in dealing with the federal government is patience.

Appeals must be heard by a federal appeals court before any money can be distributed.



Tim Giago

The first appeals court hearing will take place on Feb. 16 in Washington, D. C. at the U. S. District Court of Appeals. For all Indians that can afford to be there, please be there.

So put that rock back in your pocket because Good Bear, Craven, Colombe and Johns may be your last hope to get a just and deserving settlement from the United States government after centuries of dishonor. Do not put a lid on this settlement for a few ounces of silver.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

### **Letters to the Editor:**

#### Tribal leaders prefer negotiation to litigation for water rights

Chickasaws and Choctaws share many things with other Oklahomans, including the desire to pave the way for a better future for our children and grandchildren.

We, the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations, currently working among others, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to develop a regional water plan. Having a science-based plan is critical to sustainable management of water resources to support economic development, recreation, household use and to provide for the environmental health of our lakes, rivers and streams. It is vital that state and tribal leaders work together to ensure a water future that will meet the needs of every Oklahoman in urban and rural areas while still preserving the natural beauty and environmental health of Oklahoma.

We cannot state strongly

enough that the tribes have no interest in disrupting any individual's current use of water that is made pursuant to a valid permit. The lawsuit filed against state officials and Oklahoma City was never intended to take action against individuals. We stand united with the farmers, ranchers, business owners and residents who depend upon our shared water resources.

Our goal is to have our voice – and our rights – respected and included in any decision on proposals to remove waters from our homelands. While we are confident we have strong legal claims, we want to make it clear that we have always preferred negotiation rather than litigation.

We intend nothing in our legal claim that would require the general stream adjudication proposed by the State of Oklahoma. This type of massive legal process places a serious burden on thousands of Oklahomans, who would have to bear the enormous expense of the state's legal action, potentially lasting for decades, and it would not address or resolve the issues that demand our immediate attention.

State and tribal leaders are fully capable of resolving differences without undergoing the long and tedious process of general stream adjudication that has the potential to have such negative consequences for all the citizens of Oklahoma.

We propose, once again, that state and tribal leaders reach across the table, roll up our sleeves and work together to develop a plan for sustainable management of this most precious resource for the greater good of all Oklahomans.

Together, we can all work toward a sustainable water future for Oklahoma.

Governor Bill Anoatubby, Chickasaw Nation

Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Choctaw Nation

#### Burden of proof on Vietnam War veterans

Vietnam veterans who never had boots-on-ground Vietnam, who are sick from presumptive exposure to agent orange dioxin poisoning are tied up in paperwork. The burden of proof is placed solely upon the veteran. Burden of proof is mainly directed to those service members who never had boots-on-ground. Presumptive exposure for these service members is most difficult of all to provide evidence for.

In nearly all cases, the Veterans Affairs (VA) requires evidence relative to exposure to this deadly herbicide. The mere fact that the service member without boots-onground can show proof of military service, and proof of having been awarded the Vietnam Service Medal and medical proof of illness is in nearly all cases, not evidence enough for VA disability.

Except for those who had boots-on-ground.

The herbicide was sprayed on the lands of the Republic of Vietnam.

Consequently, much of this

herbicide found its way miles out into the South China Sea because of run-off. This spraying was authorized by the Department of Defense and our Federal Government. The governing authorities knew the use of this deadly herbicide could be harmful to members of the U.S. Armed Forces engaged in the Vietnam War on land, at sea and in the air. The Institute Of Medicine (IOM) report has proven the toxicity of Agent Orange Dioxin. This was an irresponsible action on the part of our Government to poison we who served. That authority should be held accountable. In 1991, the Congress passed a Bill that authorized the VA to approve all Agent Orange exposure claims for disability. In 2002, the Bush administration took away authorized disability claims from those service members who did not have boots-on-ground Vietnam.

Ask why do we who served and fought in this war need insurmountable evidence of proof? Evidence other than the above evidence provided by the veteran? Is the afore mentioned evidence not enough that we were there?

No matter if we were on land, at sea or in the air? Is this just another way our Government has authorized the VA to make disability claims impossible to get, by creating unnecessary paperwork placed upon the service member? The reality is, we were there and we were poisoned.

If more evidence is required by the VA, then that burden of proof should be on the VA, other than evidence the veteran has submitted for disability health care claim for dioxin poisoning, to include due compensation.

Our Legislators must be urged to do what is right and correct the errors made in times past.

The Senate and Congress Veterans Affairs Committees need to approve Senate Bill S-1629 and House Bill HR-3612. These Bills then need to be sent to the Floor of both Houses and swiftly passed.

John J. Bury, US Navy/retired Vietnam Veteran Media, Pa.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.



918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com
Equal Housing Lender
Native American Owned



NATIVE
TIMES
recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...

shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint
Tile • Trim • Plumbing
Electrical • Solar Panels
Windmills • Winterizing
Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com – Mayes & Cherokee Counties –



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors
Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each

Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50

36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00

36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

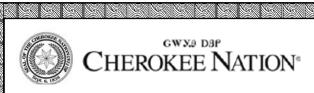
Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

www.nativetimes.com

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED** 



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES AT** W.W. HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEOUAH **POSITIONS CLOSE 2/7/2012** 

> #5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT #5745 Medical Technologist/R/FT #6105 Medical Technologist II/R/FT

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department** PO Roy 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Or Visit our website at: www.cherokee.org

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

#### RFQ / RFP

Ponca Nation of Oklahoma • 20 White Eagle Drive • Ponca City, Oklahoma 74601

#### **Request for Qualifications**

The Ponca Nation is seeking qualified Design-Build Construction firms for renovation  $of single family Tribal homes. \ The scope of the design-build services includes, but is not the scope of the design and the scope of the s$ limited to; limited engineering services and design, concrete, electrical, mechanical, doors and windows, drywall, carpentry, insulation, roofing, and structural aspects to provide the Tribal tenants/occupants a safe and livable environment. Initially, five (5) homes will be let by the Ponca Nation, and upon satisfactory completion, another 25 potential homes will be added by modification. The total project will be valued at approximately \$750,000. Selection of a Design-Build construction firm will be based on evaluation of the following criterion:

Firm Experience with renovation of potentially occupied homes, with points available from 0-25;

Staff Renovation Construction Experience / Qualifications, with points available from 0-25;

Partner A-E firm renovation code evaluation experience,

with points available from 0 - 15;

Firm must demonstrate the ability to manage multiple subcontractors at multiple locations, with points available from 0-15;

Demonstrate the ability to meet a total renovation schedule of 300 calendar days, with points available from 0-10;

Verifiable Indian Preference (51% CDIB verifiable) with points available of five (5) for the construction firm and five (5) points for the design firm

This project is subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 12 USC 1701u and 24 CFR part 135 which implement the Act. These regulations will be incorporated into all contracts and sub-contracts. Applicants can be a partnership, corporation, association, and/or other legal entity which will have contractual responsibility for the project. A proposed joint venture should provide profiles for all firms in the joint venture. This project will be performed using U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant funding. The Corps of Engineers will provide technical support at every phase of the project. Provide four (4) Qualification packets, including all items as stated above, for selection. Qualifications packets must be received no later than 4:00 pm, CST, February 24, 2012, at the Ponca Nation, Mailing Address: 20 White Eagle Drive, Ponca City, OK 74601, Attention: Mr. Stanley Smith, Construction Manager. Further information may be obtained by calling (580)



#### Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of the Administration

## **Request for Resumes**

January 7, 2012 marked the beginning of a new era in the long and proud history of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the beginning of a new Tribal Administration.

The newly elected Principal Chief has a new vision for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. It is a vision that includes upholding traditional Muscogee ways and values while at the same time elevating the Nation's government and business operations to unprecedented levels of effectiveness, accountability and service. To accomplish this ambitious vision, we need to fill multiple leadership positions across the Nation's administrative, health, education, social services, law enforcement, judiciary, and business operations.

#### Potential candidates should possess the following

- Experience
- Education
- Proven track record of leadership and accomplishment
- Demonstrate a winning attitude
- Work well in a team environment
- Strong commitment to the Administration's vision and goals for the Muscogee (Creek) people.

#### If you meet the qualifications...

Submit your resume or C.V. to <a href="mailto:LSpaulding@MekkoTiger.com">LSpaulding@MekkoTiger.com</a> and Include the following:

- Experience
- Skills in field of endeavor
- Explanation of why you feel you are a good fit for this Tribal Administration

Attach examples of your winning attitude, how you have made a difference, your leadership successes and how you have worked well in a team environment to achieve ambitious goals and a shared vision.

#### We want you! Join us and make a difference!

## **Ce'puyacetos ce!**

For more information about Muscogee (Creek) Nation, visit our website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

All positions are subject to Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Native American hiring preference

#### **SERVICES**

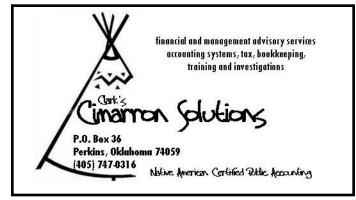
### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor





## EVENTS



meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.

**THIRD TUESDAY of even** 

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Room TBA, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

\*Email your powwow or

nativetimes.com. Name,

date, time, place and

other event info to: Lisa@

contact information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY** Cherokee Artists Association EVERY 2ND SATURDAY

numbered months - The **Central Oklahoma Cherokee** Alliance meets at Mayflower **UCC Church, Oklahoma City** at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16. **FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP

Phone: (918) 230-3759

one week ahead of time.

**Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org **MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition** Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Gather for fellowship and friendship. Volunteers welcome. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** 

Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 12** Free tobacco cessation course from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. çççççWhitney Nuttle (918) 762-3873 or Suzy Knife Chief (918) 762-2153.

**FEBRUARY 9** Blood drive hosted by **Cherokee Nation in the** Ballroom/Restaurant building, 9 am to 3:30 pm. Donors will receive an ice scraper, choice of t-shirt, free health screenings and **Donor Rewards Points.** Donors from 11:30 until the end of the drive will enjoy free pizza. For more info or

to make an appointment,

contact Oklahoma Blood

Institute at 877-340-8777 or visit www.obi.org.

**FEBRUARY 11 Freedmen History Program** at the Martin Luther King Center, 627 N 3rd Street, Muskogee Okla. at 1pm. Free and open to the general public. For more info call 918-683-2753, 405-227-9810 or visit www. freedmen5tribes.com

February 16-18 **Tulsa Indian Art Festival at** the Glenpool Conference Center, HWY 75 and 121st Street. Entry forms at www. tulsaindianartfestival.com.

**FEBRUARY 18** The Arrington - Mcspadden **All Indian Rodeo Association** will have their first rodeo of 2012 in Tahlequah Okla. For more info email

dwrshirley@aol.com

**FEBRUARY 22 & 29 Smoke-Free Homes** workshops sponsored by Osage Nation and Native American M-Power from 10 a.m. until Noon. sponsored by Osage Nation and Native American M-Power, are held from 10 a.m. until noon. Info call Osage Nation **Native American M-Power** at (918) 287-5380.

**FEBRUARY 25** Wild Onion Dinner 11am to 3pm at Indian Fellowship Baptist Church, 6130 So. 58th W. Ave, Oakhurst, Okla. Info call Mary Kelly 918-636-8394

**FEBRUARY 25** 3rd Annual Hoops Basketball Tournament - Men's 5 on 5 Basketball Entry Fee: \$110



USEPA Region 7 Haskell University graduates, January 24, 2012. (Left to right) Stan Holder, Kristina Stine, Amber Tucker, Tyrone

## Haskell, EPA promote environment, science careers

LAWRENCE, Kan. (AP) - Haskell Indian Nations University is partnering with the Environmental Protection Agency to promote science and environmental careers.

The university in Lawrence and the EPA's office in Kansas signed an agreement Wednesday to promote interaction between Haskell students and EPA staff.

Karl Brooks, the EPA district's regional administrator, says he hopes the agreement will encourage more Haskell students to apply for internships and jobs with the EPA.

He says it also should prompt EPA staff to help Haskell faculty with research, and give Haskell students knowledge they could use to help their tribes with environmental issues.

The Lawrence Journal-World reports EPA staff members also will be considered for adjunct faculty positions at the school.

## Fighting Sioux backers plan signature push for name

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - Supporters of the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname plan a final push for petition

They're setting up Thursday in the North Dakota Capitol and in Fargo's West Acres shopping mall.

Nickname backers have two petitions. One would restore a state law that requires UND to keep the nickname. The other would change the North Dakota Constitution to say UND teams will always be known as the Fighting Sioux.

The proposed constitutional amendment petition doesn't need to be submitted until August. But the petition that restores the pronickname state law is due at midnight Tuesday. It needs at least 13,500 signatures.

The university is phasing out the name. The NCAA contends the nickname is offensive to American Indians and says UND will face sanctions for its continued use.

# College Scholarships

### **American Indian, Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Students**

\$450,000+ awarded each year! All Undergraduate Majors Are Eligible. Graduate Scholarships Available.



## **Applications Due April 4th!**

**Download Application: aiefprograms.org** 

National Relief Charities
Building Strong, Self-Sufficient American Indian Communities

American Indian Education Foundation 2401 Eglin Street • Rapid City, SD 57703 (605) 342-9968

MORE NEWS EVERY DAY | WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

## FJJMA names Heather Ahtone assistant curator

NORMAN, Okla. - The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art at the University of Oklahoma has added Heather Ahtone to its ranks as a new assistant curator. Ahtone, who has served as a research associate for the Diversity in Geosciences Project at the OU School of Geology and Geophysics, joins the museum as the new James T. Bialac Assistant Curator of Native American and Non-Western Art.

"The University Oklahoma and the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art are excited to announce Heather Ahtone's new role as assistant curator," said Ghislain d'Humières, director of the museum. "Heather's experience and education in Native American studies will make her a valuable member of the museum's staff."

Ahtone completed her master's degree at OU in 2006 and received her associate's degree at the Institute of American Indian Arts in 1993. Her new title is named in honor of James T. Bialac, a private art collector based in Phoenix, Ariz. Bialac donated to the university his collection of nearly 4,000 works in 2010 and established the James T. Bialac Native American Art Collection at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art.

Previously, Ahtone worked Southwestern



Association of Indian Arts and the Institute of American Indian Arts Museum, both in Santa Fe, and for Ralph Appelbaum Associates in New York. She has curated independently and has taught Native American art as an adjunct instructor at the OU School of Art and Art History for the past four years. Ahtone is a member of the Chickasaw Nation and is a descendent of the Choctaw

She has published articles multiple journals, including American Indian Horizons, International Journal of Arts in Society, Indian Market Magazine and Wicazo Sa.

"We are excited to have Heather Ahtone as a new addition to the staff of the FJJMA," said Mark A. White, the Eugene B. Adkins Curator and Chief Curator. "Her

experience and enthusiasm for Native American art will be a wonderful asset to the

Since 2007, Ahtone has taught American Indian Women in Art at OU. She also has instructed students in historical bookmaking within the context of Native American culture. In 2007, Ahtone was recognized in Oklahoma Magazine's 40 Under 40, an annual feature recognizing the state's distinguished young professionals in business, law, politics and the arts.

Ahtone has received several fellowships from multiple organizations, including the Chickasaw Nation Higher Education, the American Indian College Fund and the University of Kansas. She also has given presentations at multiple conferences, including the College Art Association.

"OU has a legacy of supporting Native American art and artists that is known worldwide," said Ahtone. "I am excited to join my esteemed colleagues in building on this legacy. I believe the vision for the museum's future is bright."

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus.

### WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

#### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Discount.\*\*\*

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment - Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details.

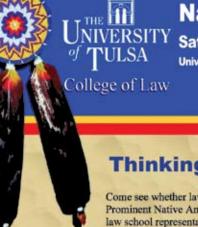
\*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com



Member FDIC TENOR



#### **Native American Pre-Law Day**

NIVERSITY Saturday, March 3, 2012 • 8:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. University of Tulsa College of Law • 3120 East 4th Place, Tulsa Ok 74104

#### Thinking about a Career in Law?

Come see whether law school is for you & learn how you can prepare for law school. Prominent Native American attorneys will discuss their backgrounds and careers, law school representatives will provide information about the law school admissions process and how to finance a legal education, and current Indian law students will talk about what law school is really like!

The workshop, sponsored by The Law School Admissions Council and DiscoverLaw.org, is co-hosted by Oklahoma City University School of Law, the University of Oklahoma College of Law, and the University of Tulsa College of Law, is open to all American Indian college and senior high school students. A limited number of scholarships are available to assist with travel costs for students outside easy driving distance of

Space is limited, and registration is on a first come first serve basis. Please register in advance. Walk-ins are available only as space permits. To register, please contact University of Tulsa College of Law, at lawadmissions@utulsa.edu or 918-631-2406 by February 21, 2012.

Following the Native American Pre-Law Day, all attendees of the pre-law event are invited to a private tour of the Enduring Spirit Exhibit of Native American art and artifacts at The Gilcrease Museum from 4;40-5:30 p.m.

The University of Tube College of Law provides equality of opportunity is legal education for all persons, including faculty, employers, applicants for adminstor, enrolled students,

Handcrafted Native American Flutes MADE BY NATIVE HANDS WWW.JWCUSTOMFLUTES.COM

## Navajo Code Talker dies in Arizona

WINDOW ROCK, Arizona (AP)

– Another Navajo Code Talker has died.

Thurmon Begay says his father, Sgt. Jimmie Begay, died Feb. 1 after a fall. He was 86.

Begay was one of about 420 Navajos trained to transmit messages in a code based on the then-unwritten Navajo language. The Code Talkers sent thousands of messages without error on Japanese troop movements, battlefield tactics and other communications, helping to win World War II.

Jimmie Begay enlisted in 1942 at age 17 and served in the 1st Marine Division, 2nd Battalion. He eventually returned to the Navajo reservation and retired from the Navajo Forest Products Industries in 1985.

Flags are being lowered across the reservation through Sunday in Begay's honor. Funeral services are set for Saturday in Fort Defiance. Burial will follow at a family plot.



Jimmie Begay

# Woman makes charity runs for 'the rez'

The goods were bound for the town of Oglala on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, a place that continues to suffer from extreme poverty.

TOM FAGIN
Gillette News Record

GILLETTE, Wyo. (AP) – Dee Stotts wished that she had brought a bigger trailer.

In 45 minutes, donations to her third "Run for The Rez" had already filled up the bed of her pickup truck and most of the two-horse trailer attached to its bumper. She would have brought the bigger one, but hadn't counted on the big turnout to the old Great Western Auto Brokers parking lot on a recent morning.

"It looked like a drive-thru," Stotts said of the line of vehicles that came to drop off toys, food, dishes, clothing and appliances.

The goods were bound for the town of Oglala on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, a place that continues to suffer from extreme poverty. Other donations would go to the people who were put out of their homes by a fire along Emerson Avenue on Jan. 21.

The 45-year-old can relate to the struggles on the reservation because she grew up in poverty in Seattle, wearing donated clothes.

Stotts also has a soft spot for stray dogs that go hungry on the reservation. She will haul out a total of 200 pounds of dog food from Joe's Pet Depot.

The big outpouring of support was a thrill to Stotts, who has been filling trailers and driving them to the reservation since November.

The owner of D&G Cleaners is no stranger to acts of charity. For the past two years, her business has offered to clean the houses of cancer patients for free.

An ovarian cancer survivor herself, strands of pink run through



STEVE REMICH / GILLETTE NEWS RECORD / AP PHOTO

Jamie Clark, left, and Dee Stotts organize donations on Thursday, Jan. 26, 2012 in Gillette, Wyo. When Stotts learned about the intense poverty on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota, she decided to collect donations of clothing, food, toys and other items and bring them to the people there.

her long, dark hair as a sign of solidarity.

Stotts rides a hog and hangs out with local motorcycle groups. Her Harley-Davidson jacket covers her tattoo-covered arms.

Tough appearances aside, she was sentimental when she recounted the last run, before Christmas.

She remembers vividly the expressions of children on the reservation when they found Christmas gifts loaded on a handmade sleigh. It was built on the reservation and the gifts came from people in Gillette and were put in 386 hand-knit stockings.

"When they come up and they start giving you hugs and they really are appreciative, you know that you're doing right," Stotts said.

She has Christmas pictures on her iPad and smartphone. They show stray dogs and smiling children cuddling up with new stuffed animals.

It had been a photo on Pine Ridge that sparked her interest in starting the drives. The image of poverty was from a CBS documentary that she spotted on a friend's Facebook wall.

The trailer she will take for her latest run will be packed with items that include canned goods and used clothing. Donations from Back to The Rack filled out about half of the trailer. Stuffed animals and a three-foot-tall plastic superman joined the haul.

Extra doors, windows and

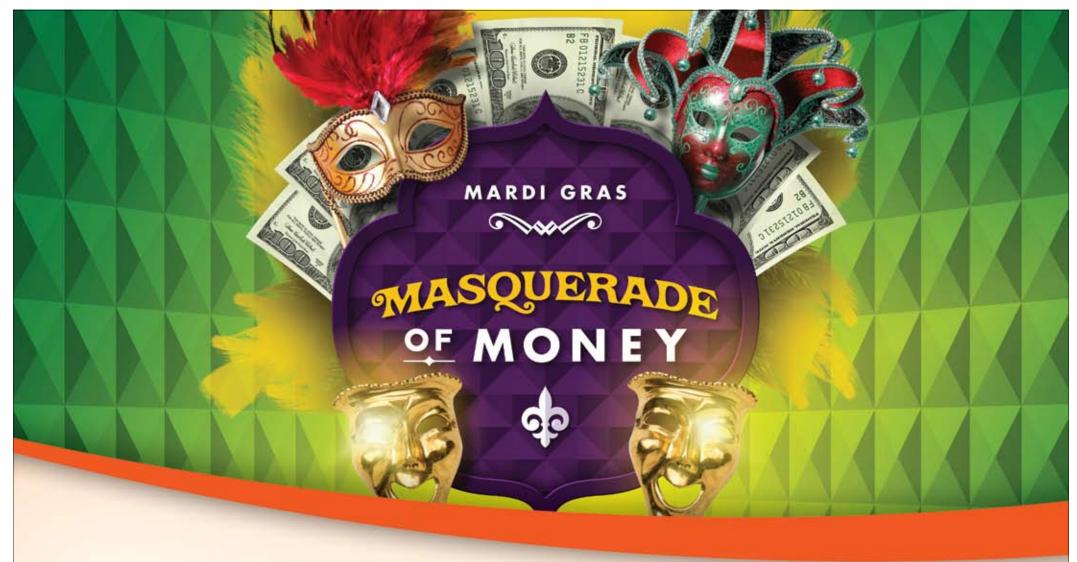
plywood for renovations came by way of her friend Tracii Shutters from Lickety Split Cleaning and Property Preservation Service.

"One piece of plywood can help someone fix a hole in the wall," Shutters said.

Angie Smith was one of those who came to drop off clothes that she no longer needed. She said that she could relate to the hardship on the reservation because she had been hurt in an accident three years ago and still can't work.

Stotts plans to continue hosting drives every two months for the reservation.

It is a small effort with a big reward to the woman who grew up with so little herself.



Win your share of over

\$**90,000** in Cash!

Saturday, February 25 6 pm – 10 pm



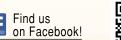
Catch some beads and join us for Masquerade of Money at Osage Casino! On Saturday, February 25 from 6pm–9pm we're holding \$500 Cash drawings five times every hour at each location. Then at 10pm, 21 lucky guests will take home \$1,000 Cash across all locations! Play with your Club Osage card February 12–23 to enter. Find your fortune this February at Osage Casino during Masquerade of Money!



JOIN CLUB OSAGE TODAY!

Visit osagecasinos.com for details.

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska • (918) 699-7777 • osagecasinos.com •





©2012 Osage Casino. Must be 18 to participate. Guests must be actively playing with their Club Osage card to be eligible for promotional drawings. Must be present to win \$500 Cash drawings. Need not be present to win \$1,000 Cash grand prize. Grand prize must be claimed within 30 days. Management reserves all rights. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700.

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Choctaw singer performing this weekend
- Tulsa Indian Art Festival in Glenpool
- Art exhibit addresses water issues









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 7

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

FEBRUARY 17, 2012

# Freedmen descendants seek own Okla. tribe

**JARREL WADE**Tulsa World

TULSA, Okla. (AP) – The descendants of former slaves of Muscogee (Creek) Nation members have petitioned the U.S. government to be recognized as their own tribe - a move that could set a legal precedent for thousands of Indian freedmen descendants around the country.

The petition meets the requirements set by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and should be accepted, the freedmen group's leader told the Tulsa

If accepted, the petition could make the Creek freedmen descendants the first such group to become their own separate tribe.

The group's leaders are now waiting for BIA officials to confirm that they have accepted the petition and have begun reviewing it.

Ron Graham, the 47-year-old president of the Muscogee Creek Indian Freedman Band, was raised as a Creek Indian until he was 15.

But he and other Creek freedmen descendants were kicked out of the Creek Nation in 1979 by a vote of the nation's members.

Graham's father, Theodore "Blue" Graham, practiced the

**See FREEDMEN** *Continued on Page 5* 



VILLIAM LAUER/LINCON JOURNAL STAR FILE

In this June 3, 2004 file photo, Pine Ridge police officers Mirian Laybad, left, Sgt. Oscar Hudspeth, center, and Lt. Mitch Wisecarver confiscate cases of beer at a checkpoint just north of Whiteclay, Neb. The Oglala Sioux Tribe announced Thursday, Feb. 6, 2012, that it will file a \$500 million federal lawsuit against some of the nation's largest beer distributors, alleging that they knowingly contributed to the chronic alcoholism, health problems and other social ills on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The lawsuit also targets the four beer stores in Whiteclay, a Nebraska town (pop. 11) on the South Dakota border that sells about 5 million cans of beer per year.

# Fired Cherokee Nation employees file lawsuit

**DANA ATTOCKNIE** *Native American Times* 

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – Some former Cherokee Nation employees call their last day on the job "Bloody Thursday."

On Oct. 20, 2011, one day after newly elected Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker took the Oath of Office, a series



Chief Bill John Baker

of alleged mass firings spread throughout the Cherokee Nation headquarters.

"There were several people he let go at that time; at a higher level than what I was," Rachel McAlvain, former director of health policy for Health Services, said. "(Then) It was Nov. 8 (2011); a Tuesday morning when they called my supervisor and let her know ... the Chief wanted me out of the organization. I had no idea. I went home that day and was placed on administrative leave until that Friday. Obviously I didn't have any idea (that would happen) because it's illegal. According to the constitution, you can't do that."

McAlvain along with Felicia Olaya, Sammye Rusco, and Paula Ragsdale have filed suit against Baker for violation

See LAWSUIT Continued on Page 4

# Tribe suing beer companies for alcohol problems

GRANT SCHULTE Associated Press

LINCOLN, Nebraska (AP) – A Native American tribe sued some of the world's largest beer makers Feb. 9, claimingtheyknowinglycontributed to devastating alcohol-related problems on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in the state of South Dakota.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe of South Dakota said it is demanding \$500 million in damages for the cost of health care, social services and child rehabilitation caused by chronic alcoholism on the reservation, which encompasses some of the most impoverished counties in the United

States

One in four children born on the reservation suffer from fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, and the average life expectancy is estimated between 45 and 52 years – the shortest in North America except for Haiti, according to the lawsuit. The average American life expectancy is 77.5 years.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court of Nebraska also targets four beer stores in Whiteclay, a Nebraska town near the reservation's border that, despite having only about a dozen residents, sold nearly 5 million cans of beer in 2010.

Tribal leaders and activists blame

the Nebraska businesses for chronic alcohol abuse and bootlegging on the Pine Ridge reservation, where all alcohol is banned. They say most of the stores' customers come from the reservation, which spans southwest South Dakota and dips into Nebraska.

"You cannot sell 4.9 million 12-ounce cans of beer and wash your hands like Pontius Pilate, and say we've got nothing to do with it being smuggled," said Tom White, the tribe's Omaha-based attorney.

Owners of the four beer stores in Whiteclay were unavailable or declined comment Thursday when contacted

See BEER Continued on Page 3

# AG asks Okla. high court to decide water case

TIM TALLEY

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt asked the state Supreme Court Feb. 10 to decide the rights of two Oklahoma-based American Indian tribes to water in major streams in their historic territories in southeastern Oklahoma.

Pruitt filed a lawsuit on behalf of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, asking the court to assume original jurisdiction over a comprehensive stream adjudication of the water rights of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations. The Supreme Court did not immediately schedule a hearing.

The request was made six months after the tribes filed a federal lawsuit to bar the state and Oklahoma City from transporting water from the region and just one week after Gov. Mary Fallin asked the tribes mediate a solution. The tribes refused to drop the federal lawsuit.

In a statement, Fallin said state officials were reluctant to file the Supreme Court case. She said she hopes a water policy can still be developed through negotiation "without a prolonged and expensive legal battle."

The tribes' attorney, Michael Burrage,

said he had not seen the state's petition and declined to comment.

Choctaw Nation Chief Greg Pyle and Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby released a joint statement that said the state's legal action will not resolve the federal court issues that are at the heart of the water rights dispute.

"We have made plain in writing that we want to protect the existing permitted uses of water for all Oklahomans and have hopes of reaching a resolution outside of the courtroom," the statement said.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers built Sardis Lake, which straddles Latimer and Pushmataha counties. The tribes claim that an 1830 treaty gives them authority over water resources in their southeastern Oklahoma jurisdictions. State and city officials say the tribes relinquished those rights in subsequent treaties

The state's filing is the first step in what could become a lengthy, complicated process to determine who has the rights to stream and surface water in the Kiamichi, Clear Boggy and Muddy Boggy basins. The state's petition identifies almost 200 defendants and says

See WATER Continued on Page 5

# Okla. boxer sets sights on trip to London Olympics

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

PAWHUSKA, Okla. – The Midway Café is calm for a Saturday morning, but perhaps not for Pawhuska, the sleepy town in Osage County. People quietly chat at tables and the counter.

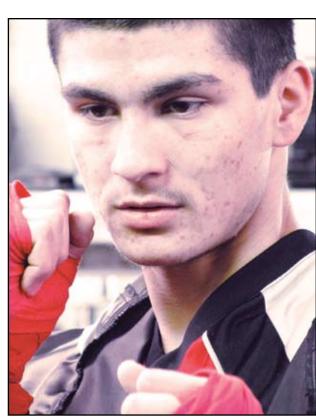
"Have you heard of Ben Cottingham?"

When asked, a waitress at the cash register thinks before replying she has never heard of him. That could change in a matter of weeks.

The 20-year-old Pawhuska native is a boxer who can see a straight shot to London and the Summer Olympics. Cottingham, Osage and Seneca-Cayuga, is the only prospect for this level of competition coach Earl Gilkey has trained in his 40 years of boxing and mixed martial arts experience.

"I've had several other champions, but not at this magnitude, of the

See BOXER Continued on Page 7



KAREN SHADE / NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES PHOTO

Ben Cottingham prepares to spar Feb. 11. Cottingham's goal is to box for the USA during the London Olympics this summer.

# Navajo official agrees to restitution for bonuses

FELICIA FONSECA
Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) – The last of five elected officials in the Navajo Nation community of Tuba City has resolved allegations that she received part of \$80,000 in bonus money in violation of tribal ethics laws.

Charlene Nezentered an agreement Tuesday with the tribe's Ethics and Rules Office to repay the \$20,000 she received to the Tuba City Chapter. She'll keep her position as secretary and treasurer of the chapter until the community picks new leaders. She also cannot seek elected office for five years and until the money is paid back in full.

"I made the decision, so I have to face the consequence, and that's the

consequence," Nez said.

Tuba City is one of the Navajo Nation's largest communities, about 75 miles northeast of Flagstaff, and borders the Hopi reservation. It also is among about 30 of the reservation's 110 chapters that have been granted increased authority over local finances.

Tribal ethics and rules investigator Lewnell Harrison said the elected officials, who make up the Council of Naat'aanii, received the bonus money from late 2009 to 2011. The investigation into the chapter's finances is ongoing, he said.

Cases against the other four officials – Helen Herbert, Jimmy Holgate, Robert Yazzie and Max Goldtooth – have been resolved. Yazzie and Goldtooth were found in

violation of ethics laws following a hearing, while Herbert signed a deal with the Ethics and Rules Office. The office was granted deferred judgment in Holgate's case because he failed to show up for his hearing, Harrison

Each of the elected officials, whose four-year terms would have expired in January, has been ordered to pay restitution to the chapter house and was removed from office.

Undertriballaw, the elected officials are paid for attendance at chapter meetings and can be reimbursed for travel, but Harrison said the tribe doesn't allow for Christmas bonuses and other compensation to them for doing their jobs.

"I think it sends a message out to other chapters that these type of activities, they won't be tolerated on the Navajo Nation," Harrison said.

Nez said she was under the impression for months that it was OK to receive bonus money but at some point realized it was wrong and contacted the Ethics and Rules Office. Ethics charges were filed against the five in August.

Nez said she now will work with the Tribal Council Delegate Joshua Lavar Butler, who represents Tuba City, to find replacements for the elected officials who are honest, accountable and transparent. The community can appoint people to serve in the positions until an election is held.

"I'm hoping the people do vote someone in like that, individuals that have those same values," she said. "Yes, I had them, and I have to find them again."

Meanwhile, two members of the chapter's administrative staff were relieved from duties Tuesday, and the chapter house was shut down for the day. The Tuba City District Court recently granted an injunction against those staff members to protect financial and other documents.

Butler said the chapter's accounts also have been frozen and he would seek to have the locks changed at the chapter house but work to ensure services to the community aren't interrupted.

"I'm embarrassed," he said. "I'm very embarrassed because this is a black eye for local governance on the Navajo Nation."

## Oklahoma AG sues tribe over casino

ROCHELLE HINES
Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – Oklahoma's attorney general filed paperwork Feb. 7 to stop the Kialegee Tribal Town from building a controversial casino in a Tulsa suburb.

The lawsuit, submitted by Attorney General Scott Pruitt in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma, seeks a preliminary injunction to keep the Kialegee Tribal Town and developers from continuing work on the proposed Red Clay Casino in Broken Arrow. The Wetumka-based tribal town hasn't secured federal approval of a lease for the property and has no jurisdiction over the land, which Pruitt argues violate state compact requirements for Indian gaming.

The Kialegees do not have the authority to pick and choose which steps to follow in the federal or state approval process of establishing casinos," Pruitt said. "The complaint filed today is to protect the interests of Oklahoma and its citizens, and ensure the rule of law is being followed."

The casino has drawn protests from hundreds of residents in the city of about 99,000 who worry the gaming center is too close to a proposed elementary school and pre-kindergarten facility and could bring a flurry of criminal activity to the area. The residents have contacted members of the state's congressional delegation, who also have voiced opposition.

"I took up this fight to stop the casino because I believe our community should have their voice heard and the rule of law should be followed," said Rep. John Sullivan, R-Okla., whose congressional district includes Broken Arrow.

The land is owned by two Muscogee Creek Nation members who tried to transfer their parcel to the tribal town. A judge deferred a decision on whether the land can be leased to the federal government. The tribal town's members are affiliated with the larger Creek tribe, which has jurisdiction in the area.

Crews already have begun bulldozing the 20-acre site near the Creek Turnpike, even though the land issue is unresolved and the tribal town's application for a gaming license is still under review by the National Indian Gaming Commission.

Dennis Whittlesey, an attorney representing the tribe of about 450, believes further approval is not needed to the build

the casino. He said Tuesday he hadn't seen the lawsuit, and called it "premature."

"There is no federal jurisdiction over this matter until and unless Class III gaming commences and that is months away," Whittlesey said by telephone from Florida. "We will be filing a motion to dismiss when and if it (the lawsuit) is ever served."

Pruitt submitted the 21-page lawsuit to the court, but said the court hadn't filed it yet. His spokeswoman, Diane Clay, said a lawsuit isn't considered filed in the Northern District until the court assigns a number to the document, which hadn't been done by late Tuesday.

In Oklahoma, Class III gaming includes electronic games that are similar to Las Vegas-style slot machines and skill games like video poker. Tribes are required to enter into state compacts to offer Class III games.

A telephone listing for the tribal town's leader, or king, Tiger Hobia, couldn't be found on Tuesday. Hobia has said the casino is an economic opportunity that would help the tribe become more self-sufficient and less reliant on the federal government. The tribe plans to build a temporary facility in the spring.

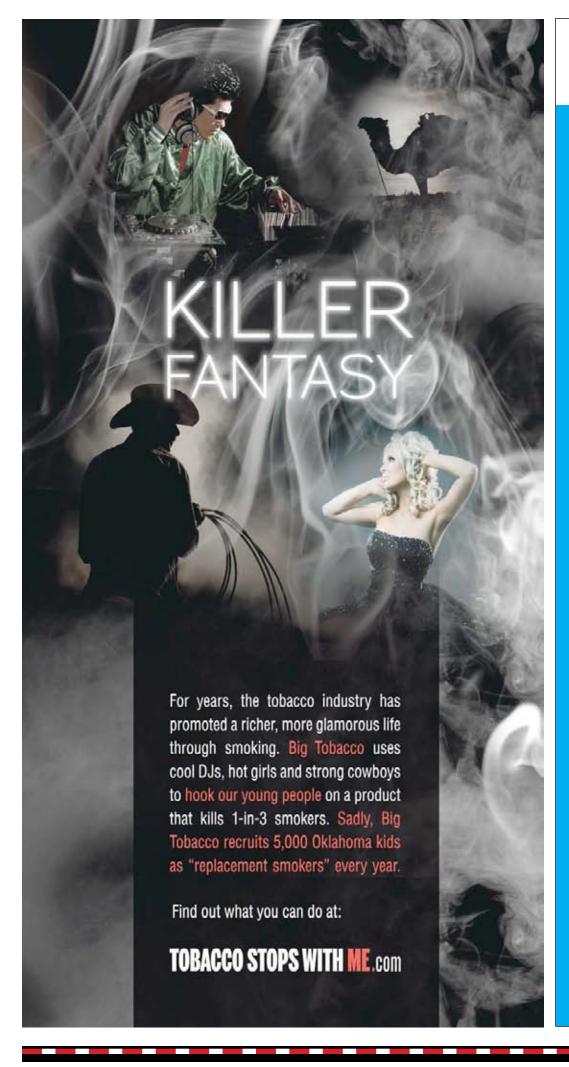
# Okla. receives more \$90M for Indian housing

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded more than \$90 million in Indian Housing Block Grant allocations to 31 tribes in Oklahoma.

HUD officials said last Wednesday Oklahoma's share is part of more than \$400 million that was distributed nationwide. The money is intended to benefit low-income families living on Native American reservations or in other communities.

According to HUD, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma received the largest single amount of any tribe in the state – more than \$29 million. The Muscogee Creek Nation was awarded more than \$15 million; the Chickasaw Nation got more than \$12 million and more than \$11 million went to the Choctaw Nation.

The funding can be used for housing development, crime prevention and safety and housing services to eligible families.





## for ourselves. for our families. for future generations.

Oklahoma ranks 48th nationally for health. That is unacceptable. We can no longer sit idle when our health hangs in the balance.

There is a plan to create healthier lives for all Oklahomans - the **Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan**. Endorsed by the legislature, this plan outlines a clear path of action to save lives and improve our health. Join us by supporting:

Restore the rights of local communities to pass smokefree policies that are stronger than state law

Assure health education is taught in sixth, seventh or eighth grade for all state public schools

Prohibit the use of a hand-held electronic device while driving for all drivers under the age of 18

Let's pull together to Shape Our Future. Your state is counting on you.



#### Wash. court upholds tribal fishing rights

SHANNON DININNY

Associated Press

YAKIMA, Wash. (AP) - State wildlife authorities had no right to cite a Yakama Nation fisherman for catching undersized fish at a Columbia River tribal fishing site, the Washington Supreme Court ruled Feb. 9 in a split decision.

The case stems from a 2008 citation at the Maryhill Treaty Fishing Access Site, one of several sites set aside by Congress exclusively for five Northwest tribes to exercise their treaty fishing rights.

The state had argued it rightfully assumed criminal jurisdiction there, but the high court disagreed in a 6-3 decision from Olympia, Wash.

"The state lacks criminal jurisdiction at Maryhill because the treaty fishing access site is tribal land, established and reserved by Congress for the exclusive use of tribal members," the court wrote.

In 1998, Congress established several fishing sites along the Columbia River to replace accustomed tribal fishing areas that had been previously guaranteed by treaty but were destroyed by dams.

At the Maryhill site, state wildlife officials cited Lester Ray Jim, an enrolled Yakama, on June 25, 2008 for unlawfully retaining undersized

Jim caught five undersized sturgeon in his gill net while fishing commercially from the Maryhill site, and said he planned to follow tribal practice and release the live fish to the river from shore.

Sturgeon can survive out of water for several hours.

Both state and tribal laws bar fishermen from retaining undersized sturgeon, but only state law requires that the unauthorized fish be returned to the water immediately.

Jim filed a motion in Klickitat County District Court, challenging the state's jurisdiction to prosecute him. The court dismissed the case, and the state appealed. Higher courts alternately ruled in both sides' favor, with the state ultimately appealing a Washington state Court of Appeals ruling to the high court.

Three justices dissented from the majority

Creation of an Indian reservation must be "more purposeful" than simply authorizing the Army to purchase sites and improve them for fishing access, Justice Charles K. Wiggins wrote.

# Not letting go: Fighting Sioux nickname lives again in ND

**DALE WETZEL** 

Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - The University of North Dakota will resume using its contentious Fighting Sioux nickname despite threats from the NCAA, the school's president said Wednesday, marking the latest twist in a protracted fight about a name that critics consider offensive.

A state law requiring the university to use its longtime nickname and logo, which shows the profile of an American Indian warrior, was repealed in November. The university has since been trying to retire the moniker, but nickname supporters filed petitions late Tuesday demanding that the issue be put to a statewide vote.

University President Robert Kelley said the school decided to resume using the name and logo to respect the state's referendum process, which requires the pronickname law be in effect while the secretary of state reviews the petition signatures over the next month.

'As soon as that petition was filed last night, the law reverts,' Kelley told The Associated Press. 'I don't want to violate the law.'

The NCAA has told the university that continued use of the nickname and logo would expose the school to sanctions. The school could not host postseason tournaments, and its athletes could not wear uniforms with the logo or nickname in postseason play.

Emails and phone messages left with the NCAA were not immediately returned Wednesday. The university and leaders in Grand Forks, where the school is located, had opposed the law.

Kelley said the men's and women's hockey teams and the women's basketball team have a chance for post-season play in the coming months, and it was unclear how the teams would be affected.

'I don't know whether this is going to put us back on the (sanctions) list or not, Kelly said. 'But clearly, by being mandated by state law to be Fighting Sioux, we are right back to where we were before the repeal.'

The state Board of Higher Education will likely meet with North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem on Monday to discuss whether to go to court to block reinstatement of the law, board President Grant Shaft said.

The dispute began in 2006, when the NCAA prodded 19 schools to get rid of American Indian nicknames, logos and mascots that it considered 'hostile and abusive' to Indians. The University of North Dakota is the only school left where the issue is in serious dispute.

The NCAA said the schools, to avoid sanctions, had to change their nicknames or obtain permission from local tribes. Most changed their names, although the Florida State Seminoles and the Central Michigan Chippewas were among the schools that got tribal permission to keep their nicknames.

North Dakota challenged the NCAA edict in court. In a settlement, the school agreed to begin retiring its nickname if it couldn't obtain consent to continue its use from North Dakota's Standing Rock and Spirit Lake Sioux tribes by Nov. 30, 2010.

Spirit Lake tribal members endorsed the name. But the Standing Rock Sioux's tribal council, which opposed the nickname, has declined to support it or to allow its tribal members to

The law forcing the school to use the name and logo was approved last March, despite opposition from university officials and Grand Forks legislators. Supporters of the proposal included some prominent university alumni.

The law's chief sponsor, Republican House Majority Leader Al Carlson, said he resented the NCAA's bullying and what he regarded as the Board of Higher Education's clumsy handling of the matter. Carlson hoped the law would make the NCAA reconsider its opposition to the nickname and logo, but the NCAA was adamant.

The law was repealed during a special legislative session in November, with many former supporters switching sides and saying it had not accomplished its purpose of influencing the NCAA.

Supporters of the nickname, including some members of the Standing Rock Sioux, said they turned in petitions with more than 17,000 signatures late Tuesday in support of the law. The required minimum is 13,452 names.

Reed Soderstrom, chairman of the referendum campaign, hailed the university's decision Wednesday and discouraged education board members from going back to court.

'They would seem to be following a method of trying to disenfranchise the voters, and I don't think they have the power to do that, he said.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country



Continued from Page 1

Lawmakers are considering legislation this year that would allow the state to limit the types of alcohol sold in areas like Whiteclay.

by The Associated Press. A spokeswoman for Anheuser-Busch InBev Worldwide said she was not yet aware of the lawsuit, and the other four companies being sued - SAB Miller, Molson Coors Brewing Company, MIllerCoors LLC and Pabst Brewing Company - did not immediately return messages.

The lawsuit alleges that the beer makers and stores sold to Pine Ridge residents knowing they would smuggle the alcohol into the reservation to drink or resell. The beer makers supplied the stores with "volumes of beer far in excess of an amount that could be sold in compliance with the laws of the state of Nebraska" and the tribe, tribal officials allege in the lawsuit.

The vast majority of Whiteclay's beer store poverty standards. customers have no legal place to consume alcohol since it's banned on Pine Ridge, which is just north, state law prohibits drinking outside the stores and the nearest town that allows alcohol is more than 20 miles (32 kilometers) south, said Mark Vasina, president of the group Nebraskans for

The Connecticut-sized reservation has struggled with alcoholism and poverty for generations, despite an alcohol ban in place since 1832. Pine Ridge legalized alcohol in 1970 but restored the ban two months later, and an attempt to allow it in 2004 died after a public outcry.

The reservation spans impoverished areas, including

Shannon County, Dakota, which U.S. census statistics place as the thirdpoorest in the U.S. It has a median household income of \$27,300 and nearly half of the population falls below federal

Tribal President John Yellow Bird Steele said the tribe council authorized the lawsuit in an effort to protect the reservation's youth.

"Like American parents everywhere, we will do everything lawful we can to protect the health, welfare and future of our children," he said.

The tribe views the lawsuit as a last resort after numerous failed attempts to curb the abuse through protests and public pressure on lawmakers, White added. He said the tribal council voted unanimously about four months ago to hire his law firm.

"The illegal sale and trade in alcohol in Whiteclay is open, notorious and well documented by news reports, legislative hearings, movies, public protests and law enforcement activities," the lawsuit states. " All of the above have resulted in the publication of the facts of the illegal trade in alcohol and its devastating effects on the Lakota people, especially its children, both born and

unborn." Nebraska lawmakers have struggled for years to curb the problem, and are considering legislation this year that would allow the state to limit the types of alcohol sold in

areas like Whiteclay. The measure would require local authorities to ask the state to designate the area an "alcohol impact zone." The state liquor commission

could then limit the hours alcohol sellers are open, ban the sale of certain products or impose other restrictions. Nebraska state Sen. LeRoy

Louden, whose district includes Whiteclay, said he introduced the measure with support from county officials who have seen their health care and jail incarceration costs rise.

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50 12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50

36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# **Enthusiasts track history of Quanah Parker**

RAY WESTBROOK

Lubbock Avalanche-Journal

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) - Line by line, arrow by arrow, the lifetime of Quanah Parker is being pieced together by historians of the Texas Plains Trail Region.

From the shadowy, undocumented time around the 1870s when he rode across the staked plains as a leader of Comanche tribesmen, Parker - half Anglo, half Native American - was a force to be reckoned with.

Anglos sometimes paid with their lives when the force was encountered, and Comanches fell also in the friction of a hit-and-run war that produced outrageous suffering for both sides.

Parker and his mounted warriors so intimately knew the South Plains and Panhandle region, they were able to attack suddenly, then fade into the prairie like ghosts.

Now, cities across a 52-county area are looking for evidence showing Quanah Parker and his Comanches once visited their neighborhoods.

Historian Tai Kreidler of the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library at Texas Tech, describes how the research is recovering bits and pieces of the mosaic that was Parker's life.

"The grassroots aspect of this project continues as each county and city that applied for an arrow had to research and provide documentation of a Comanche or Quanah Parker connection," he said.

The arrow, one of gigantic dimensions designed by Charles Smith of the New Home area, can be planted as a marker in a town along the Texas Plains Trail if the Comanche chief came that way.

"The Southwest Collection and Randy Vance of Reference Services assists cities and counties with this process by providing reference source assistance to any of these groups needing background information," Kreidler said.

Vance is willing to help:

"We have created a Comanche finding aid for the journals we have here in the Southwest Collection. They can come here, or for some who are further away and know of articles or photographs, we can photocopy that material and send it to them."

An unexpected treasure has been discovered in the work:

"What has been a really amazing part of the process is that each county has emerged with their own folklore and history surrounding the Comanche or Quanah presence," Kreidler said.

According to Smith, the 21-foot arrow is made of 4-inch diameter pipe, then painted in Comanche colors.

"We put 20 inches into the ground, so about 19 feet is above ground," he

Feathers are forged from quarterinch steel rods.

Research consultant Holle Humphries said the counties in the region have a particular identity: "We realized what all of our counties shared in common was this past history of having had a common Comanche presence prior to the arrival of white settlers."

She said, "The Texas Panhandle was the last area where Native Americans lived free and unrestricted - to roam as they had always roamed in nomadic fashion."

new arrow locations became an unforeseen learning experience.

"There is not a place you go that you don't learn something special: They have Quanah Parker peyote robes at the museum in Tulia; they have Quanah Parker moccasins in the little museum that is in the old courthouse of old Tascosa at Boys Ranch; you can go by Quanah Parker's birthplace at Cedar Lake."

films to relate that history to visitors when the jail restoration is complete," she said.

Parker, like West Point graduate Ranald Mackenzie, apparently found his element in war, and was able to hold the Panhandle territory for a time against even the United States Fourth Cavalry.

When Col. Mackenzie was unsuccessfulintrackingandsubduing from the U.S. Army and suffering from hunger, surrendered and moved to the Kiowa-Comanche reservation southwestern Oklahoma, according to Hosmer.

But the depths of Parker could be seen more in defeat than in victory. On the reservation lands, he began raising cattle and encouraging his people to learn both the yoke and blessings of civilization. He also was learning to greet other cattlemen of the time – and presidents.

Mosser said, "For me personally in all of this, was learning about Quanah Parker as a cattleman, a statesman, the politician type - he was hobnobbing with presidents. I think it was Theodore Roosevelt who came and hunted with him."

She added, "The statesman side of this Native American - just in a very short time he went from battling buffalo soldiers and following buffalo herds to being in an inaugural parade."

Humphries said, "Right here in Spur, Texas - in their Dickens County Museum, they have the war bonnet that Quanah Parker wore in Teddy Roosevelt's 1905 inaugural parade."

Hanaba Munn Welch, who set up the web site www.quanahparkertrail. com for the Texas Plains Trail Region to make some of the connections to Quanah Parker available to the public, said he was a skilled politician who looked out for the members of his tribe as best he could.

"Some Comanches faulted him for giving in too much, but I think he was doing what he thought was

She said of her research, "We have him captured in a black and white silent movie, riding a horse, and driving up to the bank in Cache, Okla., in his stage coach and chasing the bad guys as part of a posse. It was the early 1900s, and Quanah had been killing white people back in the 1870s, maybe 30 years before."

Mosser said Parker likely became the wealthiest Native American of the time because of his cattle operations.

Parker apparently didn't completely adopt civilization's ways: He declined to give up his seven wives and the 22room house they lived in.

In February 1911, he became ill while visiting a Cheyenne Reservation, and returned to his home, where he died.

He was buried at the Post Oak Mission Cemetery beside his mother, Cynthia Ann Parker. Later, in an expansion of a missile base, they were reburied at Lawton, Okla., in a section of the Fort Sill Post Cemetery

When this region's descendants both settlers and Native Americans - look back across time, they can see the reality of the years:

called Chief's Knoll.

Then it was a time of war, now a



Quanah Parker stands on the porch of his home in this historic photo.

She alludes also to a poetic imagery of the marker arrow first envisioned by Gid Moore of New Home, and then discovered while she and Dolores Mosser were working on the Plains Trail Region together. Moore had commissioned Smith to make an arrow for his business reminiscent of a Longfellow poem titled "The Arrow and the Song."

Humphries said, "Right at the top of it, the fletching ("feather") vibrates in the wind and it sings. So, it's the arrow and the song."

Mosser, a board member of the Texas Plains Trail Region, said the project initially was designed to provide a kind of cultural trail across the 52 counties that could attract travelers to the region and encourage economic development.

But along the way, the search for

Marisue Potts of Matador, the first town to receive one of the arrows, said, "Quanah Parker, the man, left not only his tracks in Motley County, but imprinted his charisma and diplomacy upon the many friends he made among the ranchers and townspeople."

She is a writer, chairwoman of the Motley County Historical Committee and vice president of the West Texas Historical Association.

"People who notice the arrow are curious and since there is no signage yet, they stop and ask questions about its significance. That gives the local historians a chance to relate the colorful history of the Comanche camping at Roaring Springs, Dutchman Creek and Ballard Creek near the historic Motley County Jail. In the works are documentary short the Indians in 1871 and 1872, Parker boldly raided the cavalry campsite at Blanco Canyon on the morning of Oct. 9, 1871, taking a number of horses, according to research done by Brian C. Hosmer, writing for the Texas State Historical Association's Handbook of Texas.

"Afterward, the Indians seemingly disappeared onto the plains, only to reappear and attack again. Mackenzie gave up the search in mid-1872," Hosmer wrote.

Mackenzie But successfully defeated Kiowas, Cheyennes and some Comanches under another chief in Palo Duro Canyon in late 1874, and essentially finished the wars by destroying the Indians' horses and food supplies.

Within a year, Parker and his warriors, under continuing pressure time of peace.

## LAWSUIT

of their constitutional, civil and employee rights. The suit, filed on Jan. 26, states, "Plaintiffs were openly political affiliates of his opponent during the Principal Chief's election. After he took office, Defendant Baker embarked on a course of retaliation against Plaintiffs ..."

At least 10 employees were sent home on "Bloody Thursday" in an allegedly public manner.

"I was terminated as soon as Baker took office," Olaya stated. "I was fired in a distasteful and unprofessional manner. Baker brought in his political cronies, the marshals and the media to watch his firing of staff. This action was purely political revenge because I supported Chad Smith and because I am a Mankiller. Who an employee votes for or supports should never be cause for termination. It is against the law."

Olaya had been Smith's executive assistant since 1999 and is the lead defendant on the case.

The brief states McAlvain, Rusco and Ragsdale were told they were laid off and Olaya was told her expired employee agreement was not renewed.

"My supervisor was in pure shock. They actually told her that they wanted me gone. She asked if I could get transferred, she asked if maybe I could be moved out of the administration area, they said no," McAlvain said. "I actually called Chief Baker and asked why he wanted me out ... he couldn't give me a reason. I actually heard him have a brief conversation with someone else that said 'We told her that we reorganized.' You reorganize an organization; you don't reorganize one person ... His words to me were 'You know I want to bring my own people in at the top ... and you can apply for other positions.' I said why don't you just let me transfer out and he said 'no."

McAlvain had worked for the Cherokee Nation since 2007.

Ragsdale, the former government relations officer and former member of the tribal council, was sent home Oct. 20 on administrative leave. She said she didn't hear anything about her job until she received a certified letter on Jan. 5 letting her know her position was eliminated. Until then, she said her employment record was unblemished and she scored at high performance levels on all her evaluations through the years.

"I know he can't know about my performances if I haven't worked for him for more than a day ... and it should be about performance," Ragsdale said. "The principal chief took an Oath of Office to uphold the law and policies of the Cherokee Nation. He took an oath the night before, and I feel he violated his Oath of Office that very first day by sending us home."

Ragsdale said on Baker's first day in office, all the employee computers were swept as well, "So they got information off everyone's computer."

Olaya and McAlvain's case has been heard by the Cherokee Nation Employee Appeals Board (AEB), however it was ruled there is a lack of jurisdiction because they were allegedly laid off. McAlvain said her appeal will now go before the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court. Ragsdale and Rusco have not been before the three-member EAB yet. The civil suit by the four former employees against Baker is filed with the Cherokee Nation District Court.

"Illegally and unjustly denying

someone employment is serious; everyone needs the ability to pay for food and shelter," Rusco stated. "These employee terminations were political prejudice; the law was not followed, much less policy. If we don't stand up against this injustice other employees won't be safe from wrongful termination as well."

Rusco is the former director of communications.

The suit looks into violations of due process, human resource polices and processes, and rights to freedom of speech and association. Representing McAlvain, Olaya, Rusco, and Ragsdale is former Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith.

Smith, who is representing the women pro bono, told the Associated Press last week that he has no agenda in bringing the case against Baker, to whom he lost his bid for Chief in last year's contentious election.

"These particular people, they cannot afford an attorney otherwise," Smith said. "I believe they were wronged."

According to the suit, the plaintiffs are asking for \$250,000 in general damages; a special damage amount to be determined during trial; \$1,000,000 in punitive damages; cost

of suit and attorney fees; and other relief the court may deem proper.

"This is for me and everybody else. If he's (Baker) going to do it to me, he's going to do it to you; anyone who lets him do it. That's why the constitution's there ... so no one walks around feeling like on any given day they could lose their job," McAlvain said. "I thought about this battle and I thought about it long and hard and it's not just about me. It's about every other employee who might be put in the same position and be without a job and trying to support their family as well."

McAlvain said she would like her back pay and her job back. Ragsdale said she would like her job back too.

"I love my job. There's nothing better than working for your own people. It was family. I put my heart and soul into it and just to be walked out like that is pretty humiliating," Ragsdale said.

Cherokee Nation Deputy Director of Communication Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton said, "The Baker administration has no comment on pending litigation."

## **FREEDMEN**

traditions of his Indian heritage, including his participation in stomp dances, in his hometown of Okmulgee, which is also the headquarters of the Creek Nation, Graham said.

"That's why this is so dear to me," he said. "I was born and raised in the Creek Nation right there in Okmulgee. ... We just want to be federally recognized, because that's who we are."

Edwin Marshall, Creek Nation chief of staff, said the tribe has no comment because the freedmen descendants now have no affiliation with the Creek Nation.

Marshall said the tribe properly conducted a referendum to remove the freedmen descendants from the Creek Nation rolls and that the descendants are starting a new

Freedmen were the former slaves of Indians and were guaranteed full rights and privileges to the tribes to which they had belonged in the U.S. Treaty of 1866.

"We're Creek Indians. We are also of African descent. It's hard for people to believe, but ... we're both, though, That's how it is," Graham

The descendants have since become a central part of tribal sovereignty issues, as several tribes, including the Cherokee Nation, have also voted to expel freedmen descendants from their ranks.

Tribal leaders often attribute a resentment of the treaty to the U.S. government's repeated violation of it while forcing tribes to adhere to

The votes to expel freedmen descendants are the result of tribes' seeking to allow enrollment only of Indians with traceable bloodlines to the tribe.

However, Graham and other Creek freedmen descendants can show bloodlines tracing back to nonfreedmen Indians, unlike other groups of freedmen.

Additionally, the criteria for becoming a federally recognized tribe doesn't require proof of Indian blood, Graham said. The standards just require proof that the tribe's members have ancestors on the original Indian rolls, which the Creek freedmen descendants have,

They were just designated freedmen descendants along the way because they also had African lineage, Graham said.

Based on those and other arguments, Graham said the Muscogee Creek Indian Freedmen Band should be federally recognized.

"This is precedent. They haven't dealt with anyone in our position right now," he said. "We're not sure what to expect. If they go by facts and documents, we believe we will be federally recognized. ... It will be shocking to me if they do deny us. But I strongly believe that we have our documents well in hand."

# COMMENTARY



# Indians as mascots for America's fun and games

#### **NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY**

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

"The dogs may bark, but the caravan moves on," is an old Arab proverb.

I quoted this old saying more than 25 years ago when I first broached the subject of the use of Indians as mascots for America's fun and games. An article I wrote for Newsweek Magazine in 1991, the year the Washington professional football team played in the Super Bowl in Minneapolis, Minnesota, brought a deluge of hate mail of the likes I have never experienced before.

This was before the Internet and email so the letters came to me as snail-mail and they weren't just letters because the page my article appeared on under the heading "I Hope the Redskins Lose," was torn from the magazine and sent to me with big, red lettering that, in most cases, read "F - -K you Giago." As I wrote many times since, I did not write that headline. It was like waving a red flag in the face of the Redskin football fanatics. Since then whenever I have to use the Redskin word I always refer to it as the "R-Word." And why should it not carry the same inference as the "N-Word?"

An article I wrote on the same topic several years later for the New York Times also brought an outpouring of similar hate mail. But it convinced me that there was no easy way to point out to America

that most Native Americans do not appreciate their use as mascots especially in many of the extremely insensitive ways they are depicted.

The classic example I often use is the time a pig was painted red, a feathered war bonnet attached to its head, and then the painted pig was chased around the football field at half-time at a Washington "R-Word" game. Would the cheering fans have felt the same if a pig had been painted black and an Afro-wig attached to its head? Of course not, you say? Then kindly let me know what the difference is? One painted pig is clearly an Indian and the other an African-American so which pig connotes racism?

The topic of Indians as mascots is on my mind because a die-hard group of fans at the University of North Dakota refuse to let their Fighting Sioux mascot rest in peace.

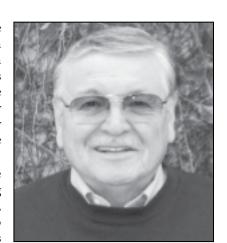
There is one tribe in North Dakota that approves of their use as mascots: the Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe. I wish members of this tribe would have accompanied me to the University of Illinois campus several years ago when I covered the Indians protesting the use of Chief Illiniwek as the school's mascot.

Two of the people leading the protest are now deceased; Vernon Bellecourt and Michael Haney. Protests across America have diminished tremendously since their passing. I was appalled to witness the hostility against the protesters at U of I that day. While the protestors marched to the stadium, passengers in passing cars flipped burning cigarettes at them while cursing them with the worst forms of profanity. Stadium police stopped a group of Illini fans from dumping a huge vat of water from the stadium wall as the protestors marched beneath it. Objects were hurled at the protestors as they marched. "Go home you dirty Indians" reverberated around the stadium.

And I wish the members of the Spirit Lake tribe who think being used as mascots is hunky dory, would have been standing next to us at the Super Bowl in Minneapolis in 1991. The police waded into the protesting Indians swinging their batons knocking Indian men and women to the ground. Charlene Teeters, one of this Nation's foremost leaders in the fight to quash the use of Indians as mascots, was knocked to the ground. Later she said, "I will never go to Minneapolis again. The police were absolutely brutal."

Yet, after all of this, the University of North Dakota, in the face of censorship by the NCAA, will bring back the Fighting Sioux mascot despite the restrictions that will be placed upon it by the NCAA and despite the protests of Native Americans everywhere. Is using this symbol of racism that important to an institution of higher learning?

I pray that the more intelligent and sensitive people at Spirit Lake and at UND prevail and convince those who still refuse to speak out against this travesty will let it be known that most Native Americans do not consider it an honor to be mimicked, insulted and demeaned by sports fans across America in the name of a high school, college or professional sports team mascot.



Tim Giago

I would also remind those insistent upon denigrating Native Americans in the name of sports teams that the year is 2012 and racial epitaphs that rang across America for more than 500 years are now passé and in continuing this archaic practice, they are also denigrating themselves. And please try to understand that Native Americans are human beings and not mascots for America's fun and games.

So let the dogs keep barking because I and thousands of other Native Americans will be a caravan moving on to change bad things in America.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at *UnitySoDak1@knology.net* 

anyone who claims the right to use water from any of the basins could be included.

In August, the tribes sued the state and Oklahoma City in U.S. District Court to stop the Water Resources Board from selling the rights to water storage in southeastern Oklahoma's Sardis Lake to the Oklahoma City Water Utility Trust. The state has asked a federal judge to dismiss the tribal lawsuit.

Burrage has said the lawsuit's

goal was to have the state recognize the tribe's sovereignty over water in territories covered by treaties with the federal government and to determine how much water is actually in the region to make sure tribal needs are met.

State and city officials have expressed alarm over the tribe's water rights claims in 22 southeastern Oklahoma counties. An amended federal lawsuit filed last month also claimed the 100-mile long Atoka Pipeline that has delivered water to homes and businesses in Oklahoma City and other central Oklahoma communities for almost 50 years.

"In short, the tribes, over the past decade, have made various attempts to inject uncertainty into the state's ability to regulate the waters within the southeastern corner of the state, and in particular the basins, threatening water rights under existing and pending state permits - all part of a concerted effort to coerce the state into entering a compact or agreement giving the tribes water rights, including the power to regulate waters in the basins," the state's Supreme Court

lawsuit says. Jim Couch, Oklahoma City's city manager and a trustee for the Water Utility Trust, said the state had no choice but to seek adjudication.

"We acknowledge that the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes have some rights to water in the basins, but their broad claims are unprecedented and threaten the economy and well-being of all of Oklahoma," Couch said.

"Further, the tribes own less than 5 percent of the land in these water basins and fewer than 10 percent of the people in this part of the state identify themselves as members of the tribes to the U.S. Census," he

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

Name: \_\_\_

Phone:



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com Equal Housing Lender Native American Owned



Native TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:

■ \$65.00 for 52 issues ■ \$32.50 for 26 issues

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

shouldn't you?

www.nativetimes.com

# CLASSIFIEDS



#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

#### Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Authority, Inc. AST Counseling Center

AST Counseling Center is an outpatient behavioral health counseling center within the AST Health Systems. AST Counseling Center provides services to Native Americans as well as non-Native Americans who are on Medicaid/Medicare. AST Counseling Center is currently located in our expanded SHAWNEE CLINIC and will move soon to our newly constructed (76,000 sq. ft) AMBULATORY CARE CLINIC in LITTLE AXE, OK

AST Counseling Center is looking for highly motivated and career oriented professionals to complement the current staff and to provide a larger range of quality care for our patients.

ASTHA is looking for Psychologists and Psychiatrist as well as BH Clinicians who are LADC, LSCW, LMFT or LPC credentialed professionals.

We offer competitive salaries (Clinicians-\$45k to \$65K; Psychologist & Psychiatrist are negotiable) as well as employer paid benefits for employees such as: medical and dental insurance, group life, short term disability, 401K with matching contribution, AAA. We also offer voluntary products such as vision insurance, add'l group life, accident insurance, and other voluntary insurance products. Position descriptions and application information are available online at www.astribe.com

If you have any questions about the ASTCC please contact Kristy Morrell @ 405.878.5850 or Briana Ponkilla @ 405.878.4702. Applications/resumes can be emailed to bponkilla@astribe.com or faxed to 405.878.4540.

Native American Preference/EEO/Smoke Free/Drug Free Workplace



**Absentee Shawnee** Tribal Health Authority, Inc. Recruiting for the following positions:

**Board Certified Family Physician** Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant **Behavioral Health Clinicians Registered Nurses** 

**Financial Director** 

**Budget Tech Personnel Assistant Network Administrator Medical Coder Patient Benefit Advocate** 

**Insurance Specialist** Located in our expanded **SHAWNEE CLINIC and newly** constructed (76,000 sq. ft)

AMBULATORY CARE CLINIC

in LITTLE AXE, OK

Position descriptions and application information are available online at

www.astribe.com **Ouestions/Inquiries: Contact** Briana Ponkilla, Dir. Of Personnel, at bponkilla@astribe.com or 405.878.4702

Native American Preference/EEO/ Smoke Free & Drug Free Workplace



Sac & Fox Nation Casino is accepting Applications for

**Security Manager Facilities Manager** Floor Manager **Assistant Accounting Manager Accounts Payable Specialist** 

Applicants must pass background and drug screen. Native American preference is recognized.

Submit resume by fax @ 405-395-0790 or visit our website at sandfcasino.com to apply online



Sac & Fox Nation Casino is accepting Applications for

#### **General Manager**

Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in Business / Marketing Strong Leadership Skills Casino Management Experience

Applicants must pass background and drug screen. Native American preference is recognized.

Submit resume by fax @ 405-395-0790 or visit our website at sandfcasino.com to apply online

#### **Environmental Director**

Kialegee Tribal Town requests resumes for the position of Environmental Director. Must have four years experience in Environmental Protection and/or related field. Must be able to follow Tribal policies and have at least three years experience with Federal Policies. Salary negotiable, Indian preference applies, others welcome. E-mail resumes to: kialegeetribaltown@ymail.com or send to Administrator @ P.O. Box 332 Wetumka, OK 74883. Closing date: February 17,2012 @ 4:30 P.M.

OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

#### **CALL CENTER REP**

Responsible for large volume of inbound calls, providing benefit information and troubleshooting memberissues. Excellent interpersonal and customer service skills required. Must be proficient in current software applications including Word and Excel. Hiring rate: \$33,489/yr. Deadline for applications: 2/23/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http://www.opers. ok.gov/jobs. EOE

Look for Native American Times on Facebook! Friends get front page scoops and breaking news.

# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or

nativetimes.com. Name,

date, time, place and

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** 

Kiowa class beginning

in February at 6:30 pm,

Oliphant Hall, Room 141,

Tulsa University. Info call

Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** 

The Otoe-Missouria

**Substance Abuse and** 

sponsor an open group

for families touched by

addiction from noon to 1

Health Building. This is a

p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria

confidential group. Call 580-

**Cherokee Artists Association** 

meeting at 202 E. 5th Street

723-4466 x252 or x262 for

more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY** 

Tahlequah, Okla. Info:

(918) 458-0008 or www.

THIRD TUESDAY of even

numbered months - The

cherokeeartistsassociation.

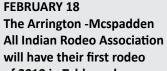
**Behavioral Health Programs** 

other event info to: Lisa@

contact information is free.







will have their first rodeo of 2012 in Tahlequah Okla. For more info email

**FEBRUARY 22 & 29 Smoke-Free Homes** workshops sponsored by **Osage Nation and Native** American M-Power from 10 a.m. until Noon. sponsored by Osage Nation and Native American M-Power, are held from 10 a.m. until noon. Info call Osage Nation **Native American M-Power** at (918) 287-5380.

**FEBRUARY 25** 

Wild Onion Dinner 11am to 3pm at Indian Fellowship Baptist Church, 6130 So. 58th W. Ave, Oakhurst, Okla. Info call Mary Kelly 918-636-

**FEBRUARY 25** Bake Sale & Native Crafts, 10 am-1pm at Sapulpa Library, 27 W Dewey, Sapulpa, Okla.

Info: 918-852-6780

**FEBRUARY 25 3rd Annual Hoops Basketball** Tournament - Men's 5 on 5 Basketball Entry Fee: \$110 Deadline: Feb. 22. Prizes: 1st place - long sleeve shirts, 2nd place – t-shirts Contact: Cristine Hooper-Ben 918-

MARCH 2

316-1111

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

MARCH 3

**Peoria Tribal Election** for Treasurer and First Councilman. Polls open

9am-Noon, Peoria Tribal **Administration Building** Conference Room, 118 **South Eight Tribes Trail in** Miami, Okla.

**MARCH 3-31** 

Tulsa Library's Festival of Words, a series of systemwide events to honor the achievements and celebrate the history of American Indians. For events and times, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.

MARCH 10 Red Earth Run, Regatta Park, **Oklahoma City** 

MARCH 17

**Skate Jam Competition 10** am - dark at the "Skate Park Off Broadway," 105 Reynolds in Poteau Okla. www.nativeskateparks.com

MARCH 17

**2011 OKC Princess Honor Dance at Heart of Oklahoma** Expo Center, 1700 W. Independence, Shawnee, **OK. Info contact Shirley** Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@sbcglobal.net

**MARCH 17** Wild Onion Dinner from 11

am til 3 pm at Haikey Chapel UMC, 8815 E 101st St, Tulsa. MARCH 23

Miss Indian Oklahoma City

**Competition & Performance** at 6:30 pm, 3801 SE 29th St. Del City, OK. Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@ sbcglobal.net

**APRIL 6** 

**Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM** - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free

Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**APRIL 14** All Gourd Honor Dance for

Micheal Tsotaddle at Red Carnegie, OK, 2p.m. - ? For more information call Darla Tsotaddle (405) 432-8377 or Mavis Tsotaddle (580) 654-1704.

MAY 4

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 1

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox **Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

**JUNE 10-16** 

Jim Thorpe Native American Games at Remington Park, Oklahoma City. Proceeds benefit the Jim Thorpe **Bright Path Youth Programs** and Awakening The Spirit **Diabetes Prevention and** 

www.jimthorpegames.com

**Control program. Contact** 

Annetta Abbott: 405-208-

**JULY 6** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead

for Speedy Service. Free

Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery,

**AUGUST 3** 

**Oklahoma City** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 7** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**OCTOBER 5** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**NOVEMBER 2** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**DECEMBER 7** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free **Delivery on Orders of 10 or** More (405) 321-5640

#### **Central Oklahoma Cherokee** Alliance meets at Mayflower **UCC Church, Oklahoma City** at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16. **FOURTH THURSDAY**

Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone fundraiser for Miss Yuchi/ College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S.

**FEBRUARY 18** 

Euchee 2011-2012 Janna Rolland, 7 a.m. - 11 a.m. at the Covenant Harvest Church, 722 N. Hodge Street Sapulpa, Ok (Over by Hickory house going west behind the convenience store) Proceeds to help with

travels to appearances

www.okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Gather for fellowship and

friendship. Volunteers welcome. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158 YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm

- 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 12** Free tobacco cessation course from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. çççççWhitney Nuttle (918) 762-3873 or Suzy Knife Chief (918) 762-2153.

**FEBRUARY 16-18** Tulsa Indian Art Festival at the Glenpool Conference Center, HWY 75 and 121st Street. Entry forms at www. tulsaindianartfestival.com.

All you can eat breakfast



Singer/songwriter Samantha Crain, Choctaw, has become a formidable name in the folk-rock music scene.

# **Choctaw artist playing shows in Tulsa, Norman**

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. – Singer and songwriter Samantha Crain is headed back for Oklahoma with shows booked in Tulsa and Norman this weekend.

The Shawnee musician has been trotting the globe extensively in support of her most recent album, *You* (*Understood*), since its release in 2010. With the release of a brand new single, *A Simple Jungle*, Crain has set out on a new tour that started in Connecticut and will take her to Paris and London before heading to Texas. She plays Fassler Hall in Tulsa on Feb. 18 and Norman's Performing Arts Studio on Feb. 19.

Crain has been heavily followed by the music industry since the release of her EP The Confiscation in 2007. She has been covered in Rolling Stone and Paste magazines – two of the biggest and most popular entertainment publications

today – and she has been interviewed for media around the world.

Showcased at hot music and arts festivals such as SXSW (South by Southwest) in Austin, Texas, and Tennessee's Bonnaroo, Crain has quickly become a formidable name in the folkrock scene of independent music and art as well known for her narrative storytellingstyle as for her rich alto voice.

In a November interview for the National Endowment for the Arts' Art Works blog, Crain explained how her Choctaw heritage and American identity inform her views and work.

"I am a product of American pop culture AND the Choctaw community. It would be dishonest for me to make completely traditional Native music and art because I was so heavily influenced by the secular world in which I grew up," she told Art Works. "However, I think it's important to keep traditions alive and to respect the ways that our relatives and ancestors lived. I think an artist that spoke of this same vision was Fritz Scholder, who is a huge inspiration to me."

Crain has been a nominee for the Aboriginal People's Choice Music Awards, Native American Music Awards and the Indian Summer Music Awards for songwriting, best new artist and folk music categories.

Fassler Hall is located at 304 S. Elgin Ave., in downtown Tulsa. For more, go to www.fasslerhall.com or call (918) 576-7898. Show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$7.

Performing Arts Studio is located at 200 S. Jones Ave., in Norman. For more go to www.pasnorman.org or call (405) 307-9320. Show begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15.

For more about the artist, go to samanthacrain.com

### **BOXER**

Continued from Page 1

Olympics," Gilkey said.

Down from the café on Main Street, Gilkey's Karate studio sits against a background of tall brick and stone buildings recalling the town's heyday when, nearly a century ago, the headquarters of the Osage Nation flourished with the discovery of oil on tribal lands. The street is still impressive. Inside the studio, Cottingham warms up for a training session with his coach.

At 165 pounds on a 6-feet-2inch frame, Cottingham is fit for middleweight contention. Gilkey wants to keep it that way. The pair will leave for the 2012 USA Boxing National Championships in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on Feb. 24 to improve on his record of 14-2. They plan to drive and will stay until the end on March 3. They hope Cottingham will be the last fighter standing. Having captured the state and regional championship title last month in Tulsa, Cottingham will square off against other contenders. Doing well in Colorado means he qualifies to participate in the Olympic trials in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The next stop, of course, is London.

He's quiet and keeps to himself mostly. When you watch him in training, however, Cottingham makes his presence known.

Training is everything to Cottingham, the son of Charles and Patricia Cottingham. In 2005, he was looking for something to do. At the local Girls & Boys Club, he met Gilkey, a grand master in karate who taught karate, boxing and mixed martial arts.

Even then, Cottingham stayed to himself, but he kept going back. Soon, he was competing in local boxing matches for his age group.

"Out of the group we had up there, he stayed with me, the only who stayed; and I could see that he had some potential, and I'm a real patient person. I'll work with you if you'll only commit yourself," Gilkey said.

Cottingham is hesitant to talk much about the years that followed. At 15, he was placed in juvenile detention for things he would rather forget, among them burglary. It was a rough period in his young life that, in the end, offered him something priceless – a chance to start over and focus.



Months of counseling helped, he said.

When he was released from detention a year later, he was 50 pounds heavier than when he went in, and it wasn't the kind of weight athletes put on intentionally. Cottingham wanted to get back in shape and train again.

Gilkey, who welcomed him back, remembers when Cottingham approached him. Today, he trains the boxing up-and-comer for free at his Main Street studio.

"I'm the type of person that I'll give you a second chance," Gilkey said. "... The past – that's his. We look at now and let go of the past. It's behind us. I'm going forward."

Cottingham is going with him. He's a stand-out student, his coach said. Gilkey gives his pupils guidance in the physical and mental exercises athletes must endure to go the rounds. But it's the student's decision that will decide how far and long Gilkey will lift them up.

Cottingham wasn't interested in winning titles. He was driven to get in shape and train. Titles give him purpose and focus to be better. When asked to talk about himself, he said, "I just work out and eat. I don't know. What do you mean?"

Most days, the boxer can spend between 3-4 hours total in a workout that includes roadwork (running on the road), cardio, strength training, foundation work on the legs, speed bags for speed and coordination, and jump rope. Everything is done on a three minute timer so the fighter gains a sense for when a 3-minute round is up.

Gilkey said he has increased his times to prepare him for Colorado Springs and its high altitude and lower oxygen

concentration.

Now as before, Cottingham is a quiet, distant person, his coach said. He doesn't have a lot of friends, "which is good. I don't have any problem with that. He has a good attitude

towards the workout. He's real comfortable with that world. He'll do whatever I ask him to do. If I said, 'Go out there and run right now with your shorts on,' he'll do it."

All in all, Cottingham is a good kid who opens up in the ring with a strength that's startling up close. If student and coach can make it Brazil and on to London, both will be all too happy to see the words "Olympics games" stamped on his record. But first, there is Colorado, and they both need help getting there, Gilkey said.

The coach and Cottingham's supporters are raising money to cover travel and accommodation expenses allowing him to participate in the championships. Earlier this week, they had an Indian taco dinner and silent auction in Pawhuska for donations that would pay for his travel expenses. Civic groups like Pawhuska's Elks Lodge have also contributed, but they have a long way to go to reach the \$3,000 they will need. They are asking for help to meet the goal through donations and/ or sponsorship.

Only one other Oklahoman, Daniel Logan of Oklahoma City, will compete at the national event, and he is also a middleweight fighter.

As his focus shifts to competing and making it as far as possible, Cottingham has found that faith helps too, even if it doesn't come easy.

"I just ask Him for guidance," Cottingham said. "I don't really know how to pray, so it's kind of hard to really figure it out."

He need only ask Gilkey, as patient as ever.

"I don't mind because I see the end results ... it's a reward," Gilkey said.

If you would like to help send Cottingham and his coach to next week's USA Nation Boxing Championships, contact Gilkey by phone at (918) 287-2663. He may also be reached by mail at 2730 Grandview, Pawhuska, Okla., 74056.



## 25th Anniversary

FEBRUARY 16-17-18, 2012

GLENPOOL CONFERENCE CENTER
Hwy 75 and 121st Street (beside WalMart)
Glenpool, Oklahoma



Daily Admission - \$8.00 3-Day Pass - \$10.00

Thursday: 11 am - 4 pm
Friday: 10 am - 8 pm
(Friday is Student &
Senior Citizens Day - \$5.00)
Saturday: 10 am - 8 pm
American Indian Food Daily

2012 Featured Artist:

Debbe Edwards

Cherokee

#### PREMIERE NIGHT BENEFIT DINNER

Thursday, February 16, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.

#### PERRYMAN RANCH

www.perrymanranch.com
11524 S. Elwood Ave., Jenks, OK (1 Mile from the Festival)

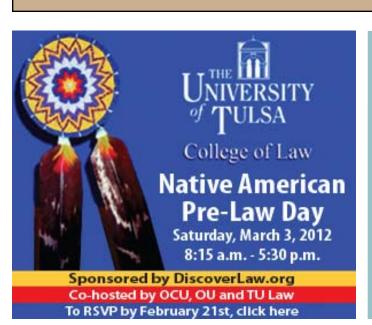
JURIED ART AWARDS • SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
Silent & Live Auctions • Entertainment • Native Foods Dinner Buffet
\$35 - Individual • \$500 - Table (Reservations Necessary)



TULSA INDIAN ART FESTIVAL
P.O. Box 2140, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74101
918.298.2300 • info@tulsaindianartfestival.com



www.tulsaindianartfestival.com



#### SPIRITUAI HEALING

ADVICE ON

Love, Marriage, Business, Health, Past, Present, Future Tarot Card, Psychic, readings by phone, not for entertainment. Only for those in need of help. At any time

(785) 841-1159

By Tina Guaranteed Results

## Tulsa Indian Art Festival happening this weekend

**KAREN SHADE** 

Native American Times

GLENPOOL, Okla. - The 26th Annual Tulsa Indian Art Festival returns for another exciting year exhibiting new work from talented painters, artisans and crafters.

The Glenpool Conference Center, located at U.S. 75 and 121st Street South in Glenpool, houses extensive collections of fine art, pottery, carvings, textiles and more. This year's featured artist is Debbe Edwards, Cherokee, of Miami. Her sculptures, often depicting wildlife and horses, are carved in wood, stone and marble. They are also produced in bronze and have earned her many awards at fine art and Indian art shows around the country.

"At past shows, she has been

very popular because of the realism of her wild sculptures,"

said Robert Trepp, chairman of the board of the National Indian Monument & Institute. NIMI organizes the festival



COURTESY / TULSA INDIAN ART FESTIVAL

The 2012 Tulsa Indian Art Festival featured artist will be Cherokee sculptor Debbe Edwards. Look for her work beginning Feb. 16.

along with the American Indian Theatre Co.

Past showcased artists include Jon Tiger, Jane Osti and Dana Tiger. This year, more than 40 artists are expected to participate in the festival.

"We are looking forward to our new location and the feedback we've been getting from artists and volunteers is real positive," Trepp said, "and it looks like the weather will be with us this year."

Last year's festival had to be rescheduled to a later date in May when winter weather shut down traffic in the Tulsa

historic Perryman Ranch, south of Tulsa in Jenks, will be host to the festival's premiere night benefit dinner and scholarship fundraiser. The event begins at 7 p.m. Feb.

16 and will feature a buffet of Native foods, silent and live auctions and entertainment. Tickets start at \$35 and reservations are required.

The festival is open to the public daily. Hours are 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on Feb. 16; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on Feb. 17-18. In addition to the art market, there will also be flute playing, exhibition powwow and traditional dancing, storytelling from Mahenwahdose and fiddle playing.

Admission to the festival is \$8 per person per day or \$10 for a three-day pass. Students and seniors will be admitted for \$5 on Friday. For more call the NIMI office at (918) 298-2300 or go to www. tulsaindianartfestival.com.

## Exhibit addresses Okla. water issues

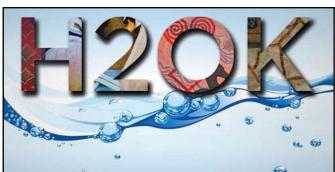
NORMAN, Okla. – A new art exhibition that showcases water issues in Oklahoma opened on Feb. 10 in the MAINSITE Contemporary Art Gallery. The exhibition, titled "H2OK: Native Responses to Water

Issues in Oklahoma," will run through March 10 at 122 E. Main St.

Artists from across Oklahoma's diverse tribal landscape are participating, including Cherokee artists Roy Boney Jr., Joseph Erb, Tom Fields, Yatika Fields, Troy Jackson and America Meredith.

Other participating artists are Norman Akers, Marwin Begaye, Anita Fields, Sue Fish, Brent Greenwood, Sam Atakra Haozous, Matt Jarvis, Linda Lomahaftewa, Bob Martin, Molly Murphy, Juanita Pahdopony, Tom Poolaw and Tony

Tiger. The artists' work expresses cultural attitudes to water in all of its forms such as rivers, oceans, rain and drinking water: environmental aspects of water; confront political realities of dwindling water supplies; and the aesthetics of water within



culture practices.

Organized around this broad theme, artists are working in media ranging from underwater photography, to digital

art, sculpture, printmaking, painting and installation. All the artists are either living in Oklahoma or are affiliated with at least one of Oklahoma's 39 tribes.

After the exhibition closes, it will travel to Bacone College's Art Gallery in the McCombs Hall Art Building

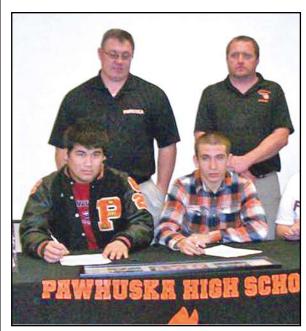
at 2299 Old Bacone Road in Muskogee and be on view from April 6 through May 13. MAINSITE Contemporary

Art, a non-profit gallery operated by the Norman Arts Council, is open from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

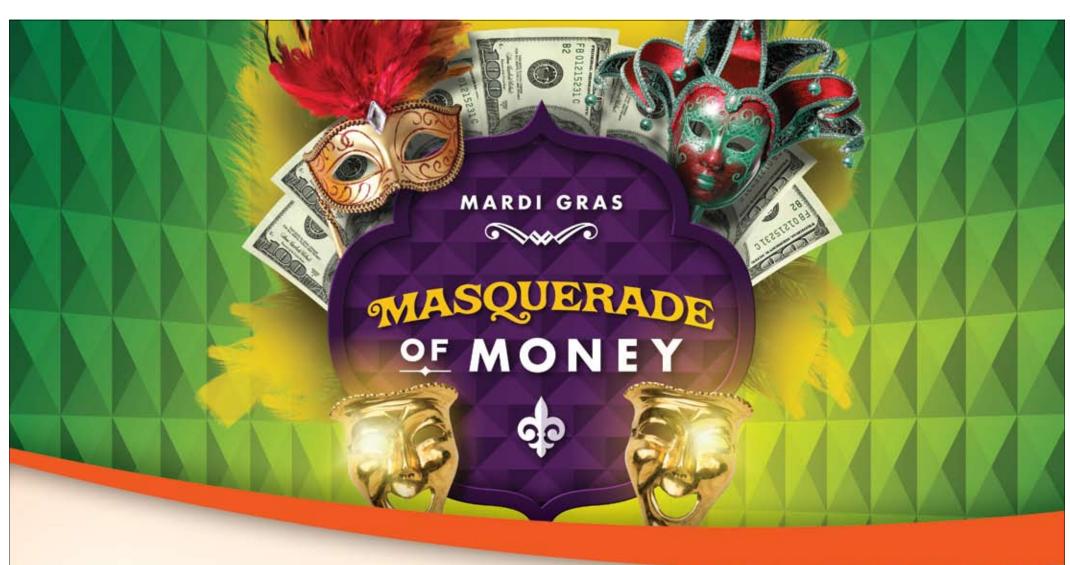
For more information, visit the show's website at www.ahalenia. com/h2ok or call 405-360-1162.

The Bacone Arts Gallery is located on the second floor of the McCombs Hall Art Building and is open during school hours. For more information, call Bacone College at 918-822-1402.

## **SIGNED**



Pawhuska athletes Jeremy Iron (left) and Gene Big Soldier III, sign letters of intent to play football at Haskell Indian Nations University as their coaches watch Feb. 10 at Pawhuska High School, Pawhuska, Okla..



Win your share of over

in Cash!

Saturday, February 25 6 pm - 10 pm



Catch some beads and join us for Masquerade of Money at Osage Casino! On Saturday, February 25 from 6pm-9pm we're holding \$500 Cash drawings five times every hour at each location. Then at 10pm, 21 lucky guests will take home \$1,000 Cash across all locations! Play with your Club Osage card February 12-23 to enter. Find your fortune this February at Osage Casino during Masquerade of Money!



JOIN CLUB OSAGE TODAY!

Visit osagecasinos.com for details.

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska • (918) 699-7777 • osagecasinos.com •



©2012 Osage Casino. Must be 18 to participate. Guests must be actively playing with their Club Osage card to be eligible for promotional drawings. Must be present to win \$500 Cash drawings. Need not be present to win \$1,000 Cash grand prize. Grand prize must be claimed within 30 days. Management reserves all rights. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700.

- ND higher ed board suing to drop logo
- Film with Eskimo cast opens in US
- Bacone's health programs enjoy success









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 8

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

FEBRUARY 24, 2012

# Tribes want order denying Oklahoma water rights

KEN MILLER Associated Press

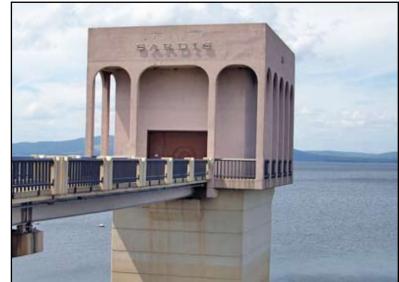
OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Two tribes have asked a federal judge to declare that the state of Oklahoma and its capital city have no jurisdiction over water in southeastern Oklahoma and, therefore, have no right to transport

Four days after Attorney General Scott Pruitt asked the state Supreme Court to address a dispute over water rights, the Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes were back in U.S. District Court asking that a judge settle part of their federal lawsuit without extended proceedings.

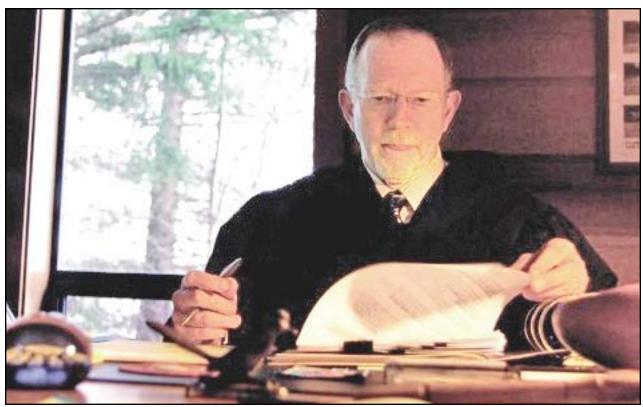
The request for partial summary judgment asks that a judge declare the tribes hold regulatory authority over water in southeastern Oklahoma under an 1830 treaty. The tribes also want an order that says their water rights preempt state law, though the state and city say the tribes relinquished their rights in later pacts.

Southeastern Oklahoma waters

**See WATER** *Continued on Page 3* 



The Chickasaw Nation and Choctaw Nation claim control ov all water in 22 counties in the southeastern corner of Oklahoma, including Sardis Lake, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers creation.



Don Costello shuffles through paperwork in his office at the Coguille Indian Tribe. Costello previously served as a tribal and state judge in other locations before bringing his restorative-justice system to Oregon's South Coast.

# Ore. tribal courts deliver 'restorative justice'

**TYLER RICHARDSON** 

The World

COOS BAY, Ore. (AP) - For years, Judge Donald Costello sentenced offenders to jail and prison terms, only to see them back in his courtroom with nothing to show for their time

Costello doesn't work that way anymore. Instead, he practices an innovative spin on the judicial system that has become an effective restorative-justice program.

"Our recidivism rate is around 5 percent," said Diane Whitson, court clerk for the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Suislaw Indians. "There is as much as a 67 percent failure rate of people who are incarcerated. We haven't had anyone re-offend since we started this system."

That system is known as the Peacegiving Court. Costello was part of a team that invented it in Deschutes County, and now it's part of the judicial systems for both the Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Suislaw Indians.

Restorative justice emphasizes repairing the harm caused by the crime, making offenders take accountability for their actions and their crimes' effect on victims. The victims are active participants, providing insight on a crime's impact and helping devise solutions.

Joe Ward could tell by the look on his cousin's face he was in trouble. There would be no warnings or second chances this time.

The cousin, a Coquille tribal police officer, stopped Ward in 2004 for driving with a suspended license. Ward had neglected to pay nearly \$6,000 in traffic fines. Little did he know, Ward was set to become the poster boy for a new peacegiving process that many tribal members still doubted.

"Joe was really the model case to answer people's questions if this would work," Costello said.

Costello could have imposed additional fines and revoked Ward's driver's license. But that would have left Ward unable to work and provide for his family.

Instead, Costello referred him to the Peacegiving Court. There, Ward was connected with a peacegiver, a mentor handpicked to create a plan for Ward's future.

Ward was then put into a peacegiving circle, in which the people affected by his poor decisions spoke to him. The circle included the peacegiver, Ward's aunt and his boss, among others.

A contract was then drawn up that allowed Ward to borrow money from his aunt and boss to pay off the fines while he continued to work. He also had to go through every tedious step to regain his driver's license.

"There was a lot of appointments and running around," he said. 'That piece of license is gold, and that whole process made me realize that."

Within four months, Ward regained his license, which he happily showed to Costello. Soon after that, he paid his debts.

"It really taught me to be responsible," he said. 'It was a good

way to get me to learn a lesson." Costello is the father of the Peacegiving Court. He began practicing restorative justice in the state court system in Deschutes County in 1984.

Costello said he did away with such words as "punishment" and concepts like leniency. He focused instead on ways to teach offenders the real consequences of their actions.

Soon, Costello and his fellow judges were seeing lower recidivism rates.

In 1997, Costello was approached by the leaders of the Coquille Tribe. They were concerned about leadership within the tribe. They wanted to challenge the community

to find other ways of justice. Costello became the Coquille Tribe's chief judge and began working with tribal leaders. The Confederated Tribes joined the project in 2002, and soon both tribes had their models in place.

"He is the god when it comes to the

**See JUSTICE** Continued on Page 3

# **2013 Indian Affairs** budget shows cuts

WASHINGTON - President Obama's fiscal year 2013 budget request for Indian Affairs, which includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education, is \$2.5 billion – a \$4.6 million decrease below the FY 2012 level.

Officials said the proposed budget maintains the president's commitment to meeting the government's responsibilities to the 566 American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, while toeing fiscal responsibility line and improving government efficiency.

"The budget request maintains President Obama's commitment to strengthening tribal nations by making targeted increases in Indian Affairs programs that support tribal self-determination managing BIA-funded programs, increase public safety in tribal communities by strengthening police capabilities, improve the administration of tribal land, mineral, timber and other trust resources and advance Indian education," Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs Larry

Hawk said. "Indian Affairs is sensitive to the need for achieving greater results at a lower cost, and the proposed budget reflects the tough choices that will make us more cost efficient in carrying out our missions."

The request includes \$43.8 million in nation-to-nation relationships (up \$12.3 million), protecting Indian Country (up \$11 million), improving trust land management (up \$15.4 million) and advancing Indian education (up \$5.2 million).

Under nation-to-nation relationships, the budget request for Contract Support is \$228.0 million – an \$8.8 million increase - which enables a tribe operating BIA-funded programs to meet administrative costs without decreasing program funds. It also includes an increase of \$3.5 million for land and water claim settlements.

The request for BIA Law Enforcement is \$353.9 million with targeted increases of

See BUDGET Continued on Page 4

# Ariz. senator introduces tribal water rights deal

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) -Two northeastern Arizona tribes would waive further claims to water from the Little Colorado River system in exchange for the promise of groundwater delivery under legislation projects introduced last Tuesday in Congress.

Arizona Sen. Jon Kyl, who has shepherded other key American Indian water rights settlements through Congress, had asked negotiators for the tribes and 30 other entities to lower the cost of what was once an \$800 million agreement so he could introduce the legislation ahead of his planned retirement.



Arizona Sen. Jon Kyl

"I believe this bill represents the best opportunity for all of the parties and for the American taxpayer to achieve a fair result," Kyl, a Republican, said in a

See DEAL Continued on Page 2

# ND higher ed board to sue to drop Fighting Sioux

DALE WETZEL
Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) – North Dakota's Board of Higher Education voted Monday to sue to attempt to block a public vote on a state law that requires the University of North Dakota's athletics teams to be called the Fighting Sioux.

The board approved the lawsuit after meeting by telephone with state Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, who said he was confident the law violates the North Dakota Constitution. The constitution gives the board broad powers to manage the state's 11 public colleges, Stenehjem said.

Board members described their decision as a defense of their constitutional prerogatives, while nickname supporters described it as an affront meant to silence voters.

"In the wake of very serious problems within the North Dakota university system, our state Board of Higher Education has instead decided their priority should be trying to use the legal system to disenfranchise the voters of North Dakota," a spokesman for the referendum campaign, Sean Johnson, said in a statement.

The university has been trying to retire the nickname and a separate logo that shows an American Indian warrior's square-jawed profile. Last November, the North Dakota Legislature repealed a state law that required UND to use the nickname and logo.

However, nickname supporters filed referendum petitions last week with North Dakota's secretary of state, Al Jaeger, to revive the pro-nickname law. It is now back in effect.

If Jaeger decides the petitions are valid, the question could be put on North Dakota's June 12 statewide primary election ballot. Voters would then decide whether to uphold the law,



DALEWETZEL / ASSOCIATED PRESS EIL

In this March 22, 2010, file photo, hockey sweaters displaying the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname and logo are displayed in a souvenir shop inside Ralph Engelstad Arena in Grand Forks, N.D. North Dakota's Board of Higher Education voted Monday, Feb. 13, 2012, to sue to try to block a state law requiring the university's athletics teams to be called the Fighting Sioux.

which requires the university to keep the nickname and logo, or repeal it.

Stenehjem said he expects to file paperwork with the North Dakota Supreme Court within a week, asking the court to block the issue from going to a statewide vote. Stenehjem said he believes the Supreme Court has to take the case immediately, without having it first handled in a North Dakota district court

He said he hopes the Supreme Court will hear arguments in the case by mid-March.

The NCAA has imposed sanctions on the university for using the nickname and logo. The association says the school cannot host post-season tournaments, and its teams won't be able to wear uniforms with the nickname or logo in post-season play.

During Monday's meeting, board members argued about whether the law requires UND teams to wear uniforms with the nickname and logo. They decided to leave that issue up to the university, which favors uniforms without them.

## DEA

Continued from Page

speech on the Senate floor. "The settlement resolves significant legal claims, limits legal exposure, avoids protracted litigation costs and, most importantly, saves lives."

Tribes often trade what could be huge water claims for the promise of federal funding to deliver water to tribal communities. While Kyl's legislation identifies funding sources, the groundwater projects are largely dependent on appropriations and are expected to cost more than \$315 million.

The Little Colorado River runs through the southwestern portion of the Navajo Nation. Some Navajos and Hopis strongly believe the tribes have rights to most, if not, all the water and that their governments should fight for it in court.

They were angry at the news that the settlement, which has been in the works for decades, went to Congress before the tribal councils. The settlement also requires the approval of the state, its major water providers, cities and ranches.

"Sen. Kyl has betrayed us by rushing this legislation without the Hopis getting an opportunity to have their voice be heard," said Vernon Masayesva, a former Hopi chairman and co-founder of the Black Mesa Trust.

Jihan Gearon, executive director of the Black Mesa Water Coalition, said the group wouldn't support the settlement when it means signing away rights to surface water for groundwater without funding to access it.

"As every Navajo knows, you can't drink paper water," she said.

Navajo water rights attorney

Stanley Pollack, who has been working on the tribes' claims to the Little Colorado River since 1985, is set to brief Navajo lawmakers this week on the deal. He said he remains optimistic that the Navajo Nation Council, whose members differ from those who approved a version of the deal last year, will agree

"For more than 20 years or for more than one-fifth of the time Arizona has been a state, we've been in negotiations over this issue," he said.

The water rights deal once included claims to water from the lower Colorado River basin and a \$515 million pipeline project to deliver it to Navajo communities, as well giving the Navajos any unclaimed flows in the Little Colorado River and settling the Hopis claims to the tributary.

The settlement legislation reserves a portion of Colorado River water for a future Navajo Nation claim. The tribe also would drop legal claims against the federal government over its management of the Little Colorado River under the legislation, though a breach of trust claim can be refiled.

Hopi Chairman Le Roy Shingoitewa said about 40 percent of Hopi families have water hookups in their homes. The rest still haul water because some villages have no water system and others do not have full sanitation facilities. The groundwater projects would benefit Navajos in and near Ganado and Leupp, and Hopis in each of the tribe's villages.

"We all agreed to what we placed before Kyl," Shingoitewa said. "We're just happy that we've come to a point we can look forward to better services for our people."



Phone: (580) - 931 - 3061 | info@intertribalsoftware.com



# Neb. bill targeting Whiteclay faces scrutiny

**GRANT SCHULTE** Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) – A proposal to allow for stricter alcohol rules in certain parts of Nebraska would give local governments the tools they need to fight public drunkenness, a state lawmaker said Feb. 13.

But the bill faced skepticism from some state lawmakers and industry leaders, who questioned whether the measure unfairly singled out certain areas. Critics also said they doubted the measure would solve persistent alcohol abuse in problem areas.

Ellsworth Sen. LeRoy Louden told the Legislature's General Affairs Committee he introduced the measure, LB 829, to help local governments fight alcohol abuse in Whiteclay, a town blamed for rampant alcohol abuse and bootlegging on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and specific neighborhoods in Omaha.

Louden said the bill allows local governments to control alcohol problems without imposing blanket restrictions.

"This type of business has to be scrutinized much more than the sale of beer and alcohol at a local grocery store frequented by the general public,"

Louden said. The bill's intention "is not to create a lot of impact zones throughout the state. It is a tool for counties to have but in reality will probably not be used all that often."

Whiteclay is often blamed for widespread alcoholism and bootlegging on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where alcohol is banned. The town has fewer than two dozen residents - yet its four offsite beer stores sold nearly 5 million cans in 2010, according to the state alcohol commission.

The bill would let local governments seek a state "alcohol impact zone" designation for specific problem neighborhoods. The state liquor commission could then limit the hours the alcohol sellers are open, ban the sale of certain products or restrict single-can sales. The bill would require a public hearing before the commission creates an alcohol impact zone.

Industry advocates said the bill would simply move the alcohol problem to other areas and punishes beer store owners who are running lawful businesses. Those who violate alcohol-sales laws could face license suspensions or revocations, said Kathy Siefkin, executive director of the Nebraska Grocery Industry

Association.

"Why should an existing license holder be punished for something when they haven't done anything wrong?" Siefkin said. "They haven't broken the law."

But activists who have battled alcohol problems in Whiteclay said the industry has failed to stop illegal drinking around the town and smugglers who consume or resell it on the reservation.

Mark Vasina, the president of Nebraskans for Peace, who has produced a documentary about Whiteclay, said tribe members have recounted stories of beer sellers peddling alcohol for sex, pornography and food stamps. He acknowledged that the bill might not solve the alcohol problems but said it would "send a message" that Nebraska lawmakers are clamping down.

The Oglala band of the Lakota nation, known to outsiders as the Sioux, has struggled with alcoholism and poverty for generations. The debate over alcohol sales rose to national prominence in 1999, when two tribal members were murdered near Whiteclay. Their unsolved deaths inspired a yearly march from Pine Ridge to Whiteclay, and activists

have occasionally staged blockades to block the flow of alcohol into the reservation.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe filed a \$500 million federal lawsuit earlier this month against some of the world's largest beer makers, their distributors, and the four beer stores in Whiteclay.

Several states have joined forces with local governments in recent years to target problem areas, often in downtown urban areas and highpoverty neighborhoods.

In Washington state, the state Liquor Control Board has placed alcohol impact areas in several Seattle neighborhoods. The board restricts the sale of 29 types of beer and wine, with a focus on cheap, high-sugar brands. Local governments target specific neighborhoods and ask the Liquor Control Board to ban certain types of alcohol or limit the hours when customers can buy.

In 2010, the City Council in Memphis, Tenn., established an alcohol impact zone that banned single-beer sales downtown because of alleged ties between sales, aggressive behavior and panhandling.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country





by him."

**JUSTICE** 

Peacegiving Court unless they violation or dispute on tribal admit their guilt. Person-to- lands in these counties can to jail in my life, I have never person disputes also can go to be referred to a Peacegiving really noticed anything Peacegiving Court. The party or parties are then

said. 'We have all been trained

referred as well.

'Multiple people are affected. tribal court. We find out everybody who is involved and give them the volunteers, and the system them restore."

chance to speak."

The Coquille Tribe and the By Confederated Tribes oversee estimates incarcerating an areas within Coos, Curry, offender costs nearly \$32,000 Peacegiving Court," Whitson Lane and Douglas counties. a year. The Coquille Tribe also violate tribal law can't get into reach Lincoln County. Any

The court handles only connected with a peacegiver, what a state system would 'It's just time spent. I have who guides them through call misdemeanors, mostly an agreed-upon plan. Most dealing with vandalism, theft, peacegiving cases involve person-to-person violence, It has never happened." juveniles, but adults can be custodial interference and some drug- and alcohol-"When a person commits an related offenses. Any tribal offense, it's not just one person member who commits a involved," Whitson said. federal felony goes to non-

costs the tribe almost nothing. comparison, Whiton

Costello dismisses any stretches to Jackson County, suggestion that his restorative members who and the Confederated Tribes justice system is soft on

"Having sent a lot of people productive happen while they were there," he said. never had anybody say to me (peacegiving) is not effective.

Whitson agrees.

"If people think the peacegiving court is easy, they are mistaken," she said. "The peacegivers make the children acknowledge and accept what The peacegivers are they have done. They make

# Miccosukee tribe says citizens owe \$26M to IRS

MIAMI (AP) Miccosukee Indian tribe in South Florida says its citizens could owe nearly \$26 million to the Internal Revenue Service because of bad legal advice.

The tribe is blaming its former attorney Dexter Lehtinen, who is also a former Miami U.S. attorney and husband of U.S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla. The tribe claims Lehtinen gave misleading advice about whether individual members had to pay federal income taxes out of casino gambling distributions.

The tribe itself is considered a sovereign nation not required to pay income taxes. But the IRS says individual members do have to pay.

Lehtinen's attorney told The Miami Herald that the Miccosukees are trying to shift blame to him to cover up mistakes by their own leaders. Lehtinen represented the tribe on a variety of issues from 1992 until he was fired in 2010 following a change in Miccosukee leadership.

The tribe has filed a malpractice lawsuit seeking damages against Lehtinen over the tax issue; Lehtinen is seeking to have it thrown out.

"Those folks left him high and dry," said Lehtinen's lawyer, Joseph Klock. "Their case is absolutely ridiculous."

Klock did not respond Monday to an email seeking further comment from The Associated Press. There was also no response from two tribe attorneys.

According Miccosukees, more than 100 of its members could owe the IRS \$25.8 million in back taxes, penalties and interest from money they got from the tribe's casino west of Miami.

The IRS, meanwhile, is continuing to audit the tribe's 600 members. A hearing is set Feb. 24 in federal court on an IRS effort to subpoena personal financial records from 2010, which the tribe contends is overbroad.

Lehtinen contends that he privately advised the tribe about its members' potential tax liability and that they should create a reserve fund in case the IRS prevailed in their dispute. Under past leaders, \$20 million was set aside but Lehtinen said the fund was "dissipated" after the new leadership took over in 2009.

# VINITA

918-256-5585 LANGLEY

918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

Equal Housing Lender Native American Owned

include Sardis Lake, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers creation that has provided Oklahoma City other central Oklahoma communities with water for about 50 years.

Pruitt filed papers Friday, Feb. 17 asking that the state Supreme Court take up the matter; the tribes submitted their motion Feb. 14 in a lawsuit filed last August against Gov. Mary Fallin, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board and both the city of Oklahoma City and the city's

water trust.

Attorney Michael Burrage, who represents the tribes, said Pruitt's state lawsuit doesn't address the issues in the federal court case.

"The issues addressed in the federal court case deal with long-established rights that the tribes have under the treaties and case law that interprets those treaties," Burrage said.

Pruitt said in a statement that the tribes claim control of all water in 22 counties in the southeastern corner of the state but no longer want to discuss water use.

"They indicated in their original lawsuit that the

stream adjudication process was necessary. Since then they have reversed their position," Pruitt said in a statement relayed by spokeswoman Diane Clay. "They are once again demonstrating they do not want Oklahoma citizens at the table when their water rights are decided."

The tribes' federal lawsuit seeks to bar the state and Oklahoma City from transporting water from the region, but Burrage said the tribes "are not seeking to disrupt anyone's water supply

The two tribes have refused Fallin's request to drop their

# DRUMRIGHT DENTAL CENTER Advanced Dental Technology

We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# Film with novice Eskimo cast opens in

## **US** theaters

**RACHEL D'ORO** Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) - Two Inupiat Eskimo teenagers from a remote Arctic town find themselves at the center of a tragic killing brought on by a crystal meth-fueled fight during a seal hunt in the frozen north. The childhood best friends try to cover up the death but struggle to elude suspicions, forcing them to confront the limits of friendship and

The fictional dilemma is the heart of "On the Ice," a thriller filmed in Barrow, Alaska, in 2010 with novice Inupiat actors. The 2011 Sundance Film festival entry will make its theatrical premiere Friday in New York and the Alaska cities of Anchorage and Fairbanks, then expand to cities including Los Angeles, Chicago, Seattle and San

Barrow, an isolated whaling community of 4,300, is far from Alaska's limited road system. Located about 320 miles (515 kilometers) north of the Arctic Circle, it is the northernmost town in the United States. Winter means endless nights and summer constant daylight, and temperatures can dip to minus 40 degrees Farenheit (minus 40 Celsius). Everyone knows everyone, often through family connections.

For the filmmakers, it was important to capture the setting. It was crucial to cast Inuit people as Inuit people.

"I didn't want to cast Japanese people or Korean people, which is what I grew up watching," said its New York-based director and screenwriter, Andrew Okpeaha MacLean. "It's just like, no way. That has to stop."

The 96-minute film is the first feature-length movie from the 39-year-old MacLean – who is part Inupiat and spent much of his youth in Barrow and was co-produced by his wife, Cara Marcous. It was loosely based on their short film "Sikumi,"



Josiah Patkotak (left) and John Miller star as two friends at the center of a tragic killing brought on be a crystal meth-fueled fight....

which means on the ice in Inupiaq. The period film, shot in Barrow in the Inupiaq language, won the jury prize for short filmmaking at Sundance in

Both movies used novice Inupiat actors, though the short film starred older ones - mostly MacLean's friends. But few Inuits work as professional actors, especially teenagers, who were the focus of the story. Casting calls throughout Alaska, as well as in Arctic Canada, attracted about 700 hopefuls.

"They did an amazing job," Marcous, 36, said of the cast. "It's really incredible what they were able to do. They literally had no experience with the camera at all."

After the success of "Sikumi," the couple returned to Sundance to help develop the feature film, participating in Sundance Institute programs and getting paired up with advisers such as actor Ed Harris. Harris said he learned that MacLean's Native heritage is important to him and he has a keen passion for storytelling.

"I think he has a fine career in front of him because he gives a damn about the human condition, knows how to tell a story, is passionate about his work, and gaining confidence with every film he makes," Harris said in an email to The Associated Press.

The film, made on a budget of less than \$1 million, has won several awards at other venues, including best first feature at the Berlin film festival. At the Sundance debut, "On the Ice" had the audience leaning forward, fully engaged in the plot, said Michelle Satter, founding director of the Sundance Institute feature film program.

The death at the center of the teens' plight – and the source of their ever-growing guilt - is open to interpretation as either an accident or a murder, as intended by MacLean.

"So much of what the film is about is about a kind of moral gray area," said MacLean. "Exactly what causes the killing is in question and who's responsible for it is really debatable. You could make a case for several different ways, and the response to it kind of builds on that, on that kind of moral ambiguity."

MacLean has an "exquisite eye" for the specific, presenting a little-known world with passion and clarity, Satter said.

"He's telling stories in such an honest and authentic place and with such rich detail that those stories will resonate for a much bigger audience,"

# Cree dancer recaptures hoop dance title

**DEB KROL** Heard Museum

PHOENIX, Ariz. — In a stunning comeback, 2006/2007 World Hoop Dance Champion Dallas Arcand (Cree) of Calgary, Alb., Canada reclaimed his title at the 22nd Annual Heard Museum World Championship Hoop Dance Contest. An estimated audience of 7,000 came to cheer on one or more of their favorites from a roster of 56 hoop dancers from the U.S. and Canada. The Jay Kahn Memorial Fund sponsors the teen competition on the Arts is a supporter of the

Arcand had been absent from the competition for a few years, so his triumphed over the 2011 champion, Tony Duncan of Mesa, Ariz. (San Apache/Mandan/Hidatsa/ Arikara), who took third place, as well as another former champion, Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. Alex Wells (Salish/Lil' Wat Nation) of



prizes and the Arizona Commission Jensen (Navajo/Pima/Maricopa) of Dilkon, Ariz., scored second; former teen champion Jasmine Rae Pickner-Bell (Crow Creek Dakota) of Riverton, Wyo., took fourth place; another return was welcomed by many. He crowd favorite, Navajo hoop dancer Lowery Begay of Jonesborough, Tenn., won fifth place; and rounding out the adult division was Michael Goedel (Lumbee/Yakima/Tulalip) of

Three-time youth champion Tyrese Mount Currie, B. C., Canada. (Wells Jensen, son of Lane Jensen, won his did not place in the finals this year.) first teen division world championship Longtime hoop dance favorite Lane over Talon Ree Duncan, Tony

Band of Ottawa & Chippewa) of categories. In recent years, as hoop Peshawbestown, Mich.

Brian Hammill (Ho Chunk) of division title, with Moontee Singuah (Hopi/Tewa) of Glendale, Ariz., smaller. taking second place and longtime hoop dancer Terry Goedel (Yakima/ Tulalip), father of Michael Goedel, winning third place.

In the youth division, Tiana Schocko, the younger sister of Vanessa Schocko, won the world title; Nedallas Hammill (Navajo/Ho Chunk), the son of Brian Hammill, won second place; and Jacob Cabarrubia (Little River Band of Ottawa Indians) from Manistee, Mich., took home a third place showing.

Hoop dancing incorporates speed and agility as dancers maneuver their bodies through one to more than 50 hoops. Dancers also integrate creative designs and difficult manipulations of the hoops to present a unique variation of the dance.

This year's competition saw the introduction of new moves and no

Duncan's younger brother; and less than three tiebreaker dance-Vanessa Schocko (Grand Traverse offs in the adult, teen and senior dancers continue to refine and grow their routines, the points scored have New River, Ariz., held onto his senior climbed, and the point spreads for the adult division continue to grow

> The judges included: Jocy Bird (Mandan/Hidatsa/Arikara/Dakota), of Brookings, South Dakota: Victor Bob (Navajo), from Gallup, New Mexico; Kevin Connywerdy, Comanche, Norman, Oklahoma; Bruce LeClaire (Rosebud Sioux) from Durango, Colorado; and James Pheasant (Eastern Band of Cherokee) from Cherokee, North Carolina.

> In other developments, the Sixkiller family of Gila River Indian Community has pledged an extra \$200 for the Tiny Tots division for the 2013 Hoop Dance in honor of their 57th wedding anniversary.

> The 23rd Annual Heard Museum World Championship Hoop Dance Contest will be held Feb. 9-10, 2013. Visit heard.org/hoop for details.

### Rights set for medical care

DENVER (AP) - A civil rights complaint that a Colorado Native American woman did not get proper medical treatment has been settled.

The settlement between the Colorado Civil Rights Commission and Southwest Systems Health establishes new policies to ensure tribal members who come off reservations for medical treatment don't face discrimination.

The complaint filed by the commission indicated there had been a persistent problem with American Indians being turned away from Southwest Memorial Hospital in Cortez for years. According to the Denver Post, the complaint was filed by the commission because the woman who said she had been raped did not want to get involved.

#### **Tribes welcome ruling**

DENVER (AP) - A coalition of Indian tribes is welcoming a court ruling that tribes cannot be held in contempt for commercial ventures such as personal loans offered over the Internet.

The Native American Lending Alliance says Monday's ruling by a Denver District Court judge means that tribal immunity has no territorial boundaries.

The Colorado Attorney General's office is reviewing the opinion. The tribes involved include the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and the Santee Sioux Nation.

#### Volunteers repair gravesite arch at Wounded Knee

WOUNDED KNEE, S.D. (AP) – A group of volunteers repaired an archway that marks a mass grave where Sioux men, women and children were killed near Wounded Knee Creek.

Julian Brown Eyes owns a masonry company in Rapid City. He and a group of volunteers did the repair work.

Brown Eyes' daughter Juliana

is doing a documentary on the site. She says the archway repair is a Valentine's Day gift of love. KELO-TV of Sioux Falls reports the documentary will make its debut in May.

The massacre happened in 1890. U.S. Army cavalry soldiers were searching a Sioux camp for weapons when gunfire broke out. More than 150 Sioux were indiscriminately shot.

The site on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation was also the location of an American Indian Movement protest in 1973.

## **BUDGET**

The request includes \$24.6 million for tribal courts to support the enhanced capabilities given to them in the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2009.

\$11 million for law enforcement operations, detention operations and tribal courts. The request for law enforcement operations builds on increases from previous years - for a total of \$189.7 million - for criminal investigations and police services to enable the BIA to improve its recruitment and hiring for law enforcement officers and detention center staff, including

The request includes \$88.2 million for detention center operations - an increase of \$6.5 million – for staffing, training and equipment to increase capacity to hold and process detainees and to fund operations at newly constructed detention facilities.

The request includes \$24.6 million for tribal courts to support the enhanced capabilities given to them

in the Tribal Law and Order Act of

The funding also supports the expansion of a 2010 program launched to reduce crime on four reservations with high violent crime rates. The program resulted in a 35 percent combined reduction in violent crime. Two additional reservations with high crime rates will be added to this initiative.

The DOI has also undertaken an overhaul of the federal fee-totrust process. As a result, between 2009 and 2011 the DOI processed 697 applications. The 2013 budget request supports improving trust land management through a program increase of \$15.4 million for:

- Rights Protection Implementation (up \$3.5 million) to support implementing federal court orders resulting from decisions in offreservation treaty rights litigation,
- Tribal Management Development Program (up \$2.0 million) to support tribes in the management of their on-reservation fish and game
- Cooperative Landscape Development (up \$800,000) to support participation for the bureau and tribes in the Landscape

Conservation Cooperatives,

- Invasive Species (up \$500,000) to support tribal programs that control, manage and eradicate harmful plant and animal species from reservations,
- Forestry Programs (up \$1 million) that develop, maintain and enhance tribal forest resources,
- Trust Services (up \$5.5 million) to support the BIA's responsibilities of trust services, probate and land titles and records, and
- Litigation Support/Attorney Fees (up \$1.5 million) to assist tribes in protecting trust resources.

The budget also addresses educational needs from elementary through post secondary and adult education, including security issues at school facilities to ensure environments are safe for students and an educational reform to increase student academic achievement in BIE schools.

The request for the BIE is \$796.1 million, an increase of \$653,000 above the 2012 level, with increases

• Tribal Grant Support Costs (up \$2.0 million) to help tribes operating BIE schools cover administrative and indirect costs,

• Tribal Colleges and Universities (up \$2.5 million) to assist in the economic development of tribal communities as they offer resources and facilities to teach community members workplace skills and to support tribal plans for development, and

• Scholarships (up \$710,000) for the BIE's Scholarships and Adult **Education and Special Higher** Education Scholarships programs to help adults obtain a GED, provide job skills training and provide financial aid for post secondary and graduate students pursuing degrees in professions that meet tribal communities' needs.

The budget also requests \$36.3 million for BIA Land and Water Claim Settlements to fund settlements that help deliver clean drinking water to Indian communities and provide certainty to water users across the West.

In accordance with a 2011 Obama's memo, the 2013 budget request includes reductions and identifies efficiencies that can be achieved through consolidation, cost cutting, realignments and program decreases such as:

• Improved Management (down

\$19.7 million) includes measures taken and those anticipated to ensure that tribal needs and priorities are addressed to reduce Indian Affairs administrative costs,

- Realignment (up \$1.3 million) includes an increase to reflect the transfer of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board from the Office of the Secretary to Indian Affairs, which would oversee the implementation of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990, as amended,
- Law Enforcement Special Initiatives (down \$2.6 million) reflecting reduced participation on activities such as intelligence sharing,
- Information Resources Technology (down \$6.1 million) due to standardization and consolidation of IT infrastructure,
- The Indian Student Equalization Program (down \$4.5 million) to reflect a decline in student population,
- Replacement School Construction (down \$17.8 million) as it focuses on improving conditions of existing school facilities, and
- The Indian Guaranteed Loan Program (down \$2.1 million) for evaluating of effectiveness.

#### PNC, Bacone hosting academic info session

**TONI HILL** 

Pawnee Nation College

PAWNEE, Okla. - Pawnee Nation College (PNC), Bacone College and the City of Pawnee present an Oklahoma Native Leadership Initiative (ONLI) Informational Session, Q&A and Community Social.

The event will be held Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. at the Albin Leadingfox Hall located in the circle on the Pawnee Tribal Reserve at 861 Little Dee Drive.

Staff from Bacone College and PNC will present information about the academic opportunities available locally to individuals of diversity. Specific topics include admission procedures, enrollment guidance and financial aid options. Free food, great giveaways and networking opportunities compliment the occasion.

For more information, contact PNC at (918) 762-3343 or the following staff members. Marcella Stephenson at mstephenson@ pawneenationcollege.org Staci Glyckherr at sglyckherr@ pawneenationcollege.org.

#### **UKB** hosting indoor **Stomp Dance**

M. THOMAS JORDAN UKB Communications Office

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. -The United Keetoowah Band is holding its 1st Indoor Stomp Dance at the UKB Wellness Center Feb. 25.

Starting at 5 p.m., weather permitting, a stickball game is being held and a chili dinner follows at 6 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, shells and hats.

The stomp dance commences at 7 p.m. Concessions are available during the dance.

Come and join the festivities of this Keetoowah tradition.

For more information call the UKB Culture Center at (918) 772-4372.

# COMMENTARY



# Addressing the most discriminatory bill ever passed in South Dakota

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Representative Steve Hickey (R-Sioux Falls) introduced a bill to repeal a bill that was passed last year that set a statute of limitation for child sex abuse civil suits.

House Bill 1104 was slipped quietly through the state legislature last year even drawing the support of the Representative from the Pine Ridge Reservation, Jim Bradford. The bill limited the time to file civil suits to three years from the time a victim was abused or three years from the time a victim reasonably discovered they were harmed by the abuse. The bill also read that those that had not reached the age of 40 could still file a suit.

Since nearly all of those involved in lawsuits against the Catholic Church for child sexual abuse are far past the age of 40 and nearly all of them are Native Americans, House Bill 1104 was clearly one of most discriminatory bills ever introduced and passed by the South Dakota State legislators.

But here is the clincher as explained by Rep. Hickey. "In 2010 an attorney for a Catholic Church who is presently litigating cases for the Church in our state drafted Bill 1104 to place an arbitrary and discriminatory statute of limitations on childhood sex abuse civil litigations. The bill was not circulated for co-sponsors and no opponent testimony. Those affected by it did not know about it until it

passed. The fact that it was drafted by a church attorney so it would shelter his client; those details were not mentioned on the House or Senate floor."

"I would suggest that the way that House Bill 1104 came to this body in 2010 re-enforces a church cover-up of abuses which has been extensively documented in our state and throughout the world," Hickey

Bill 1104 was retroactive so that dozens of suits filed by Native Americans were automatically thrown out. Attorney Marci Hamilton put it this way, "In part this bill, House Bill 1218 (the bill to repeal 1104) is needed because of the unfortunate House Bill 1104 that passed in 2010, targeted Native American victims of priests within the Roman Catholic Church and I think it opens South Dakota to liability for having violated the U. S. Constitution based on race."

Isadore Zephier, a member of the Yankton Sioux Tribe, was there to give testimony. He said, "I am a survivor and I went through a lot of suffering when I was seven year old until I was 10 years old. Since there isn't much time left, I just want to give you something for you to understand where I am coming from. If all of you can imagine yourself being forced to perform oral copulation on a priest for three or four years, constantly, then I hope that will help you understand. To make this law for the victims is all I ask."

So far the state legislators appear to be on the fence. The first time around the bill to repeal HB 1104,

failed, but it may be brought up again. In other words HB 1218 still has life, but it needs the support of more legislators.

It is hard for most Native Americans to understand why a bill aimed solely at them is not considered discriminatory. There is little doubt that sexual abuse of Indian children took place within the confines of the Catholic Indian boarding schools in South Dakota. St. Joseph's Boarding School in Chamberlain, South Dakota was one of the most notorious and it is the attorney for this school, who also happens to be a state legislator, who introduced HB 1104 in the first place. But stepping upon the civil rights of Indians that have been abused is going about it in the wrong way.

The U. S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, is monitoring the actions of the South Dakota legislative body and if violations of the civil rights of Native Americans are perceived, the state may be open to injunctory relief and monetary

Rep. Hickey said, "For as little as \$1,000 premium a year liability insurance can be obtained to protect an institution form the expense of litigation. They do not need laws skewed in their favor. It is understandable that institutions opposing this today are in a selfprotection mode doing everything possible to avoid exposure, scandal and accountability."

It is a crying shame that South Dakota legislators should put a law in place that would protect the Catholic Church from lawsuits



Tim Giago

filed by so many Native Americans who have suffered all of these years from the sexual abuse heaped upon them by a clergy that held them in near inescapable institutions. The children were in the boarding schools under the complete control of the priests and nuns charged with their protection.

Lives were damaged nearly irreparably and someone has to assume the responsibility for these atrocities. Wake up South Dakota; and please do not add to the harm already done.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at *UnitySoDak1@knology.net* 

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

#### **Business consultant** speaking at Pawnee meeting

PAWNEE, Okla. - World renowned author and businessman, Dr. Henry Migliore will speak at the Pawnee Tribal Development Corporation Board of Directors meeting Feb. 28, 5:30pm at the Roam Chief building located at 810 Morris Road in Pawnee. He will give an overview of "Planning for Success" followed by a Q & A session.

Migliore is presently Professor Emeritus at Northeastern State University and president of Managing For Success, an international consulting company. He teaches at the graduate and undergraduate levels for a number of universities worldwide and has been a small business consultant for the Oklahoma Small Business Development Center for 13 years.

Due to his vast background in strategic planning, Migliore is being considered for an advisory position with the Pawnee Tribal Development Corporation Board. In this capacity, he will provide input and give an assessment and determination in regard to strategic planning for the organization.

To RSVP for the Feb. 28 meeting, leave a message (918)762-4832 Ext.12 or Ext.17.

# SMC hosting photo contest

STILLWATER, Okla. - The Stillwater Medical Center Foundation is requesting submissions for its premier photographic art show, to be held in May. Photographers, both young and old, advancedamateur to professional, are encouraged to submit entries.

The show will be open to the public on May 11 and 12, 2012, at the Stillwater Community Center. Four awards will be selected by judges and show attendees will vote for a "People's Choice" selection. All awards include a cash prize.

The "Healing Through Art" project began when SMC Foundation board members learned about the positive impact of art on patient well-being and recovery. They became excited about engaging the community to partner with them to bring art into Stillwater Medical Center. Selections from the show, including the award winners, will be utilized to bring art into patient rooms at the hospital

"The research is clear and convincing. Art in hospitals has a positive impact on patients," Dr. Lee Bird, SMC Foundation board member and "Healing Through Art"

Name: \_

chair, stated. "Images that create an appropriate response, such as hope, joy, or dignity, enhance the healing process. Art is also of great benefit to family caregivers, as well as hospital staff and physicians, by helping relieve stress and fatigue."

An artist can provide up to three entries for show selection. There is no cost to enter, but specific guidelines have been set for the unframed submissions. You download an entry packet at www.smc-foundation.org, or pick one up at the foundation's office in the SMC Annex at 6th

and Walnut, Stillwater. Entries and documentation can be submitted daily April 9-12 at the Foundation office.

The Stillwater Medical Center Foundation is an independent non-profit that provides fundraising support to Stillwater Medical Center. The vital funding raised by the SMC Foundation allows the hospital to continue its long history of providing quality healthcare to Stillwater and surrounding communities.

For additional information, you may call Teresa Hopkins or Jeffery Corbett at the SMC Foundation at 405-742-5728.



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



NATIVE TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties -



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Address:		
City:	_ State:	_ Zip:
Phone:		

■ \$65.00 for 52 issues ■ \$32.50 for 26 issues

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

shouldn't you?

www.nativetimes.com

# CLASSIFIEDS



#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

Bacone College is currently accepting applications for the following position:

#### Assistant/Associate Professor of Exercise Science

Full-time Assistant/Associate Professor of Exercise Science beginning Fall 2012. **Doctorate required in Exercise Science** or related field, ABD considered. College teaching experience preferred. **Duties include instruction and advising** in coursed leading to a BS in Exercise Science, establishing and overseeing internship sites, and engaging in college/professional services.

Salaries are competitive and commensurate with experience and credentials. Review of application will begin immediately and continue until position is filled. Candidates should submit letter of intent, vita, and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403 or email, humanresources@ bacone.edu. Bacone is a private fouryear college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-



Sac & Fox Nation Casino is accepting Applications for

#### **General Manager**

Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in Business / Marketing Strong Leadership Skills Casino Management Experience

Applicants must pass background and drug screen. Native American preference is recognized.

Submit resume by fax @ 405-395-0790 or visit our website at sandfcasino.com to apply online

**OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM** 

#### **CALL CENTER REP**

Responsible for large volume of inbound calls, providing benefit information and troubleshooting member issues. Excellent interpersonal and customer service skills required. Must be proficient in current software applications including Word and Excel. Hiring rate: \$33,489/yr. Deadline for applications: 2/23/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http://www.opers. ok.gov/jobs. EOE

#### Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Authority, Inc. **AST Counseling Center**

AST Counseling Center is an outpatient behavioral health counseling center within the AST Health Systems. AST Counseling Center provides services to Native Americans as well as non-Native Americans who are on Medicaid/Medicare. AST Counseling Center is currently located in our expanded SHAWNEE CLINIC and will move soon to our newly constructed (76,000 sq. ft) AMBULATORY CARE CLINIC in LITTLE AXE, OK

AST Counseling Center is looking for highly motivated and career oriented professionals to complement the current staff and to provide a larger range of quality care for our patients.

#### ASTHA is looking for Psychologists and Psychiatrist as well as BH Clinicians who are LADC, LSCW, LMFT or LPC credentialed professionals.

We offer competitive salaries (Clinicians-\$45k to \$65K; Psychologist & Psychiatrist are negotiable) as well as employer paid benefits for employees such as: medical and dental insurance, group life, short term disability, 401K with matching contribution, AAA. We also offer voluntary products such as vision insurance, add'l group life, accident insurance, and other voluntary insurance products. Position descriptions and application information are available online at

www.astribe.com

If you have any questions about the ASTCC please contact Kristy Morrell @ 405.878.5850 or Briana Ponkilla @ 405.878.4702. Applications/resumes can be emailed to bponkilla@astribe.com or faxed to 405.878.4540.

Native American Preference/EEO/Smoke Free/Drug Free Workplace



Absentee Shawnee Tribal Health Authority, Inc. Recruiting for the following positions:

**Board Certified Family Physician** 

Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant **Behavioral Health Clinicians Registered Nurses Financial Director Budget Tech Personnel Assistant Network Administrator Medical Coder** Patient Benefit Advocate

> Located in our expanded **SHAWNEE CLINIC and newly** constructed (76,000 sq. ft) AMBULATORY CARE CLINIC in LITTLE AXE, OK

**Insurance Specialist** 

Position descriptions and application information are available online at www.astribe.com **Questions/Inquiries: Contact** Briana Ponkilla, Dir. Of Personnel, at bponkilla@astribe.com or

405.878.4702 Native American Preference/EEO/ Smoke Free & Drug Free Workplace

Look for Native American Times on Facebook! Friends get front page scoops and breaking news.

# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or

nativetimes.com. Name,

date, time, place and

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** 

Kiowa class beginning

in February at 6:30 pm,

Oliphant Hall, Room 141,

Tulsa University. Info call

Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** 

The Otoe-Missouria

**Substance Abuse and** 

sponsor an open group

for families touched by

addiction from noon to 1

Health Building. This is a

p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria

confidential group. Call 580-

**Cherokee Artists Association** 

meeting at 202 E. 5th Street

723-4466 x252 or x262 for

more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY** 

Tahlequah, Okla. Info:

(918) 458-0008 or www.

THIRD TUESDAY of even

numbered months - The

**Central Oklahoma Cherokee** 

Alliance meets at Mayflower

**UCC Church, Oklahoma City** 

at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-

0763. The next meeting is

Each month the American

Eastern Chapter hosts a

College, Muskogee, Okla.

Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP

one week ahead of time.

Phone: (918) 230-3759

11:30 a.m. at Benjamin

**FOURTH THURSDAY** 

**Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** 

Feb. 16.

cherokeeartistsassociation.

**Behavioral Health Programs** 

other event info to: Lisa@

contact information is free.



www.okchoctaws.org



MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Gather for fellowship and friendship. Volunteers welcome. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla.

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-

Phone: (918) 775-2158

**THROUGH MARCH 12** Free tobacco cessation course from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Whitney Nuttle (918) 762-3873 or Suzy Knife Chief (918) 762-2153.

2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**FEBRUARY 25 United Keetoowah Band is** holding its 1st Indoor Stomp **Dance at the UKB Wellness** Center. Starting at 5 p.m., weather permitting, a stickball game is being held and a chili dinner follows at 6 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs, shells and hats. The monthly luncheon at Bacone stomp dance commences at 7 p.m. Concessions are available during the dance. For more information call the UKB Culture Center at (918) 772-4372.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25 Indian Taco Sales - from** Wild Onion Dinner 11am to 3pm at Indian Fellowship 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Baptist Church, 6130 So. Tribal Alliance, 5320 S.

58th W. Ave, Oakhurst, Okla. Administration Building Info call Mary Kelly 918-636- Conference Room, 118

8394

**FEBRUARY 25** Bake Sale & Native Crafts, 10 MARCH 3-4 am-1pm at Sapulpa Library, 27 W Dewey, Sapulpa, Okla. Info: 918-852-6780

**FEBRUARY 25 3rd Annual Hoops Basketball** Tournament - Men's 5 on 5 Basketball Entry Fee: \$110 Deadline: Feb. 22. Prizes: 1st place - long sleeve shirts, 2nd place – t-shirts Contact: Cristine Hooper-Ben 918-316-1111

**FEBRUARY 29 Smoke-Free Homes** workshops sponsored by **Osage Nation and Native** American M-Power from 10 a.m. until Noon. sponsored by Osage Nation and Native American M-Power, are held from 10 a.m. until noon. Info call Osage Nation **Native American M-Power** at (918) 287-5380.

**MARCH-MAY** Free beginner-level **Cherokee language classes** in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction starting in March. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

MARCH 2 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

MARCH 3 **Peoria Tribal Election** for Treasurer and First Councilman. Polls open 9am-Noon, Peoria Tribal **South Eight Tribes Trail in** Miami, Okla.

Yard sale and \$5 food menu fundraiser for S.P.I.R.I.T. from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm each day. 2715 NW 11th, Oklahoma City, OK. Call Brenda a405-471-7610 or Kathryn at 405-830-0626 if you can volunteer, donate or have questions.

**MARCH 3-31** Tulsa Library's Festival of Words, a series of systemwide events to honor the achievements and celebrate the history of American Indians. For events and times, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.

MARCH 10 Red Earth Run, Regatta Park, **Oklahoma City** 

**MARCH 17 Skate Jam Competition 10** am - dark at the "Skate Park Off Broadway," 105 Reynolds in Poteau Okla. www.nativeskateparks.com

MARCH 17 **2011 OKC Princess Honor Dance at Heart of Oklahoma** Expo Center, 1700 W. Independence, Shawnee, **OK. Info contact Shirley** Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@sbcglobal.net

MARCH 17 Wild Onion Dinner from 11 am til 3 pm at Haikey Chapel UMC, 8815 E 101st St, Tulsa.

MARCH 23 Miss Indian Oklahoma City **Competition & Performance** at 6:30 pm, 3801 SE 29th St. Del City, OK. Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405632-5227 or swapskineh@ sbcglobal.net

MARCH 31 "Play Golf Native America Day," a free program for ramilies to experience a day of fun, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Cherokee Hills Golf Club located at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Info email Crystal Echo Hawk: crystal@nb3f.org

**APRIL 6 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM** - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**APRIL 7 Ponca Gourd Dance 9th Annual Spring Dance** White Eagle Cultural Center 5 miles south of Ponca City, OK (580) 268-3313 or (580) 762-0499

APRIL 14 All Gourd Honor Dance for Micheal Tsotaddle at Red **Buffalo Hall** Carnegie, OK, 2p.m. - ? For more information call Darla Tsotaddle (405) 432-8377 or Mavis Tsotaddle (580) 654-1704.

MAY 4 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 1 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JUNE 8-10 Red Earth Festival, Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

**JUNE 10-16** Jim Thorpe Native American Games at Remington Park, Oklahoma City. Proceeds benefit the Jim Thorpe **Bright Path Youth Programs** and Awakening The Spirit **Diabetes Prevention and Control program. Contact** Annetta Abbott: 405-208-9253 www.jimthorpegames.com

JULY 6 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**AUGUST 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 7** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

# Cherokee Nation offers online scholarship help

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — The Cherokee Nation now has a web portal to help its citizens search for college scholarships.

Students who sign up can use the portal, driven by Academic Works scholarship management software, to simplify the process of researching and applying for scholarships offered by the Cherokee Nation, Cherokee Nation Foundation or other entities. Gregg Simmons, the Cherokee Nation's college resources manager, said the new service provides transparency and convenience to those who use it.

"So far, the students seem to like it. It's one portal that people can use to not only apply for scholarships here and at the foundation, but also use it as a search tool for other aid opportunities out there," Simmons said. "Basically, what it's going to do is allow the students access to their account at any time. They don't have to work with our 8 to 5 schedule here. They will be able to see that their application is complete, when we have reviewed it, when an offer has been made and that the check is in the mail."

The new online service streamlines the

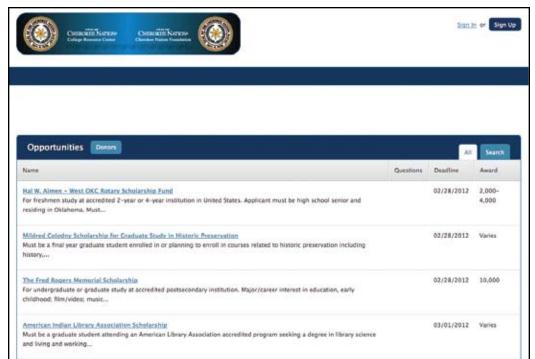
scholarship application process and saves students' time by eliminating redundancies.

"Once they apply, when it comes time for the next year, they don't have to fill out a whole new application," Simmons said. "They just update everything that needs to be updated. It should really speed things up."

The Cherokee Nation College Resource Center makes the new online service available to those students who have limited computer access.

"If someone needs help, if they need access to the technology, we have it here in our office," Simmons said. "Also, we're available to go out to communities and schools. In fact, we've got a couple of schools that have asked us to come out and help."

For more information, call 918-453-5465 or email collegeresoures@cherokee.org. To enroll in the Cherokee Nation scholarship web portal, visit https://cherokeenation.academicworks.



HTTPS://CHEROKEENATION.ACADEMICWORKS.COM/

 $The \ Cherokee \ Nation's \ new \ web \ portal \ streamlines \ the \ scholar ship \ application \ process \ for \ tribal \ citizens.$ 

# Choctaw Nation, Southeastern Oklahoma State University announce launch of Choctaw University

Choctaw Nation News Release

DURANT, Okla. - The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Learning & Development Department in partnership with Southeastern Oklahoma State University is proud to announce the launch of its newest endeavor, Choctaw University. The purpose of Choctaw University (Choctaw U) is to grow knowledge and skills of all associates by instilling a deeper understanding of their purpose within the organization. Participants will receive superior professional

Shape our future

hangs in the balance.

than state law

Your state is counting on you.

Let's pull together to Shape Our Future.

for ourselves.

for our families.

for future generations.

unacceptable. We can no longer sit idle when our health

There is a plan to create healthier lives for all Oklahomans - the **Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan**. Endorsed by the legislature, this plan outlines a clear path of action to save lives and improve our health. Join us by supporting:

Restore the rights of local communities to pass smokefree policies that are stronger

or eighth grade for all state public schools

Assure health education is taught in sixth, seventh

Prohibit the use of a hand-held electronic device while driving for all drivers under the age of 18

Oklahoma ranks 48th nationally for health. That is

development training, build knowledge, and improve their skills to be more efficient and productive leaders. Choctaw U includes two series for development, the Leadership Series and the Continuing Education Series.

According to Susan Stockton, executive director of Human Resources for the Choctaw Nation, "Developing highly skilled, highly qualified workers is the goal of every organization. Choctaw University is about more than professional development... it's about empowering our associates to advance and

succeed in the organization while achieving the dream of higher education."

The five levels of training within Choctaw U mirror that of a standard university. The official launch of Choctaw U was Jan. 26, 2012. More than 100 people have made the first year-long commitment to Choctaw U. The participants attended the orientation at Choctaw Casino and Resorts in Durant. During the meeting, participants learned how the program builds on Chief Greg Pyle's longterm vision of growing and sustaining the tribe. Choctaw

U challenges this group of leaders to begin planning towards the next century of the Choctaw people.

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Southeastern Oklahoma State University have created a partnership with a goal to achieving college credit for the Leadership
Series of Choctaw U. Courses
included in this agreement
include Leading Generational
Diversity, Transformational
Leadership, Managing
People, Effective Coaching
and Mentoring, Change
Management, and Succession

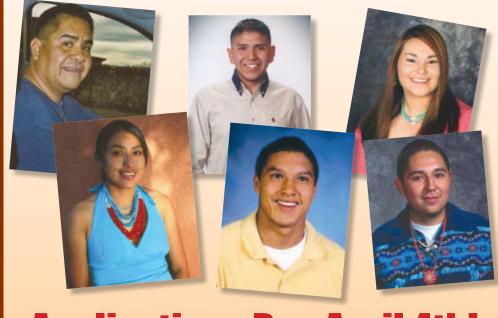
Planning.

"We are enabling our associates to grow into positions across our many business enterprises while helping them complete their college education," says Tana Sanders, director of Learning and Development.



### American Indian, Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Students

\$450,000+ awarded each year! All Undergraduate Majors Are Eligible. Graduate Scholarships Available.



## **Applications Due April 4th!**

**Download Application: aiefprograms.org** 



American Indian Education Foundation 2401 Eglin Street • Rapid City, SD 57703 (605) 342-9968

Find out more at ShapeOurFutureOK.com



## Metal Roofing & Siding

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

Look for Native American Times on Facebook!
Friends get front page scoops and breaking news.

### SPIRITUAL HEALING

ADVICE ON ALL MATTERS OF LIFE

Love, Marriage, Business, Health, Past, Present, Future Tarot Card, Psychic, readings by phone, not for entertainment. Only for those in need of help. At any time

(785) 841-1159

By Tina Guaranteed Results

# Bacone's health science programs successful

CHESLEY OXENDINE
Bacone College

MUSKOGEE, Okla. – Today's college graduates enter a wounded economy and tight job market.

Bacone's sonography and radiography students however, frequently gain employment before graduates even get a degree.

Radiography, accredited through the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology (JRCERT), experienced nearly 30 percent pass rate growth in five years.

Bacone Radiology graduates, certified through American Registry of Radiologic Technologists surged 59 percent (2007) to 87 percent (2011).

Acting Director of Radiography Shawn Dixon attributes improved rates to the school's faculty who form the program's "backbone."

"You need people who can instill in the students what they're going out there for," she said, "and give them the tools they need."

Dixon, an X-ray technician since 2002, said Bacone's Radiography program's reputation is success.

"When I started teaching here [in 2007], we were called the 'Harvard school," she said. "Our students still carry a high standard of education and GPAs behind them."

The acting director said she juggled an active family life during college, and understands challenges facing her students.

"I've been there. I've done that," Dixon said. "I tell them to look right and left – those people have problems, too. We have to push through it."

Radiography senior Joshua Good said his professors do "everything they can to help."

"When we have a hard time passing a test, they let us take it again or do study groups," said Good. "They take a lot of time out of their personal schedule to help us."

The Fayetteville, Ark. senior said

he originally came to Bacone for football.

"I took some classes, leaning toward being a coach or teacher," he said. "Then I heard about Bacone's nationally known radiography program, and so I decided I had to find a way to get in there."

Good said he enjoys working closely with people, which radiography affords.

"You're talking to the patients, and you're the eyes of the doctor," he said. "You can't get a diagnosis if you can't see it."

Radiography
received a major
equipment upgrade
in 2009, including
standard and wall
"buckies," which
stabilize patients
during X-rays, plus an
AmRad Classic Floor
Wall/Floor Ceiling
digital X-ray machine that replaced

traditional film device.

Dixon said Bacone's cutting-edge tools mean students now duplicate in class what they find on the job.

"Technology wise we needed to catch up with our clinical sites," she said. "We're there now."

The acting director, a 2002
Bacone radiography graduate, said successful clinical experiences help students get jobs.

"We actually call clinical a

"We actually call clinicals a 'two year job interview," Dixon said. "Some of these students have jobs before they even leave here [Bacone]."

Bacone graduate Stormi Hyslop received an Associate's of Applied Science in Radiography in May 2011.

Currently employed at Creek Nation Wetumka Clinic, Hyslop said



COURTESY / BACONE COLLI

Bacone College offers students cutting-edge tools that duplicate what they'd find professionally in the workforce.

clinicals were her "foot in the door."
"I began work at Creek Nation

Community Hospital (CNCH) in Okemah," she said, "thanks to the Bacone radiography clinical experience."

A CNCH manager remembered Hyslope's character and work ethic, she said, and invited her back for an interview two months after graduation.

Hyslope said Bacone's radiography degree, compared to those from other schools, gave her an edge in getting hired so quickly.

"I wanted to graduate with a degree, not just a piece of paper," she said. "That definitely has advantages."

The X-ray technician said Bacone instructors played a part in her success, as well.

"They're really great at helping you understand things," Hyslope

said, "even if they have to stay late afterwards."

Executive Vice President and Dean of Faculty Dr. Robert K. Brown described the radiography program that originated in the 1970s, as a mainstay.

Sonography began in 2007 with its first graduating class in 2008, said

For Sonography senior Rayna Hubbard, the program's biggest strength is acting director Cindy Rich

"Cindy is really encouraging and helpful and she wants us to pass," said Hubbard. "If you are struggling, she knows this, and she'll pull you to the side and spend her free time going over all the material."

Rich, who brings over 20 years of ultrasound experience from Muskogee Regional Medical Center, said attending clinicals shapes a necessary bond with students.

"Ultrasound is a one-on-one thing," Rich said. "It's important that I get out there and build a relationship with my students, so they know they can come to me if there's a problem."

Ashley Miller, a protégée who graduated in 2008 with the inaugural sonography class, said clinical experiences build familiarity with potential employers.

"[Work sites] met me, saw that I could scan, and what kind of character I had," said Miller. "They already knew me before they met these other [applicants.]"

Miller worked at Muskogee Regional Medical Center, Muskogee Community Hospital, and then came full circle to Bacone where she now teaches students how to scan minute organs and tissues in Small Parts (DMS 2053) as an adjunct instructor.

The recent graduate said she knows her students "have lives and have kids."

"That has to be taken into consideration," the adjunct sonography instructor said. "I was sitting where they were a few years ago. That helps me teach them."

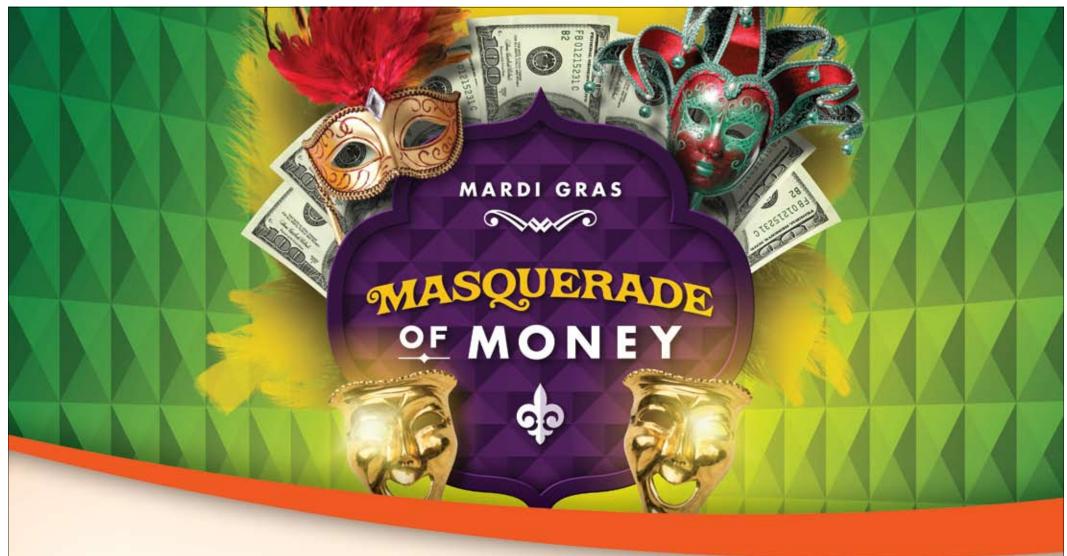
Also helping Bacone students are three Acuson ultrasound machines, said Brown, the school's chief academic officer.

But even state-of-the-art equipment is not as important as faculty, Brown said.

"We have faculty who are committed to this profession and know what it takes to be successful," Brown added. "We have good equipment, but it's the people committed to our students that help us succeed."

This continued success remains customary for Bacone, he said.

"The school has a longstanding tradition of helping to meet the demand for health care workers in this region," Brown said, "and we going to continue to do so."



Win your share of over

\$**90,000** in Cash!

Saturday, February 25 6 pm – 10 pm



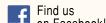
Catch some beads and join us for Masquerade of Money at Osage Casino! On Saturday, February 25 from 6pm–9pm we're holding \$500 Cash drawings five times every hour at each location. Then at 10pm, 21 lucky guests will take home \$1,000 Cash across all locations! Play with your Club Osage card February 12–23 to enter. Find your fortune this February at Osage Casino during Masquerade of Money!



JOIN CLUB OSAGE TODAY!

Visit osagecasinos.com for details.

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska • (918) 699-7777 • osagecasinos.com •





©2012 Osage Casino. Must be 18 to participate. Guests must be actively playing with their Club Osage card to be eligible for promotional drawings. Must be present to win \$500 Cash drawings. Need not be present to win \$1,000 Cash grand prize. Grand prize must be claimed within 30 days. Management reserves all rights. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700.

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Tribe seeks to limit beer sales
- Oldest Kiowa always represented tribe well
- 'Famous Dave' has Oklahoma ties









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# AMERICAN

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 9

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**MARCH 2, 2012** 

# **Colville Tribes win \$193M** for mismanaged lands

NESPELEM, (AP) - The Confederated Colville Tribes announced an agreement Feb. 24 to accept a \$193 million settlement offer from the federal government for mismanaging tribal lands.

The agreement is one of the largest Indian trust mismanagement settlements in U.S. history, Colville Tribal Chairman Michael Finley told The Wenatchee World.

The U.S. Department of Justice is expected to sign the agreement in the next two weeks, Finley said.

The Colvilles filed suit in 2005 alleging the government soldtribaltimber and leased its rangeland for less than market value for years. The case

marked one of about 60 tribal trust lawsuits, which have been pending for a decade, involving mismanagement of tribal trust lands.

The cases are separate from a class-action lawsuit, known as the Cobell case, filed against the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs that alleges mismanagement of oil, gas, grazing and timberlands.

Last Friday's settlement will have no bearing on the outcome of that pending case, Finley said. Lands involved in the mismanagement claimed in this settlement involve only trust lands that belong to the tribe and not individual members, he said.

A portion of the funds will

be set aside and distributed, probably over time, to tribal members, while the rest will be used to restore tribal forests, rangeland and other natural resources, Finley said.

"It's going to put a lot of our people back to work," he said. "Our forests need commercial thinning and tree planting. You're going to see a lot of this money being put to work right away."

The settlement exceeds the \$53 million the Colville Tribes won from the government in 1994 for lands taken to build Grand Coulee Dam.

# Okla. Supreme Court takes tribal water rights case

The Oklahoma Supreme Court would have meant the lawsuit water rights of the Choctaw has agreed to take jurisdiction of a lawsuit concerning the water rights of two Oklahomabased American Indian tribes in their historic territories in southeastern Oklahoma.

The state's highest court took the action in an order handed down on Feb. 23. Its

district court.

A hearing in the case is scheduled before a Supreme Court referee on April 19.

Earlier this month, Attorney General Scott Pruitt asked the Supreme Court to preside over a comprehensive

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - refusal to take jurisdiction stream adjudication of the would have to originate in a and Chickasaw nations in Oklahoma southeastern streams.

> In a statement, Pruitt says the high court's decision indicates that justices understand that water rights issues are important to all Oklahomans.



University of Colorado junior Garrett Akol tacks up his design project for his professor to critique Feb. 22 during an American

# **Students head to Pine** Ridge to address housing

**BRITTANY ANAS** The Daily Camera

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) - The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is one of the poorest pockets of the country, with unemployment above 80 percent.

Many of the homes on the reservation have problems like those in developing nations. They lack electricity

and sewage systems, are plagued with mold, and aren't designed to house extended families.

The South Dakota reservation that is home to the Oglala Sioux Tribe is facing a tremendous housing crisis, and a University of Colorado instructor and his architecture students want

to help. The students in Rob Pyatt's "Native American Sustainable Housing Initiative" are traveling to South Dakota to start designing housing for the reservation. It's Pyatt's 20th trip to the reservation and the students' first.

"I thought this was a great opportunity to get handson experience to go build

**See STUDENTS** *Continued on Page 5* 



DALE WETZEL / ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

In this March 22, 2010, file photo, hockey sweaters displaying the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname and logo are displayed in a souvenir shop inside Ralph Engelstad Arena in Grand Forks. N.D. North Dakota's Board of Higher Education voted Monday, Feb. 13, to sue to try to block a state law requiring the university's athletics teams to be called the Fighting Sioux.

# Lawmakers hire lawyer for Fighting Sioux dispute

**DALE WETZEL** 

Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) -Legislative leaders voted last Friday to hire an attorney to attempt to intervene in a lawsuit over the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname.

The Legislative Committee Management voted 12-5 to hire Bismarck attorney Pat Durick to defend the Legislature's interests in the case. Durick declined comment.

The committee includes the Legislature's Democratic and Republican floor leaders, and handles the Legislature's business when lawmakers are not in session.

Committee chairman and House majority leader Rep. Al Carlson, R-Fargo, argued the dispute risks curtailing Legislature's the

over North Dakota's public colleges.

"This is a big deal," Carlson said. "If we sit on the sidelines, I think it is a huge mistake."

The Board of Higher Education is suing Secretary of State Al Jaeger in an attempt to block a June vote on a law that requires the university's teams to be known as the Fighting Sioux. The law also requires the university to

See SIOUX Continued on Page 4

# Court denies county's voting rights appeal

**■** Tribes claimed the county's at-large voting for county commissioners violated the federal **Voting Rights Act by** diluting the Indian vote.

**BEN NEARY** Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - A federal appeals court on Feb. 22 rejected Fremont County's appeal of a voting rights challenge by American Indians that has forced

the county to abandon its system of at-large voting for commissioners.

The ruling by a three-judge panel of the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver upholds a 2010 ruling by U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne. Johnson had ruled in favor of members of the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes who claimed Fremont County's system of at-large voting for county commissioners violated the federal Voting Rights Act by diluting the Indian vote.

Fremont County didn't contest Johnson's finding that

at-large voting violated the law. But the county appealed after Johnson rejected its proposals to remediate the violation by creating a single, Indian majority district centered on the Wind River Indian Reservation while continuing with at-large voting in the rest of the county.

In rejecting the county's plan for "hybrid" voting districts, Johnson wrote in 2010, "The (county's) plans appear to be devised solely for the purpose of segregating citizens into separate voting districts on the basis of race

See APPEAL Continued on Page 4

## French oil giant, **US** reach royalty settlement

TEXARKANA, Texas (AP) - French oil giant Total has agreed to pay \$15 million to the U.S. government to settle federal allegations that Total underpaid royalties for natural gas taken from federal and American Indian lands.

In a statement issued last Wednesday, the U.S. Justice Department said an assortment of Total S.A. subsidiaries and affiliates reached the settlement in a case pending in a U.S. District Court in Texarkana.

In a lawsuit, the government accused Total of improperly deducting from royalty payments the cost of boosting gas to pipeline pressure, improperly reporting processed gas as unprocessed gas to reduce royalty payments, and engaging in other royalty under-reporting.

Total didn't return a message seeking comment. It's the world's fifth largest publicly traded integrated international oil and gas company, with operations in more than 130 countries.

## Feds raid 4 shops on western NY **Indian reservation**

TONAWANDA INDIAN RESERVATION, N.Y. (AP) - Synthetic marijuana and other merchandise have been seized from four retailers on a western New York Indian reservation in raids carried out by scores of federal agents.

Officials with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration tell local media outlets that they conducted Thursday's raids on the Tonawanda Indian Reservation at four smoke shops owned by American Indians. Authorities say the raids were prompted by recent local cases of medical emergencies blamed on the pot-like substance, a chemical-coated herb mixture that can have dangerous side effects.

There were no arrests at the reservation, which straddles the Niagara, Genesee and Erie county borders 25 miles northeast of Buffalo.

Authorities say the agents also seized illegal tobacco products and clothing and accessories with suspected fake brand names.

## Tribe seeks order to limit beer sales

■ One in four children born on the reservation suffer from fetal alcohol syndrome.

**GRANT SCHULTE** Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) -Leaders of a South Dakota American Indian tribe who are suing beer makers, distributors and retailers are now asking a judge to restrict alcohol sales in a tiny Nebraska town that borders their reservation.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe added the request late last week to a federal lawsuit that seeks \$500 million in damages for the alcohol-related problems on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

The tribe's attorney, Tom White of Omaha, said he will argue that Nebraska officials have failed to enforce their own laws by allowing beer sales that far surpass the amount that can legally be consumed in the area.

Alcohol is officially banned on Pine Ridge, a reservation the size of Connecticut in southwestern South Dakota. Nebraska state law prohibits drinking outside of the stores, and the nearest nonreservation town is more than 20 miles to the south. Yet the four beer retailers in Whiteclay, which has fewer than a dozen residents, sold the equivalent of nearly 5 million cans in 2010.

"The defendants have failed to make reasonable efforts to ensure their products are distributed and sold in obedience to the laws of the state of Nebraska and the Oglala Sioux tribe," White said Feb. 22.

The lawsuit says the tribe has "no adequate remedies to protect its federally granted rights" to protect its sovereignty



In this June 3, 2004, file photo, Pine Ridge police officers Mirian Laybad, left, Sqt. Oscar Hudspeth, center, and Lt. Mitch Wisecarver confiscate cases of beer at a checkpoint just north of Whiteclay, Neb. The Oglala Sioux Tribe announced Thursday, Feb. 6, that it will file a \$500 million federal lawsuit against some of the nation's largest beer distributors, alleging that they knowingly contributed to the chronic alcoholism, health problems and other social ills on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The lawsuit also targets the four beer stores in Whiteclay, a Nebraska town (pop. 11) on the South Dakota border that sells about 5 million cans of beer per year.

and enforce its own alcohol ban. He pointed to statements by Attorney General Jon Bruning, the state's top law enforcement officer, who has said shutting down the beer stores will not solve the problem.

The lawsuit in U.S. District Court of Nebraska targets some of the world's largest beer makers, as well as their distributors and the four stores in Whiteclay.

Tribal leaders and activists blame the Whiteclay businesses for chronic alcohol abuse and bootlegging on the Pine Ridge. They say most of the stores' customers come from the reservation, which spans southwest South Dakota.

The \$500 million lawsuit seeks reimbursement for the cost of health care, social services and child rehabilitation caused by chronic alcoholism on the reservation, which encompasses some of the nation's most impoverished counties.

One in four children born on the reservation suffer from fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, and the average life expectancy is estimated between 45 and 52 years - the shortest in the North Hemisphere except for Haiti, according to the lawsuit. The average American life expectancy is 77.5 years.

The lawsuit alleges that the beer makers and stores sold to Pine Ridge residents, knowing they would smuggle the alcohol into the reservation to drink or

Matthew Fletcher, a Michigan State University associate law professor who specializes in American Indian issues, said the suit offers a novel approach to a problem that has plagued the reservation for more than a century. But, Fletcher said, "my sense is, it doesn't have much of a chance."

For years, Nebraska lawmakers have struggled to curb the problem, and are considering legislation that would limit the types of alcohol sold in areas like Whiteclay. The measure would require local authorities to ask the state to designate the area an "alcohol impact zone." The state liquor commission could then limit the hours that alcohol sellers are open, as well as ban the sale of certain products.

The beer store owners, distributors and retailers have all declined to comment.





# Delaware Nation developing solar panel biz

ZEKE CAMPFIELD

Lawton Constitution

ANADARKO, Okla. (AP) – A dozen years after carpeting manufacturer Hollytex closed its former warehouse the facility has never looked so massive.

Maybe it is because new owner, the Delaware Nation, spent \$1 million last year upgrading and expanding it, or maybe it just appears that way now because it's empty. But a walk through its corridor with Jerry Kennedy, executive director of the tribe's economic development group, shows the warehouse is swollen with potential.

"We're trying to make it where it's kind of an incubator center for start-up businesses that are hopefully focused on green technology or at least a business that can't destroy the planet and can employ people," Kennedy said. "It's kind of the heritage with Mother Earth and all that kind of stuff – to help with the planet as well as to help here with employment in Anadarko."

The tribe shelled out \$3 million for the new Green Tech facility in 2009. It's 250,000 square feet of covered concrete floor, and Kennedy envisions it will soon be bustling with activity from several manufacturing and assembling companies that will be producing products to be distributed nationwide.

Last year, with a \$250,000 federal grant matched by the tribe, a solar array was installed on top of the Delaware tribal complex in Anadarko.

The solar panels knocked off about a third of the complex's daily energy use, but its impact was more demonstrative than anything.

The goal, Kennedy said, is to start assembling these same panels from within the confines of the Green Tech warehouse.

Already the tribe owns a solar power developer in New Jersey, Unami Solar, he said, and a feasibility study is planned for this summer that will bring several coastal solar panel manufacturers to the Anadarko facility with the hopes that one of them will be sold on the idea of assembling them here. In Oklahoma, Kennedy said, these corporate executives will find a progressive business climate with a solid transportation infrastructure and free trade incentives – not to mention a facility in the middle of the country.

"Oklahoma is one of the states that is really providing manufacturing jobs," Kennedy said. "There are all kinds of different agencies a business can use through the Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance to get tax benefits and employee benefits."

Other prospective clients include a Utah company the tribe recently bought out which manufactures LED, or light-emitting diode, lighting and a group that markets urinal cakes for waterless urinals.

Kennedy said the Delaware Nation Economic Development Authority is projecting 150 employees at the Anadarko complex within three to five years and another 300-500 in a The tribe adopted renewable energy as its platform for economic development in 2008, two years after Kerry Holton became its president. Holton's goal was to diversify and get away from being grant- or casino-dependent, Kennedy said. By bringing these new technologies to Anadarko the tribe would also be providing career opportunities for its younger generation.

"There aren't a lot of opportunities here in Oklahoma, so they move off to other states where there's a little more opportunity," he said. "We're wanting to create opportunity here, so they won't move off and so some of these people can come back home and have a job or career they're proud of."

In addition to the GreenTech project, the tribe is also working with the City of Anadarko and several local schools and agencies to develop an energy conservation and recycling program.

Kylah McNabb, renewable energy development specialist with Oklahoma Department of Commerce, said the state has provided funding to develop that project through a Community Energy Strategic Planning grant. It's a program adopted in several other Oklahoma cities, including Sand Springs and Wilburton, and should eventually help the tribe, city and other organizations qualify for additional green energy grants.

"It's not a great deal of money, but it's a funding stream that enables the Delaware Nation to take an in-depth look at what they would like to do in partnership with the community of Anadarko when it comes to basically holistic energy planning, to figure out what makes sense and what the community would like to see done," McNabb said. "The point is to actually pull all these things together and make it one cohesive strategy for the community as a whole."

These programs are mostly in their infancy, but local leaders have reason to believe they will make a significant economic impact in the near future.

Carla Hall, executive director of the Anadarko Chamber of Commerce, said sometimes all a community needs to do is get the ball rolling, especially when it comes to forging partnerships.

She said she has full faith that both the GreenTech project as well as the tribal-community energy partnership will mean jobs for Anadarko.

"I'm very confident that the Delaware Nation is going to bring the jobs they are working toward and their goals for that facility – and it is going to be an economic boost that is likely to have a domino effect," Hall said.

"I'm already receiving calls from area supply companies, like packaging companies, who are already interested in talking to them about their lighting company. With that will come more housing – which is one of our big drawbacks: lack of housing – and then retail will follow and possibly other manufacturing and that type of industry."

#### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
ROB WALTON
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

> Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM
- News from the crossroads of Indian Country -





## Tanka energy bar becoming mainstream

RESERVE YOUR

SPACE IN THE

CALL LISA

918-708-5838

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – A South Dakota company created to provide a healthy snack for American Indians expects its sales to grow by a third this year after seeing its product picked up by national grocery chain Whole Foods Markets.

The development also could lead to more hiring at Native American Natural Foods in Kyle, adding valuable jobs on the Pine Ridge Reservation, which encompasses some of the poorest counties in the United States.

Native American Natural Foods produces Tanka Bars, which are made with bison meat and cranberries. The high-protein, 70-calorie snack bars are based on the traditional Lakota food called wasna.

The company sold 1 million units of Tanka products, which include bars and packages of smaller bites, last year and expects that to increase by a third this year with sales at Whole Foods, co-owner Mark Tilsen said. The products are sold at 3,500 stores nationwide and online, including 67 Whole Foods

**True American Indian** 

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

stores in the Northeast and South.

Whole Foods began selling the bars late last year, and its stores in other regions are expected to add them before the end of this year, Tilsen said.

"It's wonderful when you see a company – start it from scratch – see it grow from consumer direct and then distribution and then products go out to retailers. And then we see it get to chains," co-owner Karlene Hunter said. "Whole Foods was just sort of icing on the cake and exemplifies all the work the company has been doing and fruits of the labor."

With the increased sales, the company hopes to hire four or five more full-time employees by the end of the year, Tilsen said. Native American Natural Foods started with four employees in 2005 and has grown to 16 full-time and several part-time workers.

Theo Weening, global meat coordinator at Whole Foods, said the company became interested three or four years ago in offering Tanka Bars as

part of its growing selection of buffalo products.

Weening said he likes the story behind the bar and the positive effect the company is having on the Pine Ridge community.

"I'd like to expand on it," he said.

Unlike the term organic, which is federally regulated, there's no official definition of natural food. However, Whole Foods has its own standards, and it took about two years for Native American Natural Foods to meet all the requirements, including having its plant certified, Tilsen said.

The payoff comes with access to a much broader market.

"Native American communities only represent 2 percent of the country," Tilsen said. "As we try to become a national natural brand, Whole Foods is the leader."

Michael Watson is the type of customer Native American Natural Foods hopes to attract with sales at

Whole Foods.

He's not Native American, and he's

never been to an American Indian reservation. Yet the 20-year-old University of Florida junior became hooked on Tanka Bars after his aunt gave him a box for Christmas. Since then, many of his fraternity brothers have become fans too and ordered their own supply online.

"It feels like a much more natural type of food," Watson said. "But what I like most is (that) it's a very American product."

His aunt, Ellen Harvey, 56, of Freehold, N.J., said she bought two boxes of bars to distribute as gifts to her family after learning about them from story about the Pine Ridge Reservation on ABC's "20/20."

"They're producing a quality product based on their heritage and putting people to work for everyone's benefit. I know buffalo is a good lean meat with a lot of nutrition in it," Harvey said. "I wanted to do my bit to help."

# Metal Roofing & Siding

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

Equal Housing Lender
Native American Owned



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# Native Americans strive for homemade businesses

MICHAEL NEARY Capital Journal

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - Nothing has been easy about Charlotte Almanza's work as the owner of Char's Café.

A few months ago a fire forced her Peever-based business out of its building. Fortunately she had insurance, and she's preparing to open in a new space.

But maintaining the business before the fire was a challenge as well. When Almanza wanted to make some improvements, she needed a loan - and her attempts with her local banker were not heartening.

"It wasn't much money I needed," said Almanza, who belongs to the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate tribe in northeastern South Dakota. "I was asking for \$5,000. When you don't have that support of people believing in you, it really discourages you."

But Almanza, who lives just outside the border of the reservation for the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, found another source. She took out a loan from a Native community development financial institution (CDFI) called the Four Bands Community Fund, and her business was on track.

The South Dakota Indian Business Alliance has recently produced an expansive report chronicling some problems and solutions - encountered by Native American entrepreneurs on the reservations.

"We noticed the mainstream business development programs, especially the mainstream federal programs - we just kept seeing a trend that there was little or no activity on the nine reservations," said Tanya Fiddler, the SDIBA chair.

Fiddler is also the executive director of Four Bands Community Fund, a nonprofit founded especially to assist

**US Small Business Administration:** 

entrepreneurs of the Cheyenne

The CDFI is one type of

resource recommended by the

SDIBA, which came together in

2007. CDFIs can provide much-

needed financial training, and

they can also issue loans and help

Native American business owners

or would-be owners – establish

credit. Fiddler said there are

about six Native American CDFIs

One issue that looms especially

large is establishing the credit to

start a business in the first place.

Fiddler said the opportunity to

in the state.

River Indian Reservation.

**Online Business Resources:** 

The South Dakota Indian Buisiness Alliance: www.sdibaonline.org

First Nations Development Institute: www.firstnations.org

www.sba.gov/content/minority-owned-businesses

Oklahoma Native American Business Development: www.oknabec.com

establish credit in extremely rural parts of the state can be slim.

On the reservations, the task is even tougher since the banks often do not report to credit bureaus. The cost and the potential liability involved in reporting credit, Fiddler said, are factors that make reporting difficult for the banks.

The SDIBA's report notes other obstacles Native Americans can

face when they try to obtain loans.

One is the trust status of land on

the reservations, which prevents

it from being used as collateral

when taking out loans. Because

reservation land is held in trust

status by the federal government,

the land cannot be repossessed

by banks offering loans. That

means Native Americans living

on reservations lack a source of

collateral available to others who

might be seeking loans to start

Fiddler said members of

the SDIBA noticed, in recent

years, a dearth of Native-owned

Native American.

The inability to establish credit, Fiddler said, can affect everyday purchases as well as business development.

"Indian people are poor for them."

Scarcity of jobs is another. And for many Native Americans who live on or near reservations across the state, the best path to a good job is not the road to the nearest large retailer. It's creating a local business - or working for

"This is a path out of poverty," Fiddler said.

For Almanza, that path is

"Everything is homemade," she

businesses on reservations. She said 1 percent of the businesses on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation were owned by Native Americans in 2001. It's a reservation, she said, with a population that is 80 percent

Since that time, though, Fiddler said 100 Native-owned businesses have emerged. Fiddler noted training and technical assistance, access to capital and increased credit-worthiness as factors in helping the new businesses to develop.

some really good reasons," she said. "Not having access to affordable products is one of

one that's recently surfaced.

strewn with home-cooked food. She's hoping to reopen Char's Café in April, and she's especially looking forward to rekindling the café's legendary "pie days."

said, "and that's what makes it good."

## **SIOUX**

Continued from Page 1

The board asserts that the law infringes on its constitutional power to regulate North Dakota's university system.

keep a logo that shows the profile of an American Indian warrior.

The NCAA considers the nickname and logo offensive to American Indians, and as long as they're used, the university faces sanctions. UND cannot postseason tournaments, nor can its teams wear uniforms that feature the nickname or logo during postseason play.

The higher education board has asked the North Dakota Supreme Court to hear the lawsuit directly, without assigning it first to a lower court for review. The board asserts that the law infringes on its constitutional power to regulate North Dakota's university system.

The board also wants the court

to rule that Jaeger can't put the law to a public vote. Fighting Sioux nickname supporters have turned in referendum petitions with almost 17,000 signatures to demand a vote.

John Bjornson, a staff attorney for the Legislative Council, which is the Legislature's research arm, said the Supreme Court was likely to allow the Legislature to intervene in the case. It has already allowed the group that submitted the referendum petitions to do so, Bjornson said. The high court, which initially set a March 2 deadline for filings in the case, has extended the deadline to March 6.

Carlson said the board's legal arguments contend that the Legislature controls the finances of the university system's 11 public colleges, but that the board's other regulatory powers over the system are almost unfettered. He questioned whether the board's logic would also apply to legislative proposals that would seek to restrict tuition increases and authorize building projects.

"This is a very far-reaching case," Carlson said. "This is a very

serious deal."

new businesses.

Five of the six Democrats on the Republican-controlled Legislative Management Committee voted against hiring an attorney; the exception was House Democrat leader Jerry Kelsh of Fullerton. Rep. Shirley Meyer, D-Dickinson, requested an analysis of the cost of the Fighting Sioux law.

Carlson originally sponsored the law, which lawmakers approved last March. Supporters argued the law might persuade the NCAA to renounce its planned sanctions. But when the NCAA refused to budge, lawmakers relented and voted in November to repeal the legislation.

The repeal galvanized supporters of the Fighting Sioux nickname, and they circulated petitions to force a June vote on whether to reinstate the law. Advocates are also circulating petitions to put a constitutional amendment on the state ballot to permanently brand UND sports teams with the nickname.

Democrats think Carlson should shoulder much of the blame for the nickname imbroglio, which contributed

to their opposition of hiring an attorney.

In an interview Feb. 24, Meyer said taxpayers will bear the cost to hire lawyers for Jaeger, the Board of Higher Education and the Legislature itself.

"I'm getting to the place of, what is this costing our taxpayers? That is the bottom line," Meyer said. "It's created this whole can of worms."

Rep. Chuck Damschen, R-Hampden, said he did not want the Legislature to advocate blocking a public vote on the law, a sentiment Carlson said he shared.

"The issue should be voted on first, and if it's passed, if someone wants to challenge the constitutionality of it, then that would be the time to do that – but not to do it to deny the people the vote," Damschen said.

Sen. David Hogue, R-Minot, who is an attorney, said the Supreme Court may conclude the dispute isn't ready for its review.

"Until the voters vote on it," Hogue said, "we don't know whether we have a law to construe or not."

Continued from Page 1

without sufficient justification, contrary to the defendants' assertions."

The 10th Circuit panel, in its decision last Wednesday, sided with Johnson, saying there was no reason to accept a hybrid voting plan when state law in effect at the time didn't recognize that approach. The Wyoming Legislature last year changed state law to allow such hybrid voting plans.

"This is surely not what Congress intended the Voting Rights Act to be - carte blanche for local governments seeking to flout otherwise valid state laws," the appeals court ruling written by Judge Jerome A. Holmes stated.

Holmes wrote that the court ruling wouldn't prevent Fremont County from trying to implement its desired plan through normal processes of state law. And he wrote that the ruling didn't speak to whether such a plan would satisfy federal requirements.

Gary Collins, one of the plaintiffs, is a member of the Northern Arapaho Tribe and liaison between his tribe and state government. He said he was pleased with the appeals court

"It wasn't so much the individuals as plaintiffs, it really was for all of Indian Country not only on the reservation in Wyoming, but other places as well," Collins said. "Through our lives, we've had different forms of discrimination and innuendos toward our race, either verbally or media. So this is a very welcome victory in so many ways. It's more than just a legal issue. It really goes to the heart and tradition of people, Native American people."

Laughlin McDonald, director of the ACLU's Atlanta-based Voting Rights Project, worked with local lawyers in representing Collins and the others. He said Feb. 22 he believes Fremont County wouldn't succeed if it tried to implement a new hybrid voting plan relying on last year's change in state law.

Creating single-member commission districts gives Indians a better chance to have an equal say in county government, McDonald said.

"Our clients felt very strongly that the hybrid plan had a lot of things wrong with it. That it would put the Indians in one district and whites would be the overwhelming majority in the district that elected four members," McDonald said. "It really treated whites differently."

Voting Rights Act lawsuits are complicated and require extensive investigation into a county's history and voting patterns, McDonald said. The plaintiffs' lawyers have a bill pending with Johnson's court seeking over \$700,000 in legal fees and expenses work performed before the appeal.

Andy Baldwin, lawyer for the plaintiffs in Lander, also said last Wednesday he was pleased with the decision. "We're gratified that the county does not have unlimited discretion to disregard state or federal law," he said.

Scott Detamore, a lawyer at Mountain States Legal Foundation in Colorado, represents Fremont County. He said he's disappointed with the court's ruling. He said it will be up to Fremont County to determine how it wants to proceed.

Pat Hickerson of Lander, vice chairman of the Fremont County Commission, said Wednesday the county hasn't decided how it will respond.

"I'm disappointed, because I think our proposed plan would have been better for the voters, and would have provided a better commission in the long run," Hickerson said.

Hickerson said he believes Fremont County commissioners have been paying more attention to the regional interests of their districts, rather than considering the county as a whole, since Johnson ordered it to drop at-large voting.

"The regionalization issue can change the way commissioners look at issues," Hickerson

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single conv

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



"Changing the culture of waste." TM

Native TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling

Incorporated...

shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing

Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates 918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

Mayes & Cherokee Counties

Electrical • Solar Panels



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

www.nativetimes.com

## **STUDENTS**

Continued from Page 1

what our group designed," said CU student Nick McClure. "An addedon bonus is that we get to help these people who are really in need."

The CU students will be partnering with students at Oglala Lakota College who are studying construction technology. Together, they'll design and build energyefficient homes that are affordable and meet the cultural needs of those on the reservation.

"For Pine Ridge, the housing crisis is real," Pyatt said. "It's significant, and it definitely needs to be remedied."

The initial homes will be built on the Oglala Lakota College campus and be used to house faculty members. Those involved with the project will be able to track sustainability efforts, such as energy

Doug Noyes, director of the Construction **Technologies** Program at the college, said in a news release that the overall objective of the project is develop a strong case study to help inform the future housing choices of the tribe and set up guidelines for sustainable construction on the reservation.

CU students in the program are experiencing the integrated curriculum of three courses: an advanced materials workshop that teaches about sustainable building; critical issues in Native North America taught by indigenous studies scholar Doreen Martinez; and an architecture design studio.

Peter Simons, director of CU's Institute for Ethical and Civic Engagement, said Pyatt's course and the partnership between the two schools fits into CU's broader goals to merge academics and service, calling it an "excellent example of quality service learning."

The Native American Sustainable Housing Initiative is collaborating with the Oyate Omnicye Regional Planning Project and the Thunder Valley Community Development Corp., a Lakota nonprofit organization working to create sustainable development on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

# COMMENTARY



# Writing to inspire, educate a new generation of Native Americans

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

I received an email from a guy named Lee Carson who wrote, "I hope you die."

Kind of a harsh thing to say about anybody, but when it is directed at you it gets very personal. After writing for more than 30 years the mail I have received over the years has been mostly favorable, but there are always those individuals with contrary or even perverse opinions of my weekly columns. I always say that it comes with the territory. Anytime you are bold enough or foolish enough, depending upon one's views, to place personal opinions on an open forum, you will be judged by its content.

Mr. Carson can rest assured that yes; I will die, as will he, because that is the circle of life and death. The word all of us should post on our refrigerators is "inevitable" because that is the sentence we are all doomed to serve.

An opinion piece is just that; a personal opinion of the writer. I have written articles all the way from Aztec to Zuni over the years. Whenever I made a definite screwup I have been taken to task by my readers and deservedly so because if I express an opinion and it is not correct, I am guilty of spreading false information, but quite fortunately, that has not happened very often. I have always tried my best to

There is always that faint hope in the back of my mind that the information I display in my opinion pieces might help to educate and inform. As President John F. Kennedy said in 1960, "American Indians remain probably the least understood and the most misunderstood Americans of us

It was this comment that led me to write about the misconceptions and outright falsehoods that remain, even to this day, about Native Americans. Addressing issues like the use of Indians as mascots, correcting misinformation about Indian spirituality and false medicine men and women, have all become fodder for my weekly columns. And I discovered over the years that too many Americans could care less about the lives and the future of Native Americans.

One time I wrote about America's best kept secret: The more than 30 Native American colleges located on Indian reservations across America. One reader responded with, "Is he kidding?" He went on to add that maybe all races in America should have their own colleges.

Several years ago when affirmative action first hit the news I wrote that it worked very well for the white race for more than 200 years while denying minorities access to unions, law schools, and many jobs throughout America that were reserved for whites only. When African Americans sat down at a

thoroughly research the topic I write lunch counter and were refused service were there any laws to prevent this overt act of racism? Laws had to be implemented in order to level the playing field for minorities.

> In South Dakota where the total population of Native Americans is about 12 percent, there is not now, nor has there ever been, a Native American appointed to the position of state or federal judge. Thirty five percent of the prison population is Native American. The ignorance of the white judges in this state about Native Americans has contributed greatly to this disproportionate status in our prisons. Why has not any South Dakota governor or U. S. Senator or Congressman made an effort to bring judgeships to Native Americans?

> These are just a few of the things I have written about over the years with high hopes of helping to initiate change.

Many years ago I wrote about the movie industry and the changes that were happening to African Americans because of a movie director named Spike Lee. I asked the question, "Where is the Native American Spike Lee? A young Indian man named Chris Eyre read the article and said to himself, "I am going to be the Native American Spike Lee." He went on to direct films like Skins, Smoke Signals and a movie based on the Tony Hillerman novel, Skin Walkers, and although he is now teaching directing, his career as a director of Native American films is just beginning and perhaps a student in his classroom will rise



Tim Giago

to the top as a movie director.

But to get back to the beginning, I do take Lee Carson's words seriously and I have made preparations for my death. Because there is no longer the possibility to be buried in the traditional Lakota way, on a scaffold high in a tree, I have chosen to be

If Tunkasila (Grandfather God) is willing, I hope to continue writing this weekly column for many more years before that day arrives and I hope that it will continue to inform, educate and even inspire a new generation of Native Americans.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## From the Cradle to the Career: Improving education for American **Indians and Alaska Natives**

**CHARLIE GALBRAITH** 

On December 2, 2011, at the third White House Tribal Nations Conference, President Obama announced his Executive Order on Improving American Indian and Alaska Native Educational Opportunities Strengthening Tribal Colleges and Universities. Last week, I had the privilege of joining the Department of Education and the Department of Interior at a roundtable on the Squaxin Island Reservation in Shelton, Washington which concluded a series of regional Tribal Leader Education Roundtables that will help guide the implementation of the Executive Order.

The Executive Order focuses on lowering the dropout rate of Native students, furthering tribal self-determination and ensuring that students have an opportunity to learn their Native languages and histories while receiving complete and competitive educations that prepare them for college, careers, and productive and satisfying lives. To further these objectives for all American Indian and Alaska Native students, the Executive Orders promotes:

Early learning, which includes Native language immersion programs,

Increased access to support services for college, career and civic involvement,

Improved access to quality culturally-aware teachers through effective recruitment and retention, particularly through Tribal Colleges and Universities,

Creating a positive school climate to reduce dropout rates and ensure Native students are prepared for college and careers at the time of graduation,

Providing opportunities for students who have dropped out to re-enter and obtain degrees, certificates or industry recognized credentials, and

Strengthening Colleges and Universities to prepare Native students for productive careers upon graduation.

At last week's listening representatives session, from the Department of Education, Department of the Interior and the White House heard from tribal leaders, educators and the public on a wide range of the issues affecting American Indian and Alaska Native students. Among the primary topics of discussion were teacher recruitment and retention, Native language training, prevention of bullying, improved mentorship, private partnerships, the importance of having access to broadband service for distance learning and the benefits of vocational training for Native students, among many other points. While this round of tribal leader education roundtables has been completed, there is still an opportunity to submit comments by writing to info@ indianeducation.org. Theinput of tribal leaders, educators, parents, students and others throughout Indian Country is essential to the development and implementation administration priorities.

While in Washington State for the roundtable, I also had the pleasure of meeting a wonderful group of students representing over 60 different tribes at Chief Leschi Elementary School in Puyallup, Washington. Thank you to the students and faculty at Chief Leschi for welcoming me onto your beautiful campus!

Charlie Galbraith is an Associate Director in the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

#### **NOTICE FOR OSAGE COUNTY**

(WEATHER PERMITTING)

#### THE OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR WILL BE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

TULSA - GILCREASE HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOC. - 1919 W. SEMINOLE - MARCH 6, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

McCORD - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER-115 MARY RD JANUARYY 20, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. AND MARCH 7, 10:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

HULAH - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -1924 CR 3575- JANUARY 23, 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

PRUE - SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER -209 WAH GRA SEE- JANUARY 24, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M BARTLESVILLE - LABADIE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH - SW OF CITY, JANUARY 25, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M

> SPERRY - CITY HALL - 115 N. CINCINNATI - JANUARY 26, 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M BURBANK - CITY HALL -105 FIRST ST - JANUARY 27, 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 NOON

> > FOR THE PURPOSE OF

TAKING NEW APPLICATIONS FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, DOUBLE HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION, SENIOR FREEZE, VETERANS EXEMPTION, REPORTING CHANGES MADE TO YOUR PROPERTY AND/OR BUILDINGS, TURNING IN MANUFACTURED HOMES, RENDERING BUSINESS PERSONALS, REPORTING FARM EQUIPMENT, TRACTORS, BOAT DOCKS, ETC., AND APPLYING FOR AGRICULTURE FUEL EXEMPTION.

#### **DEADLINE FOR FILING IS MARCH 15, 2012**

ADDITIONAL HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: AN ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION WILL BE GRANTED FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS WITH A GROSS INCOME (COLLECTIVE INCOME OF ANY AND ALL SOURCES OF ALL PERSONS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD) NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000.00 FOR THE PRECEEDING CALENDAR YEAR. THERE ARE NO AGE REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER, FOR A PERMANENT EXEMPTION, YOU MUST FILE AT AGE 65, AND YOU MUST BE 65 AS OF MARCH 15TH. IF 66 YEARS OR OLDER AND QUALIFIED IN 2011, NO ANNUAL APPLICATION IS REQUIRED. FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 918-287-3448.

VETERANS EXEMPTION: 100% DISABLED OR SURVIVING SPOUSE MAY NOW APPLY FOR A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION THAT WILL ELIMINATE THEIR TAX BURDEN ON HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. APPLICANT MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT U.S.D.V.A. BENEFITS AWARD LETTER WITH QUALIFICATIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS EXEMPTION THAT CERTIFIES THE 100% SERVICE RELATED DISABILITY.

PROPERTY VALUATION FREEZE (AKA: SENIOR FREEZE): THE OWNER MUST BE 65 YEARS OLD OR OLDER AS OF JANUARY 1ST, 2012; AND GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME LEVEL CANNOT EXCEED \$59,600.00 FOR THE 2011 YEAR. TO QUALIFY THE TAXPAYER MUST PROVIDE COPIES OF 2011 PAPERS TO VERIFY TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF ALL OCCUPANTS LIVING IN THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY. TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME INCLUDES ALL TAXABLE AND NON-TAXABLE INCOME SOURCES. THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WILL VERIFY ALL APPLICANTS.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TAXPAYER TO NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IF INCOME EXCEEDS THE QUALIFIED AMOUNTS.

HOUSE BILL#1724: IF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES ARE DELINQUENT, YOUR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION WILL BE CANCELLED.

> GAIL HEDGCOTH, OSAGE COUNTY ASSESSOR 600 GRANDVIEW, RM 101, OSAGE COUNTY COURTHOUSE PAWHUSKA, OK. 74056 HOURS: 8:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. 918-287-3448

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? **ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!** 

# What to do when you have the 'Pink Slip' blues

Career coach and author Ford R. Myers shares 6 tips on how to deal with the dreaded layoff

HAVERFORD, Penn. - The fourth quarter of the year is the most common time for employees to get laid off. One mistake many people make is that they leave themselves vulnerable by not being prepared for year-end changes in their work situation.

If you (or anyone you know) were unfortunate enough to "get the pink slip," Ford R. Myers, career coach, speaker and author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring," (John Wiley & Sons, http:// www.getthejobbook.com) suggests the following six steps to help you re-gain control of your career and prepare for a successful transition:

- 1. Perform an honest assessment of the situation and of yourself. Although most layoffs have nothing to do with individual performance, you should still determine if you could have done anything differently to hold onto your job. This may help you avoid the same fate next time.
- 2. Take a short mental vacation. Take off a few days to a week to take stock of your career situation, clear your mind and consider your options. Only then should you begin planning your next career moves.
- 3. Research the market. Spend time researching the employment trends in your industry and geographic area. This will help you to identify the best companies to work for in your field - which companies are growing and which are contracting.
- 4. Update your "Career Tool Kit." Finding a new job is easier when you have the right tools! Now is the time to develop some new "Accomplishment Stories" about which you feel proud. Polish-up that "15-second commercial" (a short verbal presentation about who you are professionally); and bring your resume and all your other jobseeking documents up-to-date.
- 5. Reach out and network. Did you

know that your network - personal and professional contacts - is your most valuable career asset? Why not leverage this resource by scheduling professional networking activities and appointments? Make contact with new people, and let everyone know that you are always interested in hearing about new opportunities.

6. Practice your interviewing and negotiating skills. It's a fact: better interviews get better offers. Take the time to prepare questions in advance to ask the interviewer; even role play with a friend to get comfortable answering tough interview questions. In addition, devote time to performing diligent salary research. Make it a point to know what you're really worth so when you reach the salary negotiation stage, you'll be well-prepared and ready to win!

"It's always best to 'stay ahead of the game' - making sure all your career documents and job search skills are current - just in case that pink slip finds its way onto your desk at the end of NEXT year," adds Myers.

For more information and other useful tips for achieving career success, visit http://www. getthejobbook.com.

Reprinted by permission of Ford R. Myers, a nationally-known Career Coach and author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring."

# CLASSIFIEDS





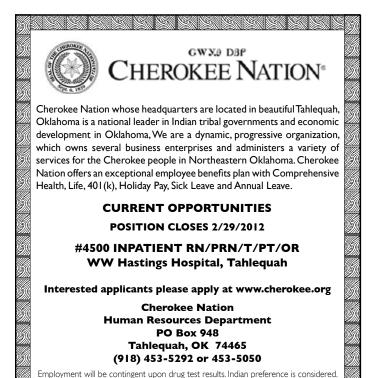








#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**





Sac & Fox Nation Casino is accepting Applications for

#### **General Manager**

**Oualifications:** Bachelors Degree in Business / Marketing Strong Leadership Skills Casino Management Experience

Applicants must pass background and drug screen. Native American preference is recognized.

Submit resume by fax @ 405-395-0790 or visit our website at sandfcasino.com to apply online

#### **Registered Dietitian**

The Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma is accepting applications for a part time or full time registered dietitian. Competitive wages, great atmosphere. The position is located at the White Eagle Health Center, Ponca City, Oklahoma. May send resume to White Eagle Health Center, 200 White Eagle Dr., Ponca City, OK 74601 Atten: Diabetes Program, or email to rayna. mckinnis@ihs.gov

**RN Director of Nursing with Long Term** Care MGMT at Laguna Rainbow west of Albuquerque, NM. PRN RN and CNA opportunities too! Email resumes to jobs@pinonmgt.com. EOE/AA

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!



The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, located South of Stillwater, is accepting applications for the following positions in the Perkins, OK area:

> Police Officer **Chief Accountant** Realty Manager **Realty Specialist Court Administrator**

**ICW Caseworker Specialist** 

View job descriptions under Government/Human Resources/Job Postings at www.iowanation.org

Great Benefits! Health, Dental, Vision, Group Life, Flex, 401(k) with 6% match, sick, vacation, holidays, STD, LTD, Voluntary Life, Accident & Cancer plans.

Apply online at http://www.iowanation.org/hireme

**Equal Employment Opportunity Employer** Native American preference

# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.

**THIRD TUESDAY of even** numbered months - The Central Oklahoma Cherokee Services of Tulsa Activity Alliance meets at Mayflower **UCC Church, Oklahoma City** at 6 p.m. Phone: (405) 408-0763. The next meeting is Feb. 16.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American

**Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**MON/WED AND THURS** The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. **Marble City Nutrition** Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

**YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 12** Free tobacco cessation course from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Whitney Nuttle (918) 762-3873 or Suzy Knife Chief

(918) 762-2153.

**MARCH-MAY** Free beginner-level Cherokee language classes in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction starting in March. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

MARCH 2 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East **Beaumont Drive, Norman,** Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or more (405) 321-5640

MARCH 3 **Otoe-Missouria Title VI Seniors Program Benefit** Dance at the Otoe-Missouria **Cultural Building, 8151 HWY** 177, Red Rock, Okla. Gourd Dancing starts at 2pm. **Special Contests! For more** info call 580-723-4466 x289

MARCH 3 **Peoria Tribal Election** for Treasurer and First Councilman. Polls open 9am-Noon, Peoria Tribal **Administration Building** Conference Room, 118 **South Eight Tribes Trail in** Miami, Okla.

MARCH 3

**Fundraiser for Miss** Yuchi expenses Bingo & **Stompdance at Glenpool** Indian community building. Food sale at 11, bingo starts at 1pm. Dancing at 7pm.

MARCH 3 Wild Onion Dinner, All you can eat, Adults \$10, Children \$7 (8 & under), 11:00 am - 3:00 pm at Seminole **Hitchitee United Methodist** Church, Seminole, OK, 5 miles East on HWY 99 on 99A. Info contact Annie Harjo 405-831-5242 or

e-mail harjoamou@cox.net

**MARCH 3-4** Yard sale and \$5 food menu fundraiser for S.P.I.R.I.T. from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm each day. 2715 NW 11th, Oklahoma City, OK. Call Brenda a405-471-7610 or Kathryn at 405-830-0626 for more info.

**MARCH 3-31** Tulsa Library's Festival of Words, a series of systemwide events to honor the achievements and celebrate the history of American Indians. For events and times, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.

MARCH 10 Red Earth Run, Regatta Park, **Oklahoma City** 

MARCH 17 **Skate Jam Competition 10** am - dark at the "Skate Park Off Broadway," 105 Reynolds in Poteau Okla. www.nativeskateparks.com

**MARCH 17 2011 OKC Princess Honor Dance at Heart of Oklahoma** Expo Center, 1700 W. Independence, Shawnee, **OK.** Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@sbcglobal.net

**MARCH 17** Wild Onion Dinner from 11 am til 3 pm at Haikey Chapel UMC, 8815 E 101st St, Tulsa.

MARCH 23 Miss Indian Oklahoma City **Competition & Performance** at 6:30 pm, 3801 SE 29th St. Del City, OK. Info contact **Shirley Wapskineh 405-**632-5227 or swapskineh@ sbcglobal.net

MARCH 31 "Play Golf Native America Day," a free program for families to experience a day of fun, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Cherokee Hills Golf Club located at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Info email Crystal Echo Hawk: crystal@nb3f.org

**APRIL 6** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**APRIL 7 Ponca Gourd Dance 9th Annual Spring Dance** White Eagle Cultural Center 5 miles south of Ponca City, OK (580) 268-3313 or (580) 762-0499

**APRIL 14** All Gourd Honor Dance for Micheal Tsotaddle at Red **Buffalo Hall** Carnegie, OK, 2p.m. - ? For more information call Darla Tsotaddle (405) 432-8377 or Mavis Tsotaddle (580) 654-1704.

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

# **OSU-CHS** seeks participants for Native Explorers paleontology, anatomy summer program

TULSA, Okla. - The Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences is accepting applicants for Native Explorers, a program designed to recruit, train and educate American Indian college students in anatomy, vertebrate paleontology and osteopathic medicine.

"This unique opportunity allows OSU-CHS to integrate anatomy, paleontology and medicine with lab and field activities," said Dr. Kent Smith, OSU-CHS associate professor of anatomy and program leader. "Native Explorers serves as a stepping stone to recruit more American Indian students into the science fields and provides insight into related career opportunities."

The program, a partnership between OSU-CHS, Chickasaw Nation and Whitten-Burrage law firm, runs from June 19 to July 1. Participants will gain hands on experience during a scientific expedition to the Oklahoma panhandle, southwest Colorado and south-central Utah. Students will learn about Ice-age vertebrate fossils, as well as modern plants and animals.

Participants will join research scientists from OSU-CHS and the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at archeological sites to locate dinosaur track ways and fossil localities, study cliff dwellings, collect Ice-age vertebrate fossils and learn about modern plants and animals. Native traditions and culture are included in the expedition study.

USDA Forest Service biologists, geologists and archeologists demonstrate the preservation management of natural resources.

Participants will also visit OSU-CHS facilities in Tulsa to explore anatomy, learn how to identify fossil remains and examine tools used by vertebrate paleontologist. Physicians and medical students will work with the participants to teach them about healthful lifestyles and medicine.

The program will only accept 10 participants age 18 or older. All expenses are paid for those selected. Students may be eligible to earn three hours of college

The deadline for applying is May 1. Students must complete an application and submit a letter of reference from an instructor. Forms are available at www.chickasaweducationservices.com/ index\_246.htm.

For more information, visit www. healthsciences.okstate.edu/college/ native\_explorers/index.cfm, call (918) 561-8246 or email kent.smith@okstate.



Native Explorer participants on Ferron Mountain in south-central Utah.

# Oldest Kiowa citizen represented tribe well

READER SUBMISSION

The oldest member of the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma passed away on Sunday morning, February 19th, 2012.

Julia Tsonetokoy Lonewolf left the world, not from illness, but from an exhaustion brought on by living a good long life.

Her services were held on February 22nd at Rainy Mountain Church and she was laid to rest in the Rainy Mountain Cemetary.

Her love ones composed a memorial picture of Julia, with her image from a young girl to her last years.

Julia was present, and spoke, at many Kiowa functions including the Grand Opening of the Kiowa Casino in Verden in which she cut the ribbon to officially open the doors.

Kiowa Tribal Chairman, Ronald "Dawes" Twohatchet,



Julia Tsonetokoy Lonewolf

sent sympathies, prayers and thoughts from the Kiowa Business Committee and the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma to her loved ones.

"We lost one of our last links

to our cultural past", said Twohatchet.

"She represented the Tribe well in her peace, compassion, kindness and her strong belief in God."

The Chairman added, "She was a treasure and will be missed."

Julia Tsonetokoy was born on January 26th, 1916 at her present home place in the Rainy Mountain Area, the area is also known as the Sugar Creek community. She lived in that community all her life. Her father was Isaac Tsonetokoy, who was the original (Blond Tsonetokoy

Hair White Man) and he was a successful farmer and rancher, he had many heads of cattle, horses and other farm poultry and animals. He spoke Kiowa, English, German and a little Spanish.

English and German were especially essential in his business transactions. He was married to Toshante (Tho-shan-mah) (Little Face Woman), who was from the Given family and direct descendant from Satank or Setangya (Sitting Bear), leader of the Koit-senko. Because he was a successful farmer and rancher and extremely hard worker, he was able to provide for his family with a very good living. Julia said she never wanted for anything.

He and Toshante had twelve children, but only four lived to adulthood, Mattie, Allen, Frances and...Julia.

Mattie had three children, Melva, Wanda and Alvin Keith Tinetiah. Mattie died in her early twenties and Julia took in the three orphaned children, ages 5, 3 and 1, and raised them as her own. They referred to her as Mom. Julia also raised her nieces and nephews (Frances and Allen's children) as well as her oldest granddaughter Rhonda.

Julia lived within the confines of the Sugar Creek community all her life. She married Bell Lonewolf who also helped her raise her children, two grand-children and some of her nieces and nephews.

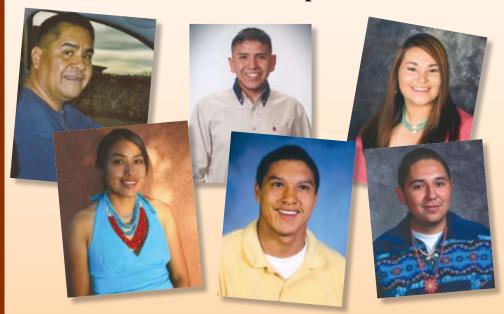
Julia was a Homemaker and Grandmother to many, even though she never bore children of her own.

She was a devout Christian, known as a "prayer warrior" by many. When someone wanted their prayer request answered, they would ask her to pray. She truly was favored by God and lived by her favorite verse, Psalm 121:1 and 2. "I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth."

# **College Scholarships**

## **American Indian, Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Students**

\$450,000+ awarded each year! All Undergraduate Majors Are Eligible. Graduate Scholarships Available.



## **Applications Due April 4th!**

**Download Application: aiefprograms.org** 



American Indian Education Foundation 2401 Eglin Street • Rapid City, SD 57703 (605) 342-9968



### for ourselves. for our families. for future generations.

Oklahoma ranks 48th nationally for health. That is unacceptable. We can no longer sit idle when our health hangs in the balance.

There is a plan to create healthier lives for all Oklahomans - the Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan. Endorsed by the legislature, this plan outlines a clear path of action to save lives and improve our health. Join us by supporting:

Restore the rights of local communities to pass smokefree policies that are stronger than state law

Assure health education is taught in sixth, seventh or eighth grade for all state public schools

Prohibit the use of a hand-held electronic device while driving for all drivers under the age of 18

Let's pull together to Shape Our Future. Your state is counting on you.



# Famous Dave's: Ojibwe has Okla. ties

**JESSE ABERNATHY** Native Sun News

MINNEAPOLIS The eponymous founder **America's** most widely recognized and prolific chain of barbecue joints has always had more than just pork ribs

on his mind. Since at least 1971, David Anderson has been working hard establishing businesses, selling other companies, serving the public, furthering his education, writing books, delivering keynote addresses and paying attention to Native American youth, among other things.

Whew!

Along the way, 58-yearold Anderson, a member of the Lac Courte Oreilles Lake Superior Band of Ojibwe, realized his lifelong passion in the form of Famous Dave's Legendary Pit Bar-B-Que. The restaurant chain famously specializes in barbecue pork ribs, chicken and beef brisket.

Additionally, he helped found several other companies that are now publicly traded on Wall Street, creating over 20,000 jobs and generating billions of revenue dollars in the process.

Anderson is considered a visionary and leading expert in brand development and peak product performance within the corporate world.

In 1994, the tireless, optimistic and vibrant entrepreneur humbly opened his very first restaurant in its original incarnation of Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que Shack in the small town of Hayward, Wis., on the edge of the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation, next to Round Lake. The specialty restaurant was a tributary throwback to the barbecue joints popularized in the South during the 1940s, featuring smoked spareribs slathered in Anderson's own secret barbecue sauces. Famous Dave's was an instant success - serving up 8,000 orders a week during its inaugural run in the sleepy hamlet of 1,800 residents - and, as the saying goes, the rest is (lip-smacking, finger-licking) history.

At almost 190 restaurants in 37 states and growing in less than 18 years, both the franchise and "Famous Dave" himself have indeed attained legendary status. Anderson is now synonymous with barbecue and has become the country's reigning "rib king."

Prior to founding Famous Dave's, Anderson said he spent 25 years perfecting his trade secret recipes.

Since inception, Famous Dave's establishments combined have won over 500 restaurant and food service industry awards, from Best BBQ Sauce in America to Best BBQ Joint to, most recently, a coveted Silver Plate. Silver Plate Awards are presented annually by the International Foodservice Manufacturers Association to food service operators who "epitomize the best of class."

chain's flagship restaurant, Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que and Blues, is located in Minneapolis' Calhoun Square.

Anderson credits his parents and their perseverance in the face of dire adversity as the inspiration for his awardwinning foray into the world of barbecue pits and downhome hospitality.

"My dad's a full-blood Choctaw Indian - I think there's a little Chickasaw in there - from Idabel, Oklahoma, and my mom is from the Lac Courte Oreilles (of Wisconsin)," Anderson said. "Both of my parents were stuck in Indian boarding schools; my dad remembers being whipped and beaten till his skin bled and broke, and he remembers

having to eat soap if he spoke his language," he said.

"They met at Haskell Institute for Indians, back when that's what it was called, in Lawrence, Kansas. That's where they fell in love."

The former industrial, or trade, school has since been retooled and renamed Haskell Indian Nations University.

Following marriage, Anderson's parents eventually settled in his hometown of Chicago, where they continued to instill a love of all things barbecue in him.

"My dad, being a good old Southern boy, really missed (sauce) was the only thing you could find in grocery stores. Down South, you had different hot sauces that my dad liked. He liked different corn syrups, sorghum syrup, and sourdough - some of the things that weren't common up here in the North."

Anderson's father relished a particular brand of pepper that was only available throughout the South at the

"I was influenced at an early age how important certain ingredients are," he said.

Famous Dave's cooking skills were developed

Anderson and his wife with a \$1.5 million gift, The LifeSkills Center for Leadership provides scholarships to at-risk Native youth for attendance at top rated leadership workshops. According to the LifeSkills website, the center facilitates youth participants' transition from "passive members of their schools and communities" to "bold leaders that have direction and focus."

Anderson clarified his less-involved current role in the operations of Famous Dave's Legendary Pit Bar-B-Que restaurants and the subsidiaries' parent company,

"It's just like any other (federal) department, whether it's the Department of Education, it's the Department of Defense (or) it's the Department of Agriculture. When people come in, just like President (Barack) Obama came in and said everything was going to change, and almost hardly ----anything has changed. It was the same for me when I got in. It's because the solicitors that are in the department, in reality, they're almost the policymakers."

According to Anderson, the solicitors are the powerful attorneys who work within the bureaucracy of Washington,

"You ask if this can be done, and (the solicitors) say 'It's not how we do things. It's against policy," Anderson said.

No matter how much I wanted to shake things up and create a Bureau of Indian Affairs for Indian people, I was always faced with policies and procedures and also government unions, he said.

"I think there are some very capable people in the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Many of them are the ones that are belly-to-belly with our Indian people out in the region; the regional offices or the local offices are usually the ones that do the most work. There's a lot of trimming down that could be done within government. Somehow, if the money could go directly to Indian people, that would be better."

However, attempting to make a difference within the federal bureaucracy is a battle that can't be won, indicated Anderson.

"I would never do it again," he said firmly.

Anderson's primary objective during his tenure as head of the BIA was to improve the current system of Native American education.

I'm a believer, he said, and I had this vision for turning our BIA schools into leadership academies.

"It seemed like every time we wanted to get something done, there was this unseen force of politics" working against us.

By his own concession, Anderson is not a great politician.

"I'm an entrepreneur, and I'm a very good entrepreneur," he said. "I've helped create some very famous businesses. And Famous Dave's will do almost half a billion dollars - \$500 million in sales" for the fourth, and final, business quarter of 2011.

Famous Dave's of America will publicly announce those earnings following the close of the stock market on Feb. 15.

"There are Famous Dave's restaurants from coast to coast. From Washington, D.C., to California, from the state of Washington down to Texas, we have Famous Dave's all over the country."

In further reflecting on the time he spent working for the U.S. government, Anderson said, "I'm a great entrepreneur who happens to be a Native American, but you almost have to have a political foundation to last in the (BIA). It was just best for me to go back to where I'm used to being able

to get things done." Anderson passionately structured the future of this country's indigenous peoples against the backdrop of the antiquated, futile system of governmental bipartisanship and its enmeshment of Native American policy in the form of the BIA.

"First of all, I don't think it's (just) the future of Indian people, it's also the future reaffirm what I believe that most people in America

believe: that our government is deadlocked, or gridlocked."

The Republicans won't vote for the Democrats, and the Democrats won't vote for the Republicans, said Anderson, and I believe today that the real strength of America is what happens in local communities.

"The same thing holds true for Indian country. I believe today that while the Bureau of Indian Affairs has been somewhat of a voice for Indian people in the past, the real voice of Indian country and the real strength of Indian country is what happens within our own Indian communities. If there's any future for Native America, it certainly is not going to come from the Bureau of Indian Affairs - it's going to come from our own people having the drive and the determination to become economically self-sufficient and living as a determined people."

Anderson said he also believes that the continued survival of indigenous peoples in America is not only contingent on past traditions, but is further dependent on establishing new traditions.

"I believe that the real reason why our elders and our forefathers were respected, it wasn't because they knew how to harvest wild rice or they knew how to take down a deer and turn that hide into moccasins or they were able to harvest and dry the meats, I believe that what they were doing was surviving successfully in their environment. And I think that's key," he said.

"As Indian people, our legacy has always been about being able to survive successfully in any environment, under any condition. I think about our elders or forefathers they might be horrified that we are trying to teach our young people how to make moccasins if we can't first sit our child down in front of a computer and teach that child how to look up the family's investment portfolio."

Anderson said peoples have to be diligent about being able to survive successfully in today's economic, political and social environments.

"It's like the computer is our new buffalo. We have to be able to navigate the digital highway with the same effectiveness that our forefathers used to be able to read the tracks of different animals, whether it be the buffalo or the deer, they were able to look at the ground and they were able to figure out where to go next to be able to harvest, to be able to survive."

And Anderson is a living testament to possessing the ability to survive, as well as thrive, as a Native American.

He said that he initially did not expect his Famous Dave's venture to be as phenomenal as it has been and that he has made the impossible possible in his life.

"My story really just proves that anything is possible. As Indian people, we can start and run businesses and have them expand nationally - if you're willing to work hard and if you devote yourself to making other people happy."

Anderson is scheduled to make an appearance in Rapid City for a public speaking engagement on entrepreneurship at University Center, Cheyenne Blvd., on Feb. 21 at 11 a.m. MST. The event is sponsored by South Dakota State University, one of the center's participating universities.

- Copyright permission by Native Sun News www.nsweekly.com



Business and financial wizard David "Famous Dave" Anderson, the exuberant founder of the Legendary Pit Bar-B-Que franchise that bears his name, takes time out of his hectic schedule to pose with franchise mascot Wilbur the Pig. In the years prior to and since establishing Famous Dave's in 1994, Anderson has also continued to build a solid, respectable reputation as a politician, motivational speaker and philanthropist.



COURTESY/ FAMOUS DAVE'S

One of Famous Dave's recently-opened Minnesota locations can be found "smokin' up the 'que" in Coon Rapids.

his Southern food, that's how important it was for him. My mom recalls him almost dragging her down South almost every other weekend. Seriously, my dad would just drive. And one of the people who raised him was called Miss Mamie. She's the one who taught my mom how to

cook Southern." Anderson's father continued his regular pilgrimages across the Mason-Dixon Line with his family in tow until his mother eventually became skilled at preparing Southern cuisine.

"That's how important Southern food was in my family," he reemphasized.

Anderson's father also honed his appetite for dishes from the region while working as an electrician in the Windy City.

"He worked with a lot of black construction workers, and he noticed during lunchtime, every once in a while, they would disappear. When they came back, they had some of the best-tasting barbecue. Being from the South himself, he started tagging along with these black guys. Before too long, he knew every black-owned barbecue joint in the city of Chicago."

"When we went out, we went to Eddie's Ribs in Logan Square," said Anderson. "I grew up with barbecue."

Anderson further recalled how important it was for his father to always have the right ingredients for all of his favorite recipes. His father would make additional trips to Oklahoma in search of what were once only regional specialties.

"He would bring back different corn flour, hot sauce - back then, Tabasco

primarily under the tutelage of his mother.

During his youth, he spent the majority of his summers on the Lac Courte Oreille Reservation, his mother's homeland.

"I learned how to cook from my mom, working in her Indian fry bread stand. We used to make a wild rice soup, and today, that chicken wild rice soup" is a menu item at Famous Dave's restaurants, said Anderson.

"I think you could say my cooking got its roots for being Indian."

In speaking about his maternal, familial tribe, Anderson emphasized the commonalities shared with other indigenous nations.

"The Lac Courte Oreille Tribe has some shining moments and – just like many tribes - is dealing with some other issues with desperate economic times, as well as the rising influx of gangs and drugs," he said. "Economically, I think we have a high unemployment rate. Even thought the tribe has a casino, it's on a downward slope."

Throughout the course of his varied and extraordinary career, Anderson admirably managed to attend to his philanthropic side.

"What my wife and I have decided to do, we have the LifeSkills career leadership work. We have a career skills training program that we make available to Indian college students. We've also done work up in Canada. We've helped a number of tribes, with my son up there. We've given a lot back to our at-risk Native youth through our career and leadership training program."

Established in 2002 by

Famous Dave's of America "I am the founder of

Famous Dave's, and I am a shareholder of Famous Dave's. But today, Famous Dave's is a publicly traded company on Wall Street under the Nasdaq Stock Exchange, so I don't own Famous Dave's. The public owns Famous Dave's. There's a corporate staff, there's a corporate board of directors, and I'm sort of retired today, although I do a lot of work. I help open new restaurants. I help develop new recipes. I'm not active day to day in the running of Famous Dave's."

Headquarters for Famous Dave's of America is located in neighboring Minnetonka.

In addition to his success as a restaurateur, Anderson had a long and equally successful, parallel career as a politician, most notably with the U.S. Department of the Interior.

In September of 2003, he was appointed assistant secretary of the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs by President George W. Bush.

"It was a two-year commitment because, for a year, I had to deal with the U.S. Senate," he said. "The position required a confirmation (by the Senate), and it took almost a year to comply with that."

"Even though I spent a year in office, it almost took two years out of my life."

He abruptly resigned from the post in February 2005.

The experience was very disappointing, said Anderson, although I was honored and humbled to have been considered.

"I think it's an honor for any Indian person to be considered for that position," he said.

"I think it was disappointment for me in the fact that there had already been another person before me. I kind of got thrust into this as not going in being in full command because a lot of this other person's staff was

Prior to Anderson's appointment, Neal McCaleb of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma headed the BIA for a two-year stint. He was also named to the position by Bush.

already in place. And I think one of the aha moments was to find out that you're not really in charge."

of America," he said. "I really believe today that my experience in Washington, D.C., has done nothing but

#### **Inside this issue:**

- VP arrested on alcohol charges
- Student earns broadcasting scholarship
- March arts class schedule announced









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 10

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**MARCH 9, 2012** 

### Tribal standoff turns violent; 2 injured



AP PHOTO GARY KAZANJIAN / FRESNO BEE

Opposing counselman Harold Max Hammond Sr., middle, is among several that are led out of the tribal offices peacefully Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2012 in Coarsegold, Calif. A two-day standoff between factions of a California Indian tribe split on leadership and the expulsion of tribal members ended after the sheriff threatened to arrest anyone who did not leave the government compound where one person was wounded in a stabbing and another suffered a head injury.

# Deputies patrol around site of Calif. tribal fight

COARSEGOLD, Calif. (AP) – A two-day standoff between factions of a California tribe divided on leadership and the expulsion of members has ended after a sheriff stepped in, threatening to arrest anyone who stayed at a government center where a scuffle left at least two people injured.

The rival Chukchansi Indian factions on Tuesday voluntarily left the center in Coarsegold, about 200 miles southeast of San Francisco, and agreed to stay away for 48 hours to give the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs time to intervene in the conflict, Madera County Sheriff John Anderson said. Three people were taken into custody, he said.

"We're pretty much at a nonviolent standoff," Anderson said. "They are not in contact with each other. We're at an impasse."

Sheriff's deputies stepped in to break up the clash after a fight involving as many as 40 people outside the government center Tuesday in which one person was stabbed and suffered non-life threatening injuries and another suffered a head injury, Anderson said. The skirmish followed Monday's takeover of a tribal office by about 40 supporters of a group whose leaders claimed they were denied their rightful place on the tribe's governing council in the wake of a disputed December election

Members of that group cut locks and broke into an office early Monday, the Fresno Bee reported. Supporters of

See FIGHT Continued on Page 4

# Green Bay diocese apologizes to girl

■ The seventhgrader was punished for using Native language at school.

CARRIE ANTLFINGER
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) – While the Catholic Diocese of Green Bay has apologized to the Menominee Tribe and the family of a seventh-grader who was punished for using her native language at school, the girl's mother said Tuesday that she still wants her daughter's teacher fired.

Tanaes Washinawatok said Julie Gurta, who teaches at Sacred Heart Catholic School in Shawano, did not accept blame for her actions in a letter that was supposed to be an apology.

Washinawatok said her 12-year-old daughter, Miranda, interpreted the words "Hello" and "I love you" and then added how to say "thank you" when talking to two girls in class Jan. 19. She said Gurta overheard and "slammed her hands down on the desk and stated, 'You are not to speak like that. How do I know you're not saying something bad? How would you like if I spoke in Polish and you didn't understand?""

The girl was benched from a basketball game later that day for having "an attitude problem," Washinawatok said she was told.

Washinawatok said she met with diocese and school officials, including the teacher, over the past month and they agreed to send apology letters. Washinawatok explained the issue is sensitive because tribal members used to be beaten

for speaking their language in the schools, which is part of the reason they are losing their language.

In the mid-1880s, the federal government established boarding schools that prohibited Native American students from acknowledging their culture, including language. Students were punished for using their native languages until the 1960s, and many elders still alive are afraid to teach the languages to children.

Washinawatok received letters from Gurta, assistant basketball coach Billie Jo DuQuaine, principal Dan Minter and the diocese's director of education, Joseph Bound.

In Gurta's Feb. 22 letter, she wrote her "firm reactions" were not intended to single out the girl or the language. She said Miranda spoke to her in a disrespectful manner several times that day and had behaved inappropriately on other days as well.

"Unfortunately, the actions of your daughter were not brought to your attention as quickly as they should have been, and for this I apologize," Gurta wrote.

Washinawatok described the teacher as insensitive and having an "arrogant, narrowminded way of teaching." She said she planned to send a certified letter Tuesday to the diocese asking that Gurta be fired.

"I don't want this to happen to another family or another student," Washinawatok said.

Bound acknowledged there was a need for cultural diversity training for staff, students and families. Deacon Ray DuBois, spokesman for

See GIRL Continued on Page 4

# Wash. State Senate passes bill for tribal retrocession process

YAKIMA, Wash. (AP) – The Washington state Senate has passed a bill that opens the door for dismantling state jurisdiction over American Indian tribes.

The bill creates a retrocession procedure by which a tribe can ask the state to return its jurisdiction over criminal and civil matters to the federal government and the tribes themselves.

The Senate approved the amended bill, HB 2233, on a 42-6 vote.

Washington state assumed jurisdiction in 1963 over such matters as juvenile delinquency, truancy, mental illness and adoption proceedings.

Some have expressed concerns that restoring full sovereignty to tribes over their members might subject outsiders to unfair treatment in tribal courts. But senators rejected an amendment that would have allowed non-Indians who appear in tribal courts to appeal those decisions to state courts.

# Navajo Nation sues Urban Outfitters over product names

FELICIA FONSECA
Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Arizona (AP) – The Navajo Nation has sued Urban Outfitters Inc. months after the tribe sent a cease and desist letter to the clothing retailer demanding it pull the "Navajo" name from its products.

The lawsuit filed late last Tuesday in U.S. District Court in New Mexico alleges trademark violations and violations of the federal Indian Arts and Crafts Act, which makes it illegal to sell arts or crafts in a way to falsely suggest they're made by American Indians when they are not.

The tribe has about 10 registered trademarks on the Navajo name that cover clothing, footwear, online retail sales, household products and textiles. Tribal justice officials said they're intent on protecting what they believe are among

the tribe's most valuable assets.

"The fame or reputation of the Navajo name and marks is such that, when defendant uses the 'Navajo' and 'Navaho' marks with its goods and services, a connection with the Navajo Nation is falsely presumed," the lawsuit states.

Urban Outfitters set off a firestorm of criticism last year with its line of Navajobranded clothing and accessories – particularly underwear and a liquor flask, which the tribe said was "derogatory and scandalous," considering the sale and consumption of alcohol is banned on the reservation that spans parts of northeast Arizona, southeast Utah and northwest New Mexico. The company removed the product names from its website after acknowledging receipt of the cease and desist letter.

But the Navajo Nation wrote in its

See NAVAJO Continued on Page 3 Crafts Act.



MATT YORK / AP FIL

In this Oct. 14, 2011 photo, purchased items from Urban Outfitters' Navajo line are shown in Tempe, Ariz. The Navajo Nation is suing Urban Outfitters months after the tribe sent a cease and desist letter to the clothing retailer demanding it pull the "Navajo" name from its products. The lawsuit filed late Feb. 28 in federal court in New Mexico alleges trademark infringements and violations of the federal Indian Arts and Crafts Act.

### Tribe suing beer companies: **VP** arrested on alcohol charges

His blood-alcohol content was listed at .306, nearly quadruple the legal limit for driving a car.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – The chief of police of an American Indian tribe that is suing some of the world's largest beer makers for contributing to rampant alcoholism confirmed March 2 that the tribe's vice president was arrested in an alcohol-related incident.

Oglala Sioux Vice President Thomas Poor Bear was arrested Feb. 19 on the Pine Ridge Reservation on a charge of obstructing government function while receiving treatment at a hospital, according to a portion of a police report The Associated Press obtained from a reservation resident who had access due to his ties with the tribal government.

The arresting officer noted in the report that Poor Bear had "the odor of intoxicants on his breath" and bloodshot eyes. His blood-alcohol content was listed at .306, nearly quadruple the legal limit for driving a car.

Poor Bear told AP he had not been drinking and that his arrest and subsequent jailing was related to driving without a license.

Oglala Sioux Police Chief Richard Greenwald confirmed March 2 that Poor Bear's arrest was related to alcohol.

"I think he was arrested for liquor violation and impeding an officer, but of course, like anything else, he's innocent until proven guilty in a court of law," Greenwald said. He said the liquor violation either means Poor Bear was in possession of alcohol or had been consuming alcohol. Both are banned on the reservation.

Greenwald would not go into specifics and said the arresting officer could not comment. He refused to provide the full report because the tribe's laws do



Thomas Poor Bear, Oglala Sioux Vice President

not allow for the release of police reports until cases have gone through court.

The of the report obtained by AP shows Poor Bear was arrested on a charge of obstructing a government

function and notes that alcohol was a factor in the arrest. Poor Bear said he was arraigned three days later on the obstruction charge.

A secretary to the tribe's president, John Yellow Bird Steele, said he was not available to comment.

The Oglala Sioux Tribe has sued several beer makers, saying they are knowingly contributing to the devastating alcohol-related problems on the Pine Ridge Reservation. The lawsuit, filed last month in the U.S. District Court of Nebraska, seeks \$500 million in damages for the cost of health care, social services and child rehabilitation caused by chronic alcoholism on the reservation, located in some of the poorest counties in the

The lawsuit also targets four beer stores in Whiteclay, Neb., a town near the reservation's border. Whiteclay has only about a dozen residents but sold nearly 5 million cans of beer in 2010, according to the federal lawsuit.

Poor Bear has been outspoken in his criticism of the Whiteclay beer stores for providing alcohol to tribal members.

Attorney Tom White, legal counsel for the Oglala Sioux Tribe in the federal lawsuit, was traveling and could not immediately be reached for comment

Mark Vasina, president of Nebraskans for Peace, which assisted Poor Bear in bringing the lawsuit against the beer companies, said he had no comment.

### UND legal fight has broader impact

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - institutions under its control." North Dakota's Board of Higher Education doesn't want to subvert for the Legislative Council, the the Legislature's authority by Legislature's research arm, said the attempting to disqualify a law that board's Supreme Court filings argue requires the University of North that the Legislature's power over the Dakota's teams to be called the higher education system does not Fighting Sioux, two officials said Friday.

Separately, a supporter of the 11 public colleges.  $university \lqsnick name and American$ Indian head logo said the board's stand has given momentum to a possible ballot initiative that would replace the board with an elected higher education commissioner.

on Friday. "We need to have system. accountability, and we don't have

Johnson is a member of a citizens' Higher Education contends the law is unconstitutional, and it has asked the North Dakota Supreme Court

in the case.

Rep. Al Carlson, R-Fargo, the prerogatives. House majority leader, said if the Supreme Court endorses the board's for is that the Supreme Court legal arguments it will cripple the declare (the Fighting Sioux law) Legislature's power to regulate and the referendum measure North Dakota's university system.

The Board of Higher Education, which is part of the North Dakota Constitution, was established by a voter initiative in 1938 in response to then-Gov. William Langer's decision to sack seven professors

"the control and administration"

John Bjornson, an attorney extend much further than deciding how much money to spend on its

If the Supreme Court sides with the board, lawmakers may not be able to dictate where college buildings are built, whether professors should be required to be fluent in English, or whether "With the current board, there is smoking should be allowed on no accountability," Sean Johnson, of campuses, Bjornson said, naming Bismarck, told a legislative higher three examples of state laws that education oversight committee affect the board and university

The lawsuit "raises the bigger question, where does your authority begin and end?" Bjornson told committee that campaigned for the committee's lawmakers. "Does a June referendum vote on the it just begin with appropriating Fighting Sioux law. The Board of money, and end there, or is there some other point anywhere in between?"

Grant Shaft, the president of the to block it from coming to a public Board of Higher Education, and Pat Seaworth, the state university The high court has allowed system's top attorney, said Friday nickname supporters and the the board's challenge of the Fighting Legislature to intervene separately Sioux law was not intended as a broad assault on legislative

> "What the board is asking unconstitutional. Period," Seaworth said. "No more, no less."

Johnson said he thinks the board should be replaced by an elected which is now North Dakota State have power to hire and fire college

that it has "full authority over the the question on the November Senate.

ballot, Johnson told the committee lawmakers.

Some legislators said they were uncomfortable with the idea of electing one person who would be responsible for North Dakota higher education. It would be better to allow the governor to appoint a higher education commissioner, said Rep. RaeAnn Kelsch, R-Mandan, the chairwoman of the North Dakota House's Education

"I do think that it makes it very political," Kelsch said of having an elected commissioner. "What you really want is a leader that you seek out ... . That's why I see an appointed position being better, because they're serving at the will of the governor, and it's much easier for the governor to fire than it is to get a recall."

North Dakota's current Board of Higher Education has eight voting members. It has power to hire and fire college presidents and to set policy for the state's university system.

The Legislature's Higher Education Committee, which is developing proposals for the 2013 Legislature, is studying a separate constitutional amendment that would abolish the board and give the governor authority to appoint a higher education commissioner.

The amendment would replace the Board of Higher Education with an 11-member advisory council. Its members would be appointed by the governor and vetted by a committee of five legislative leaders.

The amendment is similar to higher education commissioner, a proposal Carlson introduced who would be in charge of drafting in the 2011 Legislature. His the university system's budget amendment sought to replace the at the state agricultural college, recommendations and would Board of Higher Education and the state superintendent of public presidents. He or she would be instruction, who is elected, with a The constitution says the higher elected for six years and could not Department of Education, whose education board was established for serve more than two terms, he said. leader would have been appointed Supporters of the idea are drafting by the governor. The amendment of the state's public colleges, and a voter initiative and hope to get was defeated in the North Dakota

### WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

Personal & Business Checking Accounts

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance - Lower Down Payment
- Low Fixed Rate

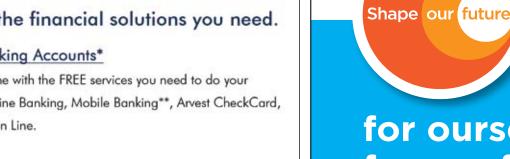
Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details. \*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details. (918) 631-1000

arvest.com



Member FDIC TENOR



get lean tulsa

### for ourselves. for our families. for future generations.

Oklahoma ranks 48th nationally for health. That is unacceptable. We can no longer sit idle when our health hangs in the balance.

There is a plan to create healthier lives for all Oklahomans - the Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan. Endorsed by the legislature, this plan outlines a clear path of action to save lives and improve our health. Join us by supporting:

Restore the rights of local communities to pass smokefree policies that are stronger than state law

Assure health education is taught in sixth, seventh or eighth grade for all state public schools

Prohibit the use of a hand-held electronic device while driving for all drivers under the age of 18

Let's pull together to Shape Our Future. Your state is counting on you.





Email: gadmin@ganica.net for more info.

ww.ganica.net

# State finds problems with tribe's foster care

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - North Dakota human services officials have given the Spirit Lake tribe until the end of March to correct problems in foster care administration.

The tribe has agreed to correct deficiencies in how it handles the cases of 36 foster children, The Forum newspaper reported Wednesday. Officials said case plans for the children did not exist, were incomplete or were not up to date. A state review also found other problems, including

inadequate health and education records for the children.

The tribe was given a 30-day deadline for corrective actions but Tribal Chairman Roger Yankton successfully argued for a 45-day window, saying in a letter to the state that the tribe's two foster care case managers each work with 39 children.

"The extremely high caseloads provide limited time for these workers to address compliance issues," Yankton said. "Secondly, the sheer number of deficiencies for each of these cases reviewed requires many man hours for corrections to be completed."

A state review team inspected the tribe's foster care case files in January after it became aware of deficiencies flagged in a yearly review of the tribe's social services programs by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Funding for the foster care program is split, with some children's needs paid by the BIA and others paid by money passed through the state to provide financial support for the foster homes. Last year, payments to support the 36 children totaled \$633,000.

During the 45-day corrective period, the tribe will have to pay for food, clothing, transportation and other needs of the 36 children, said Tara Muhlhauser, children and family services director with the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

"We made it very clear that is the tribe's responsibility," she said.

### Charges dismissed against ex-Okla. tribal worker

MUSKOGEE, Okla. (AP) - A former Muscogee Creek Nation official accused of bilking the government out of more than \$2.5 million in cigarette taxes pleaded guilty last week to federal charges of conspiracy and perjury.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Kimberly West accepted the plea and ordered a presentencing report for Michael P. Wisner. A formal sentencing date hasn't been scheduled.

Federal prosecutors accused Wisner, of Mandeville, La., of conspiring with a tobacco wholesaler to sell cigarettes in Creek Nation smoke shops at an illegally low tax rate. Wisner was serving as the CEO of the Creek Nation's Department of Trade and Commerce Authority at the time.

Wisner was accused of brokering deals in which cigarettes would be purchased from a tobacco wholesaler in a state that wasn't part of the Master Settlement Agreement between tobacco companies and 46 states, including Oklahoma, Assistant

U.S. Attorney Ryan Roberts said. The 1998 settlement agreement required certain cigarette manufacturers to pay a \$5 per carton fee.

"Generally a carton of cigarettes, which is what many tribes make money on, costs about \$8 a carton, but you pay around \$20 in taxes. If you can avoid that \$5 MSA tax you make your money up pretty quick," Roberts said.

The indictment also alleged that two others not indicted in the case created fraudulent documentation that showed the cigarettes sold to the Creek Nation would qualify for the lowest Oklahoma tax rate of \$.58 per carton, when the tax rate should have been \$7.75 per carton.

Wisner also was accused of knowingly making false representations while under oath before a federal grand jury in Muskogee.

Wisner's attorney, listed in court records as James Huber, didn't immediately return a call Monday seeking comment.

### Fort Peck tribes agree to \$75M trust settlement

**MATT VOLZ** Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) The Fort Peck tribes have agreed to a \$75 million settlement with the U.S. government over the government's mismanagement of their trust funds and trust resources.

The agreement approved by the Tribal Executive Board Monday is separate from the \$3.4 billion Cobell settlement over similar claims by individual Native Americans. It comes days after the Confederated Colville Tribes accepted a similar \$193 million settlement.

This agreement must still be approved by a federal judge before the tribes' lawsuit against the government is dismissed.

The tribes, located the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in northeastern Montana, sued in 2002 in attempt to receive an accounting of the Interior Department's management of the tribes' trust funds and to learn how much had been lost.

Fort Peck Chairman Floyd Azure said in a statement that the agreement was finalized in a Feb. 16 meeting with federal negotiators. The settlement resolves all past tribal claims against the U.S. government over mismanagement of trust funds from land, natural resources and a tribal credit program.

"The case we are resolving today addresses a series of wrongs committed by the federal government in the management of the Tribes' trust assets," Azure said.

He called the agreement a "treaty" between the tribes and the United States that will serve the tribes' best interests for years to come.

Α separate tribal statement says the executive board "is in the process of developing plans for the prudent use of these funds to meet the current and future needs of the Fort Peck people.

This case deals only with tribal trust funds and not individual trust funds, which is addressed in the class-action settlement named after Elouise Cobell, the deceased Blackfeet advocate who sued the government in the mid-1990s over billions of royalties lost from the accounts of individual Indians.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES**

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON

advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country



# NAVAJO

lawsuit that products with the Navajo name still are sold through other company brands, like Free People, in catalogs and retail stores.

The clothing boutique's website features several pieces of jewelry labeled vintage Navajo with turquoise stones and silver. A description for a handmade cuff says it originally was sold at a trading post, and has etched arrow detailing with a "sterling" stamp on the back.

There was no sign of the word "Navajo" on any products at an Urban Outfitters in downtown Tempe late last week.

Philadelphia-based company did not respond to messages seeking comment Wednesday.

Company spokesman Ed Looram said in an email last October that Urban Outfitters had no plans to alter its products.

"Like many other fashion

brands, we interpret trends and will continue to do so for years to come," he said. "The American-inspired trend and specifically the term 'Navajo' have been cycling thru fashion, fine art and design for the last few years."

He later declined further comment, saying the matter was in the hands of legal

Susan Scafidi, who directs the Fashion Law Institute at Fordham University's law school in New York, said Urban Outfitters could point out the name changes in certain items in response to the tribe's original objections. The "Navajo Hipster Panty" and the "Navajo Print Fabric Wrapped Flask," for example, later appeared on the company's website as "printed" instead of "Navajo."

Other defenses include claiming no likelihood of consumer confusion between an authorized Navajo clothing item and the panty, using alternate spellings of "Navajo" and arguing that the contested

product isn't a handicraft, she

But she and New Yorkbased fashion lawyer Joseph F. Murphy Jr., agree the trademark infringement is clear. Both pointed to a history in which the Navajo Nation lost real property and now is fighting to protect intellectual

"That's what disgusts me about this situation," Murphy said. "I, like many people, thought it would have been resolved. But apparently Urban Outfitters declined to write the big apology and may have to write the big check."

Navajo The Nation's objections to traditionally styled beaded earrings or a hacienda bag that don't carry the tribe's name are much less likely to succeed, Scafidi said. But she said it shows a pattern that could influence a jury, which the tribe has requested in its lawsuit.

"Imagine all of those products piled on a table in the courtroom, looking like Santa Fe meets New York's

notorious Canal Street or Beijing's Silk Market," she wrote in an email.

Tuesday's action isn't the first time the Navajo Nation has asserted its trademarks, though it had never taken action in federal court, said tribal Department of Justice attorney Brian Lewis. The tribe successfully forced the cancellation of a "Navaho" trademark last year that was used by a French company doing business in the United States. The tribe argued the name was phonetically identical and infringed on its trademark.

The tribe licenses its name to other businesses in exchange for a share of their profits, and it has identified about two dozen companies it believes are violating the Navajo trademark. Lewis said letters and phone calls typically convince others to stop infringing on the tribe's rights.

He said the widespread use of the word "Navajo" on products does not make it an

acceptable practice, nor does it go unnoticed. But he said the tribe's resources are limited and the Navajo Nation must prioritize the actions it takes.

"In this case, the level and degree of egregious behavior and harm to the Navajo Nation factored heavily into the Navajo Nation's decision to act," he wrote in an email to The Associated Press.

The lawsuit seeks monetary compensation and an order permanently enjoining Urban Outfitters from using the name "Navajo" or variations of it on its products.

#### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



NATIVE TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

**SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA** 

**INDIAN SUPPLY** 

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each

Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

www.nativetimes.com

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

# Conn. tribe ends payments to citizens

MICHAEL MELIA Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) – Tribal payments are coming to an end for Mashantucket Pequot Tribe members who once received a monthly share of casino revenue, a person familiar with tribal actions said March 2.

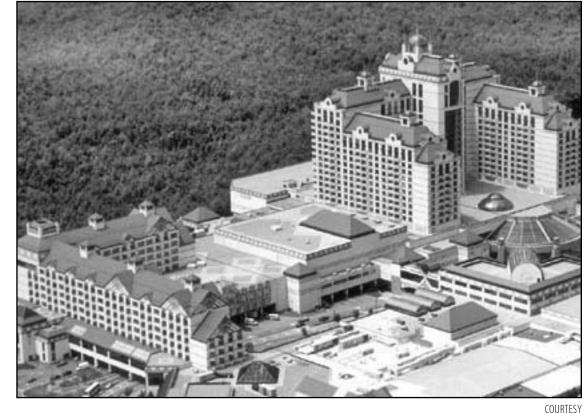
The tribe, which runs the Foxwoods Resort Casino, haltedaper-capita distribution of gambling revenue in 2010 amid financial struggles, said the person who on spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity over the details of the assistance. The person said transitional payments then started at the reduced amount of \$1,500 per month to help members adjust, but they gradually were decreased to \$500 with the last payment coming Friday.

A spokesman for the Mashantuckets, Bill Satti, said the tribe does not comment on "personal matters of this nature."

The tribe still provides for members in areas such as education, but the shriveling of the revenue sharing marks the end of one of the premier benefits for the tribe that opened one of the world's largest casinos.

The end of the payments was first reported by The Day of New London.

Foxwoods opened in 1992 and expanded in 2008 with the \$700 million MGM Grand, a 30-story property that includes a casino, hotel and a 4,000-seat



The Foxwoods Resort Casino opened in 1992 and is one of the world's largest casinos.

performing arts theater. But the casino and its neighbor, the Mohegan Sun, have been struggling with weak consumer demand since the economic downturn and growing competition in the Northeast. Foxwoods is in talks to resolve hundreds of millions of dollars

For several years now, tribal officials have been preparing members for the cutbacks.

in debt.

In 2009, the then-chairman of the Mashantuckets, Michael J. Thomas, warned in a letter to tribal members that financial difficulties threatened their living standards.

"These are dire financial times for our tribe," Thomas wrote in the letter. "The situation is serious and threatens our tribe."

The Transitional Income Supplemental Payments, which began in January 2011, were paid out to adult tribal members the first Friday of each month, according to the person familiar with tribal actions, who said the payments were far higher than \$1,500 a month before the economy soured.

For months, the person said, tribal members have been urged to pursue financial

counseling offered through the tribal council chairman's office in correspondence that also included names and numbers of state social service agencies and food pantries. The person said the tribe also created its own assistance program called "Beans and Jeans," a place where families in need can obtain donated food and clothing.

A spokesman for the Connecticut Department of Social Services, David Dearborn, said the office serving southeast Connecticut has not seen any inordinate increase in applications.

### GIR

Continued from Page

the diocese, said it was working with a relative of the Washinawatoks to develop a program to use in the school in April or May and possibly other schools after that.

"We ask for your forgiveness for our actions that have inflicted heartache, pain and anger to all those who have felt these emotions over the past several weeks," Bound wrote. "It is our hope that with this greater awareness, we can begin to repair any harm that has been caused and to be able to build new and improved relationships."

Washinawatok said the principal told her the coach asked for the girl to be benched, but the coach denied it.

Minter apologized in his letter for any hurt he caused, and DuQuaine apologized for "a breakdown of communication" that led to the girl being benched.

Washinawatok said she didn't think DuQuaine's letter was a "proper apology" either, but she was leaving it up to the diocese to pursue any further action.

Messages left at the school for the principal, teacher and assistant coach were not immediately returned. DuBois said the local parish makes hiring decisions, and the diocese has only an advisory role. A message left for parish Pastor Len Evers wasn't immediately returned Tuesday.

Washinawatok said her daughter is dealing with the situation the best she can, at times shutting down to questions. But she said her daughter is mature and respectable and was bothered by the fact the teacher didn't ask what she said.

"That was the thing that bothered her the most: the fact that Julie Gurta assumed she was saying something bad," she said.

### **FIGHT**

Continued from Paae

the sitting council responded Monday night by shutting off water and power to the building and hitting it with pepper spray, the newspaper said. A smoldering log was also thrown into the building and then tossed back out.

The tribe owns the Chukchansi Gold Resort and Casino in the Sierra foothills near Yosemite National Park and has expelled dozens of members since around November, cutting them off from stipends and other benefits.

Critics allege the move is aimed at increasing the casino profits of those still in the tribe. Tribal officials dispute that, saying they are enforcing their enrollment criteria and are now in a position to verify who is eligible to claim Chukchansi

The disenrollment debate has played into the division between the two groups claiming control of the tribal council. Supporters of the faction that occupied the tribal office said the four members who won election in December had agreed to reverse the expulsions, but that the existing council refused to recognize them.

The sitting council, meanwhile, said it had no choice but to hold offletting the new members take office after one of the four elected in December was disqualified for using an invalid tribal badge in the casino, the Bee said. The tribe's constitution says the old council has to remain in place until its replacement can be sworn in. An election for the seat won by the disqualified member is scheduled to be held in two weeks.

Morris Reid, whom the Bee identified as the leader of the replacement council involved in the occupation, issued a statement Tuesday calling on the BIA, the Department of Justice and Attorney General Eric Holder "to send federal Bureau of Indian Affairs law enforcement officers ...and to exercise the law enforcement authority granted to the United States over Tribal lands."

But Reid objected to the sheriff moving in to end the standoff.

"This action by local non-Indian law enforcement is in excess of their authority under Federal law and is a flagrant violation of Tribal sovereignty and an affront to Tribal governments and Indian people across this country," he said. "To curtail this dangerous precedent, we are asking the Federal government to assume law enforcement authority over the Picayune Rancheria immediately."

The Picayune Rancheria is the tribe's land.

Nedra Darling, a BIA spokeswoman, told The Associated Press that bureau representatives in California had "reached out to the parties and we are supporting the tribe's efforts to reach a peaceful resolution."

Anderson, who on Monday had characterized the standoff as a family squabble he was powerless to resolve unless any crimes were committed, said he hopes federal officials will get involved.

"I honestly don't know which party is right. They had an election and they both have paperwork saying that the other is in violation," Anderson said. "Even if I could make a determination, they wouldn't buy it. I can only enforce criminal law on Indian land."

Other casino-owning tribes in the state that have kicked out members include the Pala Band of Mission Indians in northern San Diego County. That tribe owns the Pala Resort and Casino and expelled more than 150 people earlier this month.

# Miss. Choctaws ink \$78M debt deal with Trustmark Bank

PHILADELPHIA, Miss. five year (AP) – The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians has signed a debt refinancing agreement for the Pearl River Resort in Neshoba County and the Bok Homa Casino in Jones County. five tribe

The new loan is for \$78 million at a 6 percent variable rate for

five years. The agreement was signed last week by Chief Phyliss J. Anderson and officials with Trustmark National Bank in Jackson

Anderson says the deal gives the tribe financial stability.

Last summer, Moody's Investors Service downgraded \$200 million in securities borrowed by the Choctaw Resort Development Enterprise. In late 2011, the tribal enterprise was removed from the credit watch list after it received a six-month extension on loans owed.

Pearl River Resort encompasses the Silver Star

Hotel and Casino, the Golden Moon Entertainment Arena and Hotel, BokHomaCasino, Dancing Rabbit Golf Course and Geyser Falls Water Theme Park.

Its latest promote is "Pearl River Resort, it's like Vegas with sweet tea."

The Choctaw
R e s o r t
D e v e l o p m e n t
E n t e r p r i s e's
previous termloan
had a maturity
date of May 4,
2012, for the Pearl
River Resort and
a maturity date of

May 31, 2012, for the Bok Homa Casino.

"I am very happy we were able to get this deal done early," Anderson said. "I appreciate the hard work of our CRDE board members, Choctaw Tribal Council, our finance, legal and accounting teams as well as our partners Trustmark National Bank. We are very satisfied with the terms of this deal. I didn't know if we would be able to get this done in the first 100 days of office but I pushed hard for the benefit of our tribal people."

"This was not a standard transaction," said Trustmark National Bank first vice president Craig Sosebee. "We've gone through the recession. People were thinking that maybe gaming was kind of recession-proof. That's not really turned out to be the case. So, the market has changed from where the financing use to be, but we still had a number of banks willing to participate and we put a good group together."



The Golden Moon Entertainment Arena and Hotel

# OK AG seeks more info on Kialegee leaders

The state wants to identify seven "John Doe" defendants who are tribal officers or members of the tribe's business committee.

BROKENARROW, Okla. (AP)

- The state is asking a federal judge to speed up the release of information in its lawsuit over a planned casino in Broken Arrow, saying it's been unable to serve summons against Kialegee tribal leaders because the state can't find them.

Each side normally has 30

days to exchange information in the discovery process, but state attorneys are asking a judge to shorten that to five days. "The reason we've asked for

that shortened time is because the tribe has been uncooperative in identifying the tribal officers and we need the documents for the preliminary injunction hearing," said Attorney General's Office spokeswoman Diane Clay.

Clay told the Tulsa World that the state wants to identify seven "John Doe" defendants who are tribal officers or members of the tribe's business committee.

Attorney William Scott, who

represents the state, said in an affidavit that he had made a "diligent search" of public records to determine the correct parties to be sued but had not been successful.

Scott said he tried the National Indian Law Library and also found that there is no official website for the tribal town identifying its other officers and business committee members.

According to court records, two attorneys for the tribe have refused to accept service for the legal summons and provide the names of the John Doe defendants.

"We neither will – nor should

be expected to – assist you in finalizing incomplete allegations and serving this litigation against our clients," attorney Dennis Whittlesey said in an email included in the court records.

The state sued last month to stop construction of the casino, arguing that the Kialegees are violating a state compact on Indian gambling by building the casino without first securing federal approval of a lease for the property. The tribe argues that the federal approval is not necessary in this case and is seeking dismissal of the state's

lawsuit.

Look for Native American Times on Twitter and Facebook. Get front page scoops and story previews!

# COMMENTARY







# Ownership of water a line drawn in the sand

S.E. RUCKMAN

I recall the story I heard about a humble Comanche man who wore overalls and lived simply. His family was part of the great allotment experiment in Oklahoma around the early 1900s where 80-acre plots were given to individuals. And like a mini lottery tucked into this larger land scheme, his acreage had a natural spring on it. The water breathing up from his piece of the Earth was sweet, clean and pure.

So everyone can be in the loop, Indian landowners often lease their minerals, grazing or water to make use of land that would otherwise be owned but not necessarily exercised. A deal is then worked out so that the leaser is compensated fairly by the lessee. In this case, family members told me their patriarch gave his consent after being promised an annual if negligible amount.

Forty years stretched by. The man's descendants were now

being notified by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) that the water lease was up for renewal. In the span of those four decades, several community developments had sprung up and water need increased. More users of the same water source would seemingly mean a more lucrative lease for the family, they reasoned.

Yet that may not the case. Local officials saw the ownership of this water as a larger scale issue that bypassed Indian landowner interests. The lease is still being worked out, I was told. Fair, after all, is in the eyes of the beholder and codified on the lease papers. Meanwhile, the subject of water supremacy started to sprinkle on me.

went by that I learned that two of the Five Civilized Tribes had filed a case in federal court to prevent the State of Oklahoma from selling water storage rights to a municipal party. The two tribes contend

that a treaty negotiated over

Not more than a few months

a hundred years ago gave them say-so over the water in question. That's the beauty of treaties; they can reconstitute and reverberate with life when necessary.

After reading the case filing, I learned that plaintiff tribes were demanding their treaty territory be preserved. Their right to be free of state jurisdiction was established by the Treaty of Washington which gave the two tribes ownership of water in the Sardis Reservoir (in south central Oklahoma). Like most federal Indian cases, the non-Native sides desire unilateral authority while the tribal interests hinge on sovereign fulfillment.

The sleeping water issue has risen like a Gila monster prodded from under a rock in Oklahoma. Akin to sounding a bugle horn, an editorial from a mainstream paper reminded readers in a paternalistic tone that while the two tribes were well able to defend their interests, the state's long term welfare was at stake. Great consequence hovered.

It is abundantly clear to me that lines are being drawn in our red, iron oxide sand. State governments like to rally the support of non-native inhabitants to emphasize their greater good. In the same breath, we all know might doesn't necessarily make

It is stunning how many entities can impinge on water disputes. This case alone names 13 defendants (a veritable Who's Who in Oklahoma). From water resource boards, rural water districts and advocacy groups, non-native water claims spring up like numbered balls in a bingo game. Weighing it out carefully is prudent; a badly decided water issue can trickle down and erode even the most single-minded purpose.

I spoke with a fellow from the Oklahoma Water Resources Research Institute recently and the point we agreed upon was that water eventually

becomes an emotional rather than a rational topic. This is a clue to me that this (water) is one of the things that really matter. All other issues in Indian Country kind of meld into it. We are, after all, only mammals breathing in air on the Planet.

Now it's the part in the revived Western movie where the Indians stand off their encroachers. Tensions are running high. Water issues are notorious for becoming entangled in the brambles S.E. RUCKMAN of the legal system. This is no cause for alarm. The two Oklahoma tribes have the resources to maintain their water position. But if they fall, water interests for every tribe in the state teeters. Legal precedent can be a slippery slope indeed.

I watched an animated piece recently about a small town's fight over water. Without it, they perished. The hero lizard (in this case) keeps coming back to the line: "He who controls the water



controls everything." I do not necessarily rely on cartoon oracles, but in this case, it resonates.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.

# Looking in the mirror with no reflection

NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

I was struck by an article by David Rooks in the Rapid City Journal on March 2.

David Rooks is a nice guy. He was also a former employee of mine when I owned the Lakota Times. Our main office in Pine Ridge Village was in the old Western Auto store that was once owned by his father, Gene.

The problems I have always had with Rooks are that he wore his Catholicism on his sleeve and his entire world seemed to be built around his Catholic beliefs.

In the article he wrote he was lamenting the loss of culture and traditions on the Pine Ridge Reservation. He wrote, "Lakota culture is poisoned and dying from its contact with the West." He felt that "Traditional Lakota society is being buffeted and pummeled through daily exposure to western materialism and spiritual decay; particularly through its children."

Now mind you Rooks was out on the reservation as parish coordinator for a church known as Our Lady of the Sioux. In this capacity he walked in the footsteps of many Catholic catechists who traveled these reservation roads before him trying to damage or destroy the traditional spiritual beliefs of the Lakota.

A few weeks ago one of the true Lakota journalists I admire, Ivan F. Starr, a man who spent nearly all of his life in the Oglala Community on the Pine Ridge Reservation, wrote a very soulful account of the near

destruction of the traditional tiospaye (pronounced tee-ospy-yay, which is a traditional clan or family). The tiospaye was once the heart of family life amongst the Lakota. It instilled all of the virtues such as honesty, courage and generosity in its members. The laws that governed the body were unwritten, but they set the guidelines for continuity and behavior within the community.

The near destruction of the tiospaye came at the hands of the ministers from the different churches who believed that in order for the Lakota to survive, they had to set aside their traditional spirituality and beliefs and embrace Christianity. In tearing away the traditions and culture and converting the people, especially the children, to a new belief, nearly all of the customs and beliefs that had supported the Lakota people for generations were washed

So here we have a preacher, Mr. Rooks, lamenting the loss of the culture and traditions of the Sioux people, when all the while he is inadvertently pontificating on the very tools of his religion that brought about much of that

Rooks concludes his self-effacing column with, "Now that I think of it, the whole effort of retaining a vibrant and authentic Lakota identity for the generations to come is a conservative project. Not for its own sake, but because Lakota culture is beautiful and worth preserving."

When the Church and the federal government made the decision to "Kill the Indian; save the man," they set about by removing the children from their traditional families and tiospayes and placing them in institutions where they would have little or no contact with their traditional teachers, their parents and grandparents. By severing this most important link to their language, history and culture, the Church and the government effectively joined forces in an effort to remake the Lakota in their own image.

Rooks wonders why the loss of culture is happening. He writes, "The question is, given the cunning and power of the forces attacking

While Rooks returned to the reservation considering how, "Those eight months back on the Rez altered my thinking about many things

The traditional tiospayes existed for a thousand years and set the cultural standards that held a people together and made for a culture with very clear systems of spirituality, customs, and behavior. Because the Catholic Church and other church groups, did not understand the tiospaye, hence the Lakota people, they considered these clans to be a danger to their efforts to reform and change a

Many of the problems that now exist on Pine Ridge and other reservations can be traced directly to the Church and the federal government. Steeped in Catholicism, David Rooks set about emulating the preachers before him who came to the reservation wearing blinders; they could not see the forest for the

Perhaps MTV, YouTube and Facebook will



Tim Giago

be the final nails in the coffin of traditional and cultural values of the Lakota youth, but the problems started long before they were introduced into the Lakota society. They started when Church and state set about to systematically plan for the future of the Lakota people without their input, and folks like David Rooks, although he is looking in a mirror with no reflection, were in the forefront of the cultural destruction.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@

# Governor Fallin fails **Native Americans**

OKLAHOMA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The Chairman of the Oklahoma Democratic Party, Wallace Collins, released a statement asking Governor Fallin to accept responsibility in her failure of not appointing a Native American liaison, which was decreed by law that she signed in May of 2011.

The deadline for the the appointment was December 1, 2011, and in a news article her spokesman was quoted saying the Governor was, "ignoring the Thursday deadline and is leaving the position vacant because of questions that arose after the bill was signed into law."

The law says that the liaison is responsible for state-tribal relations and would be the designee of the Governor to negotiate compacts between tribes and the state.

The liaison's other responsibilities include monitoring state-tribe compacts, coordinating relations between tribes and the state historical society, and advising tribes about state programs that affect their business.

"Even though there may be questions concerning the bill, she is still neglecting every Native American in Oklahoma by not appointing a liaison," said Chairman Collins.

In her State of the State address she explicitly asked for \$5 million to be appropriated to the Attorney General's office to help battle the Choctaw and Chickasaw tribes over water rights. Collins continued, "She is showing a pattern of behavior of disregarding our Native American tribal members and treating them as obstacles, rather than citizens of our state."

Oklahoma has one of the largest Native American populations in the U.S. and has 39 federally recognized tribes. "It is perfectly reasonable to include a representative of the tribes at the Governor's table," Collins said. "I call on her to be swift and proactive in appointing a Native American liaison."

NA
\TI
VE
A
M
ER
U
CA
N
TI
M
ES

Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	
□ \$65.00 for 52 issue:	s 🔲 \$32.50 for 26 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

■ \$1.25 single copy

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues

# **Cherokee Nation** youth employment program taking apps

TAHLEOUAH, — This summer Cherokee Nation will once again offer a great opportunity for young Native Americans to gain valuable job experience. Applications will be taken for the tribe's annual Summer Youth **Employment Program from** March 12 through April 27 at Career Services field offices throughout the Cherokee Nation's jurisdiction. SYEP participants will have the opportunity for a paid work experience lasting approximately six weeks and will start work on June 4.

"The youth employment program allows our tribal youth to experience the world of work. In addition, they get to see how the Cherokee Nation tribal government works and get a feel for the type of career they want to pursue in life," said Diane Kelley, executive director of Cherokee Nation Career Services. "We have many role models throughout the Cherokee Nation who started out on the Summer Youth Employment Program, and one such person who comes to mind is Todd Hembree, our new attorney general."

A special employment fair to prepare potential SYEP participants for the application process will be held in three area communities. Information be offered to help applicants complete their SYEP forms. A number

of entities will be on hand to provide resources and including information, representatives of Cherokee Nation's Talking Leaves Job Corps, Summer Youth Intern Program, Tribal Youth Council, College Resource Center, Health Services programs and several youth community and cultural enrichment programs. The SYEP fair will be held at the following locations:

- Tahlequah Community Building, 908 S. College Ave., on Tuesday, March 6, from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- Jay Community Center, 429 S. Ninth St., on Wednesday, March 7, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
- Claremore Cherokee Nation Career Services field office, 23205 S. Highway 66, on Thursday, March 8, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.

To be eligible for the Summer Youth Employment Program, applicants must reside within the boundaries of the Cherokee Nation, be 14 to 21 years old and be a citizen of federally recognized tribe. Male applicants ages 18 and older must be registered with Selective Service. Applicants ages 17 and younger must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian during the application process. For more information or to find the nearest Cherokee Nation Career Services field office, email careerservices@ cherokee.org or call 918-453-



Chief Gregory E. Pyle, Assistant Chief Gary Batton and Tribal Councilmen James Frazier and Anthony Dillard congratulate Trevin Cole on his award-winning essay.

# **Choctaw student wins 2011** Native Writers essay contest

**BRET MOSS** 

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

DURANT, Okla. - Trevin Cole of Coalgate has earned the 2011 Young Native American Writers Scholarship from the Holland and Knight Law Firm in Washington, D.C.

The "Young Native Writers Essay Contest" is a writing contest for Native American high school students and is designed to encourage young Native Americans to think about the critical issues impacting their tribal communities today. First-

place winners received an all-expense paid trip to Washington D.C. to visit the National Museum of the American Indian and other prominent sites. The winners were accompanied by the teachers that inspired their entries into the contest. Winner also received special awards for display at their home or school. In addition, winners were given scholarships of \$2,500 to be paid directly to the college or university of his or her choice.

Trevin wrote the 1,200-word essay and was notified the day after graduation he had won the national scholarship and would later go to Washington D.C. He, along with the teacher who inspired him to write the essay, Laura Clark, made the trip to Washington in July of 2011. He had dinner at the Kennedy Center every evening except one evening, when he went to Maryland and had dinner with the Holland and Knight Law Firm's CEO.

He spoke at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., in front of many Congressmen and women as well as many political figures. He was

awarded his scholarship and was the only person representing the Choctaw Nation.

Trevin is working on his bachelor's degree at East Central University where he received the Presidential Plus Scholarship and will later attend Harvard Law.

Trevin's parents Travis and Katherine Cole, grandparents are Johnny D. and Debbie Ward and Shirley Cole, and great-grandparents are the late Nell Prince and J.C. Ward, Doc and Pat Ingram.



Jessica Gann is interviewed by an area TV station.

### Holland & Knight announce 2012 essay contest

The Holland & Knight Charitable challenges can be addressed. Hundreds Contest, which we organize each year in partnership with the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian. This essay contest for Native American high school students is designed to encourage young Native Americans to think about the most important issues affecting their tribal communities, as well as ways in which

Foundation is proud to welcome entries of Native American high school for the Young Native Writers Essay students participate each year. While all participants receive a Certificate of Honor for submitting their essays and adding their voices to this important dialogue in Indian Country, the five first-place winners are awarded an all-expensespaid "Scholar Week" trip to Washington, D.C., accompanied by a teacher or mentor nominated by each winner, to visit the National Museum of the American Indian

and other prominent Washington, D.C. sites. Each winner also receives a \$2,500 college scholarship. Please help us spread the word about this year's contest by forwarding this email to groups and individuals who might be interested in submitting an essay. The deadline for submission is April 30, 2012. We look forward to reading this year's essays! For more details please visit: http://www. nativewriters.hklaw.com/

# Student receives broadcasters' scholarship

**ALAN BURTON** 

DURANT, Okla. Oklahoma Southeastern State University senior Jessica Ann Gann is the recipient of a scholarship from the Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters (OAB).

Gann, a communication (broadcasting emphasis) from Hugo, was one of six awardees statewide. The Oklahoma Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation offers annual scholarships to students majoring in broadcasting at Oklahoma colleges and universities.

Gann will receive the Mark Rawlings Scholarship at the OAB and Oklahoma Broadcasting Education Association Student Competition Awards ceremony at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City on March 8.

"I have been in radio for seven years," Gann said. "My plans are to still be involved with college radio stations across the state, radio seminars, become general manager of a radio station and still be a strong radio personality and voice talent producer.

"Even further than that, I would still want to be a radio producer in Nashville, Tenn."

March 8 will be a huge day for Gann. Along with the awards program, it is also Student Career Day and that will provide a great opportunity for those interested in broadcasting.

As an added bonus that makes the event more exciting, March 8 is also Gann's

# A Family's Farewell To Darlena Louise Camp Overland

A beautiful, most vivid rainbow arched over Ponca City last week as prophecy of our beloved relative's eminent and final journey. The spectrum of gorgeous color could not have better depicted the persona of a remarkable woman.

After 76 years of giving joy, comfort and boundless love to her large family and countless friends, our precious one is making her final journey home. Darlena was born in 1935 at the Pawnee Indian Hospital to Woodrow Howard Camp and Jewell Faye McDonald Camp, a descendant of the McDonald and Yellowberry family. After attending numerous grade and middle schools, in 1950 Darlena enrolled at Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas graduating in 1954. She was best known as "Jinx" at

and was a popular cheerleader for all

of her 4 year stay at Haskell. Never daunted, immediately after leaving Haskell, Darlena's love of music and dancing led her to enter the world of professional ballroom dancing, a vocation in which she excelled. First as a teacher trainee then qualifying to be an instructor in Seattle Wn., Darlena rapidly advanced through the Bronze and Silver standards eventually become an International Gold Medal dancer and teacher. Importantly, beloved by her pupils, she not only excelled at teaching, Darlena was known to her peers for her exquisite footwork and flamboyant

style resulting in numerous television appearances. This was to remain her profession for many years eventually training teachers at Arthur Murray Dance Studios in Kansas City, Mo. San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Coming back to her Ponca Nation nearly 40 years ago, Darlena resided in the families ancestral home at White Eagle with her loving and much loved husband Tennyson "John" Overland. In her late "50's" Darlena surprised family by entering Bacone College where, once again, she excelled by being chosen Oklahoma Student Of The Year and was voted to wear the crown as Bacone's annual Powwow Princess. The rest of her days were occupied with being a doting grandmother and honoring her family and the Ponca traditions. Darlena was well known in the community as a person of unfailing generosity to anyone in need and, even with her limited resources, never turned anyone away. A good illustration was her delicious meatpies that she made and sold to supplent a meager income. When her competitors raised their prices, Darlena steadfastly refused to charge more, saying that her more destitute customers counted on her.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sons, Robert and Kelly.

She is survived by her husband Tennyson "John" Overland, one sister, Casey Camp-Horinek; four brothers,



Craig, Cordell, Carter and Dwain; and her children, Craig Louis Silver and Amelia and Alex Fox.

She also leaves a large extended family with numerous nieces and nephews.

The fitting farewell for Darlena was held at the Ponca tribal cultural center on Monday, Feb. 28,2012. A huge gathering of family and friends from the both coasts as well as North and South Dakota plus many from all around Oklahoma came to honor Darlena at the traditional noon feast, services and interment.

We all love her deeply.

Eldest brother, Dwain Camp

# CLASSIFIEDS

### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

U.S. Department of the Interior Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs

Job Vacancy

### **Deputy Assistant Secretary** Management

Job Announcement Number: ASIA-SES-2012-PQ609381 Salary: \$119, 554 - \$165, 300 per annum **Open Period: February 15, 2012 - March 30, 2012** Series & Grade: ES-340

Are you interested in working for a federal agency that is responsible for protecting and improving the trust assets of American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and individuals?

The U.S. Department of the Interior is searching for candidates to develop and oversee the implementation of policies that govern and facilitate the provision of services to American **Indian and Alaska Native tribes and individuals by** a federal agency. These administrative functions include financial management, strategic planning, workforce planning, human resources, information technology management and safety management.

This is a full-time permanant position with the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs located in Washignton, D.C.

For more information and application procedures, please visit www.usajobs.gov or contact Indian Affairs Human Resources Office at (202) 208-2825.

The U.S. Department of the Interior is an Equal Opportunity Employer Preference will be given to American Indians and Alaska Natives



### CHEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**POSITIONS CLOSE ON 3/7/2012** #5998 Medical Technologist/T/PT, Hastings Hospital

#5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT, Hastings Hospital #6105 Medical Technologist II/R/FT, Hastings Hospital #5745 Medical Technologist/R/FT, Hastings Hospital #5426 Inpatient RN/PRN/T/PT, Hastings Hospital #5125 Surgical Technician/T/PT, Hastings Hospital #6278 Child Welfare Assistant.

CWS I or CWS II/R/FT, Sallisaw #6217 Cook I/R/PT, Human Services, Nowata **POSITION CLOSES 3/6/2012** 

#6219 Surgical Technician (Certified)/R/FT, **Hastings Hospital** 

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO** Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

#### **Director of Human Services**

The State of Oklahoma is seeking a Director for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) who has a commitment to public service. OKDHS is responsible for Human Services Centers and other locations throughout Oklahoma's 77 counties, nine divisions in the central office and five institutions. OKDHS has more than 7,000 employees and an annual budget exceeding \$2 billion in state and federal funding.

The Director is expected to plan, organize, direct and coordinate operations of all divisions and offices in accordance with the established mission, vision and values of the agency, and assures that all programs are administered according to federal and state rules and regulations. Program areas include Child Support Enforcement, Developmental Disabilities Services, Child Welfare, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Aid to Needy Families, Aging Services, and related administration and service delivery systems.

The agency prefers candidates who hold a Master's degree and 10 or more years of experience in human services, including five years in managing and supervising an executive level human services staff. Salary will be commensurate with education and experience. The salary range is \$155,000.00 - \$185,000.00.

You may view the full job announcement at www.okdhs.org. To apply applicants must download an application at www.okdhs.org/library/forms/hrmd/. Email all documents to jobs@okdhs.org. Deadline for submitting applications is March 26, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

> Announcement Number 12-S038U Oklahoma Department of Human Services P.O. Box 25352, Oklahoma City, OK 73125 www.okdhs.org • www.ok.gov

#### **VP Academic Affairs**

Rio Salado College, located in Tempe, Arizona, is known as the "college within everyone's reach" and represents a new model of higher education. The college transforms the learning experience through choice, access and flexibility, customized high quality learning design and personalized service and organizational responsiveness. We are searching for a VP of Academic Affairs to join our dynamic organization.

Serves as the Chief Academic Officer of a large, public, non-traditional community college.

Interested candidates should visit the website for full job description and required application, http://www. maricopa.edu/employees/divisions/ hr/jobs/current. Please reference job ID 12284. Deadline to apply is March 23, 2012. Applicants will not be able to access the on-line application system between 10:10 pm and 10:30 pm every

A Maricopa Community College (EEO/AA)

#### **Registered Dietitian**

The Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma is accepting applications for a part time or full time registered dietitian. Competitive wages, great atmosphere. The position is located at the White Eagle Health Center, Ponca City, Oklahoma. May send resume to White Eagle Health Center, 200 White Eagle Dr., Ponca City, OK 74601 Atten: Diabetes Program, or email to rayna. mckinnis@ihs.gov

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is accepting ONLINE applications for the full-time, regular status position of Administrative Affairs Division Director. Please visit our website at http://www. pawneenation.org to apply.

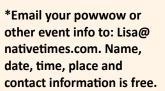
RN Director of Nursing with Long Term Care MGMT at Laguna Rainbow west of Albuquerque, NM. PRN RN and CNA opportunities too! Email resumes to jobs@pinonmgt.com. EOE/AA

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!

#### MORE NEWS EVERY DAY | WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM



# EVENTS



**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation. org

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone 3rd just west of Peoria). Call College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS **The Marble City Nutrition** Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. **Marble City Nutrition** Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** Center (311 S. Madison - on to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 12** Free tobacco cessation course from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Whitney Nuttle (918) 762-3873 or Suzy Knife Chief (918) 762-2153.

**MARCH-MAY** Free beginner-level **Cherokee language classes** in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction starting in March. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

**THROUGH MARCH 31** Tulsa Library's Festival of Words, a series of systemwide events to honor the achievements and celebrate the history of American Indians. For events and times, call the AskUs

Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.

MARCH 10 **Gospel Singing & Dinner at United Community Baptist** Church, Pensacola, Okla. Potluck at 6, singing at 7pm. Info call pastor Mike Earp: 918-791-8203.

MARCH 17 **Skate Jam Competition 10** am - dark at the "Skate Park Off Broadway," 105 Reynolds in Poteau Okla. www.nativeskateparks.com

**MARCH 17 2011 OKC Princess Honor Dance at Heart of Oklahoma** Expo Center, 1700 W. Independence, Shawnee, **OK. Info contact Shirley** Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@sbcglobal.net

**MARCH 17** Wild Onion Dinner from 11 am til 3 pm at Haikey Chapel UMC, 8815 E 101st St, Tulsa.

MARCH 23 Miss Indian Oklahoma City

at 6:30 pm, 3801 SE 29th St. Del City, OK. Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@ sbcglobal.net

**Competition & Performance** 

MARCH 31 "Play Golf Native America Day," a free program for families to experience a day of fun, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Cherokee Hills Golf Club located at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Info email Crystal Echo Hawk: crystal@nb3f.org

**APRIL 6** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East **Beaumont Drive, Norman,** Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

APRIL 7 **Ponca Gourd Dance 9th Annual Spring Dance White Eagle Cultural Center** 5 miles south of Ponca City, OK (580) 268-3313

**APRIL 14 All Gourd Honor Dance** for Micheal Tsotaddle at Red Buffalo Hall, Carnegie, OK, 2p.m. -? For more information call Darla Tsotaddle (405) 432-8377 or Mavis Tsotaddle (580) 654-1704.

#### MAY 4

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East **Beaumont Drive, Norman,** Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

#### **JUNE 1**

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East **Beaumont Drive, Norman,** Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox **Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

# Cherokee Arts Center announces

# March class schedule

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — The Cherokee Arts Center in Tahlequah has five upcoming art classes available in March for adults and youth interested in creating unique pieces of art that are relevant to Cherokee culture.

On Friday, March 16, Cherokee jewelry-maker Teri Rhoades will be teaching a precious metal clay class from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Precious metal clay is a puttylike mixture made of silver powder, water and a binder. Participants will learn how to mold, texture and layer PMC to make pendants, earrings and small sculptures. Once the pieces are fired, the water and binder are driven off to reveal a pure silver piece of art. Registration is \$90 and a deposit of \$50 is required to reserve a seat in the class. Students will also pay \$45 for tools, which they will get to keep.

Cherokee

National

Treasure Jane Osti will be teaching three sculpture classes, including a youth pottery class, a sculpture class and a shield, platters and tiles class.

The youth pottery class will be held Tuesday, March 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The class is \$25 and participants must register by Friday, March 16.

The sculpture class is for adults who are interested in learning how to make traditional clay pottery. The two-session class takes place on Saturday, March 3, and Saturday, March 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Registration is \$50 and participants must reserve a seat by Wednesday,

In shields, platters and tiles, Osti will teach participants how to craft unique Cherokee objects using a mixture of techniques. The two-part

class is on Saturday, March 24 and Saturday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The class is \$50 and participants must register by Friday, March 16.

On Wednesday, March 21, Cherokee artist and lecturer America Meredith will give a two-hour presentation called "Cherokee Art History 101." During the talk, Meredith will cover a broad survey of Cherokee visual art from the 15th century to the 20th century. There is no cost to attend the lecture.

All classes are open to the public and held at the Cherokee Arts Center in Tahlequah, 212 S. Water St. For more information or to register for a class contact Valerie Diffee at 918-453-5728 or valerie-scraper@ cherokee.org.



Cherokee National Treasure Jane Osti sculpts a traditional Cherokee pot

### **Southern Plains** hires new curator

ANADARKO, Okla.-The Department of the Interior recently hired Bambi Marie Allen to be the new curator for the federal Southern Plains Indian Museum, based in Anadarko, Oklahoma. Allen is of Comanche and Kiowa descent.

Allen's background begins with her lifelong involvement in Comanche and Kiowa culture, being a part of the Ware and Pewo families of the Kiowa and Comanche tribes, respectively. Her professional background includes working as an artist and coordinating cultural classes and presentations throughout the state of Oklahoma. Allen has also served as the cultural specialist for the Comanche National Museum of Lawton, Okla.

The Southern Plains Indian Museum is one of three of the Department of Interior's Indian Arts and Crafts Board Museums. The Southern Plains Museum was founded in 1948 and has been a center for emerging Southern Plains American Indian artists. The tribes in which the Southern Plains Indian Museum focuses include the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Fort Sill Apache, Wichita, Delaware, Caddo, Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes. The other two regional museums of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board include the Sioux Indian Museum in Rapid City, S.D. and the Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning, Mont.

Allen's plans for the museum include increasing involvement with local communities, boosting the volume of visitors, and opening the doors to more diverse art shows.

"Education and cultural preservation is the only way to keep our heritage alive," says Allen. "By continuing community involvement, interest in the arts or teaching American Indian language, we can assure that our children's children will know what we are, instead of what we were."

The Southern Plains Indian Museum is located at 715 E. Central, Anadarko. Its hours of operation are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat. For artists interested in being a part of the Southern Plains Indian Museum, call (405) 247-6221.

## Comanche Museum wins regional ADDY

LAWTON, Okla. - The Wichita Falls chapter of the American Advertising Federation (AAF) has honored the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center (CNMCC) with a regional ADDY Award. CNMCC took home a bronze award in the Broadcast/ Electronic Category for its television commercial The Bison: American Icon.

The annual awards showcase Texoma's best advertising in print, broadcast, television and interactive media. The ADDY

Awards is the advertising industry's largest and most representative competition, attracting over 60,000 entries every year in local ADDY competitions. The mission of the ADDY competition is to recognize and reward creative excellence in the art of advertising.

"This award is a huge honor for our museum," said Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi, CNMCC Executive Director. "It shows that we are among the best when it comes to the overall marketing

of our museum. Unfortunately, we can't just open the doors and expect visitors to come. We have to tell them who we are and show them what we are about. Television advertising provides us with a wonderful opportunity to do just that. It's our chance to entice the public into finding out more about us. The fact that our hard work is not going unnoticed is humbling. An award such as this is a nice validation and confirms that our approach to marketing works. Our museum is the heartbeat of our Comanche Nation. We want our Comanche people to be proud of the museum and even prouder when they hear us tell the local communities about it," Wahahrockah-Tasi said. CNMCC's

marketing spearheaded by Executive Director Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi and Education and Public Programs Manager Candy Morgan in collaboration with DesignWorks Group Inc. in Wichita Falls.





ALL AGES WELCOME. BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS. NO OUTSIDE COOLERS, FOOD OR DRINKS ALLOWED.



SATURDAY, APRIL 28



PAWHUSKA SATURDAY, MAY 12



BARTLESVILLE FRIDAY, MAY 4

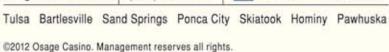


SAND SPRINGS SATURDAY, MAY 19



osagecasinos.com

(918) 699-7777 | Find us on Facebook!





- Court hearing Fighting Sioux case
- Hebrew and the Indigenous language revival
- Sequoyah High announces top students









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 11

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**MARCH 16, 2012** 

# **Chiefs bring back** Intertribal-Council

TAHLEQUAH, Okla.— After going inactive for several years, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is making a comeback.

During the recent winter session of the National Congress of American Indians, Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker met with leaders of the Muscogee (Creek), Chickasaw, Choctaw and Seminole nations to discuss resurrecting the dormant organization.

"We are a major force in Oklahoma," Baker said. "It makes sense that we work together whenever possible to advance the needs of our people and communities."

Established in 1949, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes was established



George Tiger

promote positive relationships among five of Oklahoma's largest tribes while acknowledging the need for a united front from tribal leaders on a variety of issues, including sovereignty, health care, water rights, housing and elder care.

Among the revitalized council's short-term goals are bringing assistant

Secretary of Interior Larry Echo Hawk to Oklahoma to meet with officials from the more than 20 tribes headquartered in eastern Oklahoma.

As a first step to launching the revived organization, the five leaders selected Muscogee (Creek) principal chief George Tiger as president Baker as vice president.

"With all of the hotbutton issues going on in Indian Country today, I am honored that my fellow chiefs have asked Chief Tiger and I to take the lead on re-instituting the inter-tribal council," Baker said. "Chief Tiger has demonstrated his commitment to make this organization work and I share that enthusiasm."



RICK BOWMER / ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

Brenda Frank, State Board of Education board member and a Nez Perce tribal member, makes remarks at the State Board of Education meeting Thursday, March 8, 2012, in Salem, Ore. The State Board of Education heard testimony Thursday on Native American mascots and nicknames in Oregon's public high schools. The board could eventually vote to ban those names. Board officials say 15 public high schools in Oregon have

# Oregon considers banning **Native American mascots**

JONATHAN J. COOPER Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. (AP) - Angry at a halftime show depicting a bare-chested Native American boy with a target painted on his skin, Che Butler set out to force the Molalla Indians and 14 other Oregon high schools to stop using mascots and nicknames that depict American Indians.

Oregon's Board of Education on March 8 took up Butler's plea for the second time, rejoining a longstanding national debate about racial tolerance and school traditions five years after issuing a nonbinding recommendation that schools stop using Native

American regalia. "We live off honor and respect. We're taught to respect all human beings and things on Earth, and live in harmony with them," said Butler, 22, a member of the Siletz tribe of western Oregon. "That's all I ask of this board and this state, show us the respect, us Native people."

The board's proposal support of Butler and his family, who were also traumatized by the halftime show about six years ago. It also has raised just as much passion from others - some of them Native American - who say logos and mascots honor Native Americans' heritage.

For every person like Butler, there's also someone like Jeff Williams, a fellow member of the Siletz tribe and a proud supporter of the Philomath Warriors.

"You want to get rid of the Native American mascots, you're saying Natives are a shameful part of American history," Williams told the education board.

Board members said that

they will consider adopting a rule outlawing depictions of American Indians in school athletics. The exact rules have yet to be written, but officials say they'll be released this month followed by public comment. The board could not formally enact a rule earlier than May.

Theconcepthastheenthusiastic support of board Chair Brenda Frank, herself a member of the Nez Pierce tribe.

"This is just another block that we need to remove," Frank said.

Since the 1970s, more than 600 high school and college teams have dropped such nicknames, including 20 in Oregon, but no professional sports franchise has done so, according to a report by the Oregon Department of Education.

See MASCOTS Continued on Page 4

## Tribes encourage support for **Violence Against Women Act**

**SUZANNE GAMBOA** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -American Indian leaders say they want support from two more Republican senators for the Violence Against Women Act and they are making a big push to muster support for the bill, which includes measures to specifically help American Indian and Alaska Native victims.

As of last Tuesday, the legislation has 58 supporters in the Senate, including its sponsor Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt. Although that means a majority of senators support the act, it lacks the 60 votes needed to end a filibuster should one be launched if the bill reaches the Senate floor.

Tribal leaders' search for additional supporters comes as heightened debate over insurance coverage for contraceptives has led Democrats try to make women's rights an electionyear issue. It was unknown whether that debate would provide momentum for the legislation considered by many to be a landmark law in protecting women.

Dossett, attorney for the National Congress of American Indians. "Once we get the 60 votes it will be clear to the (Senate) majority leader (Harry Reid, D-Nev.) that he has the votes to move it to the

At a legislative summit of the National Congress of American Indians March 6, tribal leaders were given a list of senators, all Republicans, who represent states with reservations and tribal communities. The tribal leaders were

See ACT Continued on Page 3

# Bonuses lead to removal of elected Navajo leaders

**FELICIA FONSECA** Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - A day after voters in one of the Navajo Nation's communities approved a local sales tax, its elected officials rewarded themselves with thousands of dollars in bonus money. The payments came on the heels of a Christmas bonus and preceded bonuses for other projects.

In all, the handful of officials that served on Tuba City's Council of Naat'aani, or council of leaders, received more than \$80,000 in bonuses from late 2009 to 2011. As a result, ethics cases were brought against them by the larger tribal government, stripping four



Charlene Nez, secretary-treasurer for the Council of Naat'aanii, said the officials knew it was wrong to take chapter funds in the form of bonuses.

of the five of their jobs and requiring that all five pay back the money.

Tribal ethics investigators and justice officials said elected officials are not supposed to be compensated stipends meetings and legitimate travel. Investigators alleged that the officials engaged in favoritism and put themselves above the needs of the community, where the annual per capita income of \$15,000 is less than the bonuses paid to individual leaders.

However, a lawyer for one of the deposed officeholders said the tribal law that gave reservation communities increased authority over local finances is vague and doesn't prohibit the payments.

"I don't agree at all with startingwiththepresumption that bonus equals bad." said David Jordan, representing

**See NAVAJO** *Continued on Page X* 

## **Store owner: Economy** driving beer sales down

Alcohol sales have plummeted in a tiny Nebraska town faulted for selling beer to members of an American Indian tribe plagued by alcoholism.

**GRANT SCHULTE** Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) -

While the town's critics hailed the drop in sales and credited increased law enforcement and more alcohol-related treatment programs at the neighboring Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, a store owner in Whiteclay said business has fallen off because the tribal government, which provides most of the jobs in the area, has been struggling

financially. New data obtained by The

Associated Press from the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission show the number of cases of beer and malt liquor sold in the dusty, 11-person town fell 13 percent in 2011. Sales had been climbing for years, from about 117,500 cases of beer in 2007 to 206,600 in

"There's just no money," said Victor Clark, who owns a small grocery story in Whiteclay that doesn't sell alcohol. "The tribe has no money. We're seeing programs now that don't have money. All sorts of things, and it's all trickling down to the individuals."

Tribal Council member Donn Fire Thunder said the tribal government has made cuts recently to its housing program and police department because of budget shortfalls, which he

See BEER Continued on Page 4

- Court hearing Fighting Sioux case
- Hebrew and the Indigenous language revival
- Sequoyah High announces top students









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 11

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**MARCH 16, 2012** 

# **Chiefs bring back** Intertribal-Council

TAHLEQUAH, Okla.— After going inactive for several years, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is making a comeback.

During the recent winter session of the National Congress of American Indians, Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker met with leaders of the Muscogee (Creek), Chickasaw, Choctaw and Seminole nations to discuss resurrecting the dormant organization.

"We are a major force in Oklahoma," Baker said. "It makes sense that we work together whenever possible to advance the needs of our people and communities."

Established in 1949, the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes was established



George Tiger

promote positive relationships among five of Oklahoma's largest tribes while acknowledging the need for a united front from tribal leaders on a variety of issues, including sovereignty, health care, water rights, housing and elder care.

Among the revitalized council's short-term goals are bringing assistant

Secretary of Interior Larry Echo Hawk to Oklahoma to meet with officials from the more than 20 tribes headquartered in eastern Oklahoma.

As a first step to launching the revived organization, the five leaders selected Muscogee (Creek) principal chief George Tiger as president Baker as vice president.

"With all of the hotbutton issues going on in Indian Country today, I am honored that my fellow chiefs have asked Chief Tiger and I to take the lead on re-instituting the inter-tribal council," Baker said. "Chief Tiger has demonstrated his commitment to make this organization work and I share that enthusiasm."



RICK BOWMER / ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

Brenda Frank, State Board of Education board member and a Nez Perce tribal member, makes remarks at the State Board of Education meeting Thursday, March 8, 2012, in Salem, Ore. The State Board of Education heard testimony Thursday on Native American mascots and nicknames in Oregon's public high schools. The board could eventually vote to ban those names. Board officials say 15 public high schools in Oregon have

# Oregon considers banning **Native American mascots**

JONATHAN J. COOPER Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. (AP) - Angry at a halftime show depicting a bare-chested Native American boy with a target painted on his skin, Che Butler set out to force the Molalla Indians and 14 other Oregon high schools to stop using mascots and nicknames that depict American Indians.

Oregon's Board of Education on March 8 took up Butler's plea for the second time, rejoining a longstanding national debate about racial tolerance and school traditions five years after issuing a nonbinding recommendation that schools stop using Native

American regalia. "We live off honor and respect. We're taught to respect all human beings and things on Earth, and live in harmony with them," said Butler, 22, a member of the Siletz tribe of western Oregon. "That's all I ask of this board and this state, show us the respect, us Native people."

The board's proposal support of Butler and his family, who were also traumatized by the halftime show about six years ago. It also has raised just as much passion from others - some of them Native American - who say logos and mascots honor Native Americans' heritage.

For every person like Butler, there's also someone like Jeff Williams, a fellow member of the Siletz tribe and a proud supporter of the Philomath Warriors.

"You want to get rid of the Native American mascots, you're saying Natives are a shameful part of American history," Williams told the education board.

Board members said that

they will consider adopting a rule outlawing depictions of American Indians in school athletics. The exact rules have yet to be written, but officials say they'll be released this month followed by public comment. The board could not formally enact a rule earlier than May.

Theconcepthastheenthusiastic support of board Chair Brenda Frank, herself a member of the Nez Pierce tribe.

"This is just another block that we need to remove," Frank said.

Since the 1970s, more than 600 high school and college teams have dropped such nicknames, including 20 in Oregon, but no professional sports franchise has done so, according to a report by the Oregon Department of Education.

See MASCOTS Continued on Page 4

## Tribes encourage support for **Violence Against Women Act**

**SUZANNE GAMBOA** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -American Indian leaders say they want support from two more Republican senators for the Violence Against Women Act and they are making a big push to muster support for the bill, which includes measures to specifically help American Indian and Alaska Native victims.

As of last Tuesday, the legislation has 58 supporters in the Senate, including its sponsor Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt. Although that means a majority of senators support the act, it lacks the 60 votes needed to end a filibuster should one be launched if the bill reaches the Senate floor.

Tribal leaders' search for additional supporters comes as heightened debate over insurance coverage for contraceptives has led Democrats try to make women's rights an electionyear issue. It was unknown whether that debate would provide momentum for the legislation considered by many to be a landmark law in protecting women.

Dossett, attorney for the National Congress of American Indians. "Once we get the 60 votes it will be clear to the (Senate) majority leader (Harry Reid, D-Nev.) that he has the votes to move it to the

At a legislative summit of the National Congress of American Indians March 6, tribal leaders were given a list of senators, all Republicans, who represent states with reservations and tribal communities. The tribal leaders were

See ACT Continued on Page 3

# Bonuses lead to removal of elected Navajo leaders

**FELICIA FONSECA** Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - A day after voters in one of the Navajo Nation's communities approved a local sales tax, its elected officials rewarded themselves with thousands of dollars in bonus money. The payments came on the heels of a Christmas bonus and preceded bonuses for other projects.

In all, the handful of officials that served on Tuba City's Council of Naat'aani, or council of leaders, received more than \$80,000 in bonuses from late 2009 to 2011. As a result, ethics cases were brought against them by the larger tribal government, stripping four



Charlene Nez, secretary-treasurer for the Council of Naat'aanii, said the officials knew it was wrong to take chapter funds in the form of bonuses.

of the five of their jobs and requiring that all five pay back the money.

Tribal ethics investigators and justice officials said elected officials are not supposed to be compensated stipends meetings and legitimate travel. Investigators alleged that the officials engaged in favoritism and put themselves above the needs of the community, where the annual per capita income of \$15,000 is less than the bonuses paid to individual leaders.

However, a lawyer for one of the deposed officeholders said the tribal law that gave reservation communities increased authority over local finances is vague and doesn't prohibit the payments.

"I don't agree at all with startingwiththepresumption that bonus equals bad." said David Jordan, representing

**See NAVAJO** *Continued on Page X* 

## **Store owner: Economy** driving beer sales down

Alcohol sales have plummeted in a tiny Nebraska town faulted for selling beer to members of an American Indian tribe plagued by alcoholism.

**GRANT SCHULTE** Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) -

While the town's critics hailed the drop in sales and credited increased law enforcement and more alcohol-related treatment programs at the neighboring Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, a store owner in Whiteclay said business has fallen off because the tribal government, which provides most of the jobs in the area, has been struggling

financially. New data obtained by The

Associated Press from the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission show the number of cases of beer and malt liquor sold in the dusty, 11-person town fell 13 percent in 2011. Sales had been climbing for years, from about 117,500 cases of beer in 2007 to 206,600 in

"There's just no money," said Victor Clark, who owns a small grocery story in Whiteclay that doesn't sell alcohol. "The tribe has no money. We're seeing programs now that don't have money. All sorts of things, and it's all trickling down to the individuals."

Tribal Council member Donn Fire Thunder said the tribal government has made cuts recently to its housing program and police department because of budget shortfalls, which he

See BEER Continued on Page 4

# Judge: Inmates can pursue sweat lodge lawsuit

HELENA, Mont. (AP) – Five Native American inmates who filed a lawsuit over strip searches required before and after they participated in religious sweat lodge ceremonies at a private prison in Montana can pursue part of their case, but cannot seek monetary damages, a federal judge has ruled.

"Plaintiffs have alleged sufficient facts to pursue their claims regarding the strip searches, the alleged prohibition of essential sacred items, and one alleged retaliatory act," U.S. District Judge Charles Lovell wrote.

However, Lovell ruled that the plaintiffs failed to show how the prison substantially burdened their religious exercise, so they can't seek monetary damages from the Department of Corrections or Corrections Corporation of America, which operates Crossroads Correctional Center in Shelby.

Lovell referred the case to U.S. Magistrate Keith Strong for a settlement conference, the Independent Record reported Sunday.

"More cooperation between the parties will go a long way toward achieving successful continuation of this ceremony in the prisons," Lovell wrote.

The lawsuit was filed after the Montana Human

Rights Commission rejected a discrimination complaint filed by John Knows His Gun, Darryl Lewis Frost, Jason Chiefstick, William Gopher and Allen Potter. Knows His Gun and Chiefstick are now on probation, according to a Department of Corrections website.

The Department of Corrections and Crossroads Correctional Center filed motions asking Lovell to dismiss the case. He heard arguments on Feb. 23 and issued his ruling on Feb. 29.

The plaintiffs were incarcerated at the private prison in Shelby in 2008 and 2009. The men claim that

in 2008, before and after sweat lodge ceremonies, the participants were subjected to "en masse" strip searches. On some occasions, the strip searches were done in a gymnasium with video cameras that at least one female guard monitored.

Prison officials said they suspected the ceremonies were being used to move contraband, although none was ever found.

Attorney Ron Waterman has said the contraband suspicions were nothing more than a pretext to discriminate against the inmates.

"Plaintiffs claim the experience was 'extremely

degrading and dehumanizing' and caused the number of inmates attending sweat lodge ceremonies to decline," Lovell wrote. "Thus, plaintiffs have adequately alleged that the strip searches forced them to choose between abandoning their religious exercise or being subjected to an 'extremely degrading and dehumanizing' experience."

Lovell said the plaintiffs may also go forward with their claim that they were prohibited from using smudge tobacco, antlers, herbs and other sacred materials, but he noted the prison isn't required to provide the materials.

a pilot program that reduced

crime on four reservations by

a combined 35 percent; and,

sweeping trust reform. Public

Sector Leadership Award

- American University -

Washington Internships for

Native Students (WINS)

Students (WINS) program

offers Native students an

invaluable opportunity to

develop professionally while

living, studying, and interning

in Washington, DC. WINS

plays a critical role in building

a pipeline of young Native

leaders who are prepared to

lead Indian Country in the

new era of nation-to-nation

relations. Since 1994, over 900

students representing over

80 tribes have participated

in WINS, and WINS alumni

now hold key positions in

and myriad national Native

government

federal

organizations,

for

Washington

Native

Program The

Internships

#### NATIVE American Times

Publisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
ROB WALTON
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

> Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM
- News from the crossroads of Indian Country





### NCAI announces 2012 Indian Country Leadership Awards

Congressman Don Young; Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary Indian Affairs; American University WINS Program and Dr. Eddie Brown named.

WASHINGTON - The National Congress American Indians (NCAI) has announced the recipients of the organization's prestigious Indian Country Leadership Awards. Congressman Don Young (R - AK) Chair of the House Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, Larry Echo Hawk - Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, the American University's Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) program, and the accomplished Dr. Eddie F. Brown, Professor, Arizona State University will

honored at the organization's Indian Country Leadership Award Banquet held during 2012 NCAI Executive Council Winter Session.

The organization's Indian Country Leadership Awards celebrate the outstanding contributions of individuals and organizations to Indian Country in four categories: Congressional Leadership Award, Native American Leadership Award, Governmental Leadership Award, and Public Sector Leadership Award.

NCAI, the nation's oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization, will present the awards during a Tuesday evening award reception held in conjunction with its Executive Council Winter Session in Washington, D.C.

Congressional Leadership Award – Congressman Don Young Representative Young has been a champion for Indian Country for 20 terms in the United States House of Representatives. Representative Young knows tribes are fully capable of self $determination \, and \, he \, supports \,$ sovereignty in his legislative efforts on tribal priorities from energy to healthcare. In the 112th Congress, Representative Young became the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs and his leadership has been critical to enabling tribes to fully pursue economic development.

Native American Leadership Award – Dr. Eddie F. Brown, Professor, Arizona State University Dr. Brown's career has spanned the highest levels of tribal, state, and federal administration and universities. He has developed key bipartisan policy, conducted research, and informed social work practice to benefit Native governments. His endeavors ensure tribal sovereignty and strengthen the sustainability of tribal nations. He has served as the Co-Chair of the NCAI Policy Research Center's Advisory Board since it was founded in 2003 and he continues to be a powerful advocate for Indian Country.

families, communities, and

Governmental Leadership Award - Larry Echo Hawk -Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs As the longest serving Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs in over a decade, Larry Echo Hawk's commitment restructuring federal relations with Native nations has resulted in considerable improvements in the nationto-nation relationship. Highlights of Mr. Echo Hawk's accomplishments include the historic \$3.4 billion Cobell Settlement; \$1 billion in water settlements; passage of the Tribal Law & Order Act and implementation of

> Perrelli, associate U.S. Attorney General. Perrelli leaves the Department of Justice Friday. He is credited with working to improve public safety on tribal reservations.

Perrelli said he's not leaving the department because he is tired of the work, but because his wife just had twins and they now have four boys under 6. He said he would continue to fight to end sexual assault and violence.

### Native American hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans!
FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY
E-mail your ad for a quote to
lisa@nativetimes.com

## ACT

Continued from Page

told to press those senators to support the bill during meetings this week.

One of the provisions in the act would allow tribes to prosecute offenders who are not American Indian or Alaska Native when their victims are and the violence happens on a reservation.

The House has not taken action on any similar or companion legislation.

The act, first approved in 1994, expired last September. Although the act has been reauthorized several times, this year's update ran into some Republican opposition in committee. A few senators criticized provisions regarding visas for immigrant victims of violence, language specifying services for gay and

transgender victims.

The measures also would give tribes authority to prosecute non-Indians who commit violence against American Indian women, which raises concern among some opponents about giving tribal courts increased power over defendants who are not tribal members. In 1978, the Supreme Court ruled that tribes do not have authority over people who are not American Indian, even when the crime happens on a reservation and involves a member of a tribe.

"They ruined that bill as far as I'm concerned," Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said. "They added things I can't support."

American Indian and Alaska Native women are 2.5 times more likely than other U.S. women to be battered or raped, according to the National Congress of American Indians. Many are domestic violence victims whose abusers and assailants are not Native American.

Dossett said that has prevented tribal officials from prosecuting abusers to help prevent repeat violence. Often the crimes are not serious enough for the federal government to step in. Violence often must escalate before a perpetrator is prosecuted.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, said she's aware of the concerns raised by her fellow GOP colleagues about tribal jurisdiction over non-Indians. "I'm hopeful this does not derail this legislation. This is too important for us," she

Other senators on the

tribal leaders' list interviewed outside Senate chambers last week did not immediately know where they stood on the legislation.

Other issues raised at the summit included ongoing negotiations over the transportation bill, now on the floor in the Senate.

Jefferson Keel, president of the National Congress of American Indians, urged summit attendees to remain united in a goal to get increased spending on transportation, important for construction of roads on reservations and in tribal communities.

"In an environment of tight federal budgets some people expect us to become divided rather than maintain unity," Keel said.

Tribal officials also got a chance to bid farewell to Tom

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell 918-507-2902** 

Native American Contractor



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

### SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors
Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# 5 indicted for selling alcohol on dry reservation

The indictments are from incidents that took place in December in Wanblee, Porcupine and the village of Pine Ridge.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) reservation home to a tribe and a \$100,000 fine. suing some of the nation's

Spotted Elk Sr., Florine are knowingly contributing to and Julia Marie Lamont were the Pine Ridge reservation. indicted Feb. 22 on counts of possessing and dispensing in the U.S. District Court of liquor, said Brendan Johnson, U.S. Attorney for the District in damages for the cost of of South Dakota, in a news health care, social services and release. All five pleaded not child rehabilitation caused by guilty before U.S. Magistrate chronic alcoholism on the Judge Veronica L. Duffy two reservation, located in some result of a joint operation department listed Poor Bear's - A federal grand jury has days later. Separate trials of the poorest counties in the between the Oglala Sioux blood-alcohol content as .306, indicted five people for have been scheduled for May possessing and selling liquor 1. Each faces a maximum on a dry American Indian penalty of one year in prison beer stores in Whiteclay, Neb., Office of Justice Services,

largest beer makers, the U.S. sued several beer makers, about a dozen residents but reservation. Attorney's Office announced including Anheuser-Busch sold nearly 5 million cans of

Worldwide Marnie Water, Darrell MillerCoors LLC, saying they

The lawsuit, filed last month indictments are related.

and beer in 2010, according to the five individuals were either federal lawsuit.

Mark Salter, spokesman rang unanswered. Chipps, Merle Leighton Sr., alcohol-related problems on for the U.S. Attorney's Office,

> Court records show the that took place in December obstructing the village of Pine Ridge.

Tribe's police department and The lawsuit also targets four the Bureau of Indian Affairs, a town near the reservation's Salter said. The operation was drinking and said he The Oglala Sioux Tribe has border. Whiteclay has only targeted "bootlegging" on the anticipates the charge being

Phone listings for the hearing next week.

unavailable, not working or

Alcoholism is a rampant said he was unsure if the five problem on the reservation. Oglala Sioux Vice President Tom Poor Bear was arrested Nebraska, seeks \$500 million indictments are from incidents Feb. 19 on a charge of government in Wanblee, Porcupine and function in an alcohol-related incident. The police report The indictments were the from the Oglala Sioux police nearly quadruple the legal limit for driving a car.

> Poor Bear denied he dropped at a preliminary

# Court hearing Fighting Sioux case

**DALE WETZEL** Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - Blocking a vote on the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux sports nickname would be an affront to the spiritual beliefs of two Sioux tribes, a state Supreme Court filing by supporters of the nickname asserts.

On March 7, the high court scheduled arguments in the Board of Higher Education's lawsuit over the nickname for March 15. The suit asks the Supreme Court to stop a June vote on a law that directs the university to continue using "Fighting Sioux" and a logo with the profile of an American Indian warrior.

The legal fight includes the board, Secretary of State Al Jaeger, the North Dakota

LegislatureandtheCommittee Understanding Respect, which represents the nickname's supporters.

Nickname advocates have filed petitions to put the law to a public vote in June. The Board of Higher Education is asking the Supreme Court to block the vote and declare that the law illegally weakens the board's power to manage North Dakota's system of 11 public colleges.

The NCAA considers the nickname offensive, and the university has been attempting to retire it. When UND's women's hockey team makes its first appearance in the NCAA playoffs against Minnesota, the squad will wear jerseys without the nickname or the logo.

Reed Soderstrom, attorney for the nickname's supporters, argued in a court filing that the Supreme Court should not rule until a vote is held. If the law is affirmed, the Board of Higher Education may resume its arguments about whether it is unconstitutional, he said in his brief.

The lawsuit "is speculative and not ripe for this court to assert its jurisdiction," Soderstrom wrote. (Board of Higher Education) has taken a 'what-if' scenario and brought it before the court."

Soderstrom's filing says the university's right to use the Fighting Sioux nickname was given by North Dakota's Standing Rock and Spirit Lake tribes in a 1969 religious ceremony, during which then-university president George Starcher was given an

Indian headdress.

The filing includes a sworn statement by Christopher Buddy Alberts, 73, who is identified as a Spirit Lake Sioux tribal elder. The statement says the naming "deep ceremony had spiritual implications and consequences" and "cannot be taken away, as a matter of our Sioux religion and tradition."

Soderstrom argues that to drop the nickname would violate the tribes' right to religious freedom, as spelled out in the North Dakota Constitution.

"To dismiss the sacred ceremony of 1969 is to dismiss the Sioux people, and to dismiss the tradition and ceremonies of the Sioux people," Soderstrom wrote.

The secretary of state's



court filing, written by Fargo attorneys Sarah Andrews Herman and Matthew Kipp, says Jaeger's authority over the referendum petition is limited to determining whether it was put together properly and whether it has enough valid signatures to qualify for the ballot.

council Vice President Robert authority for the community. letter, she said she suspects met with resistance. Yazzie on appeal.

communities have earned oversight from the central government.

Another perk for certified chapters is that they can designate a sales tax above the tribe's standard 4 percent. Tuba City voters approved a 6 percent sales tax on Jan. 12, 2010, an extra two percent that has brought in millions to the community that borders the Hopi reservation and sits along a highway well-traveled by tourists in northern Arizona. The next day, Max Goldtooth, Yazzie, Helen Herbert, Charlene Nez and Jimmy Holgate got checks for \$3,000 each.

A week later, they all received

four they would receive for frozen and that her office be attempts to get the chapter to reporting

The Tuba City Chapter was coming and might not have finances stretched beyond the Auditor General now is one of the first to become become public knowledge if bonuses paid to officials to the conducting a special review of certified under the tribe's not for Nez. Even though she administrative staff. Local Governance Act, which accepted the money, she said gives local communities the she was building a case against authority to issue business and herself and the others because home site leases, contract with of the guilt she felt. When outside attorneys and develop she refused to sign checks as local ordinances. Since it secretary-treasurer, one of two was passed in 1998, about required co-signors, she said one-third of the reservation's the administrative staff went above her head to Yazzie and the designation that loosens Goldtooth, who was president, for their signatures.

> She further alleged that nepotism and favoritism were rampant at the chapter house, which functions similarly to a city hall, as well as an atmosphere of intimidation.

"I felt bad for people," Nez said. "How come we get the are named, and Jordan said he using its extra tax monies to bonuses?"

community She said members seeking assistance at the chapter house often left "in tears, because they'd get yelled unclear. Brian Lewis, an a clear picture, or statistics on at and ridiculed."

Regina Allison, whose office provides technical community brought in at least Division of Community support to the chapter, wrote to the tribe's Department of

The bonus payments kept the mismanagement of

Allison based her request said per diem and meal rates were overstated, and Littlefoot received an \$811 travel advance for a training trip that she did not attend.

Littlefoot and another administrative staff member, Noreen Parish, were fired the day Nez went before the tribe's Office of Hearings and Appeals and agreed to repay the \$20,000 in bonuses she received. But Nez will keep her Joshua Lavar Butler said the position until replacements plans to challenge Littlefoot's firing as her attorney.

Meanwhile, the financial picture for Tuba City remains services but "we do not have attorney for the tribe's Department of Justice, said the \$2.5 million in the last fiscal Development, which oversees year, which included taxes and the chapters, have proposed Justice in December asking lease payments. Allison wrote amendments to the Local

The tribe's Office of the management.

In another strange twist, partly on a review of Tuba City Tuba City managed to exempt executive manager Priscilla itself from an obligation to Littlefoot's travel file. Allison report what it received in sales taxes to the Navajo Nation Tax Commission through a resolution approved by the Tribal Council, said the commission's executive director. An online system for chapters to post their budgets, expenditures and revenue online also is voluntary, and Tuba City officials were posting limited data.

Tribal Council Delegate community should have been supplementthefiredepartment and law enforcement, and providing other municipal how those dollars were used."

Officials with the tribe's

a \$1,000 check, the first of that the chapter's accounts be in court documents that her Governance Act to strengthen requirements, securing business site leasing allowed to take over. In the turn over yearly records were division of duties for chapter officials and financial

> $\hbox{``There's a lot of inconsistency}$ in the law...we'd like to close those loopholes," said division director Arbin Mitchell.

> Attorney Jordan said current law does not specify whether a chapter that created its own government should operate like other chapters, nor does it state that the bonus payments were wrong. Jordan said Yazzie and Goldtooth never denied authorizing the bonuses.

> Yazzie and Goldtooth were found in violation of ethics laws, Herbert and Nez admitted to the allegations, and a deferred judgment was granted against Holgate because he failed to show up for a hearing.

For now, Mitchell and Nez are signing checks to make sure the chapter's bills get paid. A third person is stationed at the chapter house and issues firewood hauling permits.

Investigations into the chapter's finances

blamed on cuts in federal funding. Tribal officials have estimated that unemployment hovers around 80 percent, with tribal and federal government agencies providing most of the

"Money is really tight this year," he said. "We're no different than the government body of South Dakota or Omaha. Everybody gets money from the government to run their town for roads, energy to help the poor, food stamps. We get only a small share of it, and we have to make it last."

Even with the drop in business, Whiteclay's four beer stores sold the combined equivalent of 4.3 million, 12-ounce cans.

The town and its beer stores sit just a few hundred feet south and across the state border from the reservation in South Dakota.

Leaders of the Oglala Sioux Tribe have tried for decades to reduce alcohol abuse on the reservation. But the problem has persisted, even though the reservation has almost continually banned alcohol since the late 1800s.

One in four children born on the reservation now suffer from fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, and the average life expectancy is estimated between 45 and 52 years - the shortest in the Northern Hemisphere except for Haiti, according to a lawsuit the tribe filed last month against beer distributors and businesses in Whiteclay. The average American life expectancy is 77.5

The tribe's lawsuit seeks \$500 million from the four beer stores, their distributors and the internationalbrewingcompanies that serve them. A state senator who lives near the town also introduced a bill this year to allow the state government to restrict stores' sales and hours in places like Whiteclay.

The town "is costing us an arm and a leg for health care, law enforcement, court costs and family tragedies," Oglala Sioux Tribal President John Yellow Bird Steele said. "It's costing us everything."

Steele said he was surprised by the drop in sales, but he has pushed to expand alcohol treatment centers aimed at adolescents on the reservation since he took office in December

Others also created the tribe's efforts and heightened law enforcement.

"It demonstrates the efforts by tribal members and leaders to address the problem," said Mark Vasina, president of the group Nebraskans for Peace, which has worked to reduce alcohol sales in the town. "There have been a number of elders and groups on the reservation that have been taking it very seriously."

U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson of South Dakota announced Thursday that a federal grand jury had indicted five people for possessing and selling alcohol on the reservation.

Whiteclay generated nearly \$358,755 in federal and state excise taxes in 2011, down from \$413,932 in 2010.

### MASCOTS

The Oregon Legislature voted in 2001 to eliminate the word "squaw" from geographic names because it is a derogatory term for Native

Many communities have resisted changes. For them, the Indians, the Braves, the Warriors or the Chieftains are a source of pride and a decades-old tradition familiar to thousands of alumni.

Some schools have worked with nearby tribes to change without their practices changing their nickname. Roseburg High School changed a logo depicting a Native American to a simple feather - an approach that supporters suggest could work across the state.

"There is a way to do this without the heavy handedness" of a state mandate, said Larry Parsons, the superintendent in Roseburg. "I think Roseburg has done it the way it needs to be done. I'm proud of the way they've done it."

Butler, a varsity basketball player for the Taft Tigers of Lincoln City, was in the locker room and didn't see the halftime show that prompted him to first push the state board to ban American Indian mascots. But the show was distressing to his mother and

his brother, he said.

Halftime cheers never intentionally offensive, but the Molalla Indians no longer have a mascot dressed like a Native American, said superintendent Wayne Kostur. And as uniforms wear out, the school has tried to replace them with new ones that say "Molalla" instead of "Indians."

In 2006, the board issued a recommendation that schools eliminate mascots and nicknames with Native American themes, educate all students about Native stereotyping and use culturally accurate curriculum. The board stopped short of imposing any requirements.

State officials say 15 high schools have Native-related mascots and nicknames, along with an unknown number of elementary and middle schools. The Wisconsin Legislature outlawed such names in 2010, and the NCAA limits the use of imagery and names considered hostile and

A debate still rages over University of North Dakota's "Fighting Sioux" nickname and a logo with the profile of an American Indian warrior.

American Indian mascots are a form of oppression that helps contribute to isolation

among Natives and its social consequences, said Tom Ball, a University of Oregon assistant vice president who works in the school's equity office. Those include high rates of suicide, incarceration and school dropout, he added.

"Those logos say, 'You're less than and we're superior," said Tom Ball, a member of the Klamath tribe. He added: "They're taking control of our image, saying, 'This is what an Indian looks like, you should be proud."

- Oregon has 15 high schools with Native American-themed
- mascots: • Amity High School: Warriors

• Banks High School: Braves

• Lebanon High School: Warriors • Mohawk High School: Indians

• Molalla High School: Indians • North Douglas High School:

• Oakridge High School: Warriors • Philomath High School:

• Reedsport High School: Braves

• Rogue River High School: Chieftains • Roseburg High School: Indians

• Scappoose High School: Indians • Siletz Valley School: Warriors

• The Dalles-Wahtonka High School: Eagle Indians

• Warrenton High School: Warriors

Source: Oregon Department of Education

# COMMENTARY



lacksquare







# Women's Education – Women's Empowerment

**GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY** 

National Women's History Month has as its theme this year, "Women's Education – Women's Empowerment," which presumably indicates that women are empowered through education. While that is undoubtedly true, it is also true that women have long played a powerful role to educate and empower others.

While many successful men and women are quick to give their mother credit for providing much of the education and empowerment that led to their success, that only scratches the surface.

Women have consistently taught us lessons which empower. While women in any society often lead with lessons of courage, fairness, respect and perseverance, that leadership role is heightened in the matrilineal society of

the Chickasaw people.

For example, in 1837 Betsy Love had the courage to defend her property rights in a Mississippi courtroom. Because she was able to teach the judge about Chickasaw law and traditions she not only won her case, she also laid the foundation for the property rights married women enjoy to this day.

In that same year, Chickasaws were removed from their homelands and made an arduous journey to Indian Territory. Facing adversity, Chickasaw people continued to hold fast to their culture and tradition.

Chickasaw people continued to place a high value on the role of women in society. Schools for women were established in a time and place where the education of women was not always a high priority.

One of these schools, Bloomfield Academy, was known as "the Bryn Mawr of the West," and later helped serve as a model for the education system in Oklahoma. Female teachers there were charged with educating and empowering their students to become leaders. Distinguished graduates of the school were known as "Bloomfield

One of those "Bloomfield Blossoms," Alice Hearrell, married William H. Murray, who later became governor of Oklahoma. Mrs. Murray was also involved with the education department of the Chickasaw Nation, and an article in the Chronicles of Oklahoma stated that she "had a noble share in shaping the destiny of Oklahoma."

Blossoms."

She was so widely respected that upon her death in 1938

she became the first woman to lie in state at the Oklahoma Capitol.

Another Chickasaw woman, Te Ata Fisher spent decades educating people across the United States and around the world with her stories of the beauty and wisdom of American Indian culture. In 1958, Te Ata was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame. In 1987 she was named the first Oklahoma treasure.

There is little doubt that countless young people were inspired and empowered because of the impact she had as a storyteller and role model.

Her niece, Helen Te Ata Gale Cole, served more than nine years in the Oklahoma Senate and six years in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. Mrs. Cole, who also served as Mayor of Moore, is the mother of U.S. Representative

Tom Cole.

Rep. Cole is quick to acknowledge the many lessons he learned from the example set by his mother.

For many years, Chickasaw leaders have greeted people to the "unconquered and unconquerable Chickasaw Nation... a nation known for its intrepid warriors and its dynamic women." Chickasaw women have historically been an integral part of our warrior society, serving as guards and coming to the aid of warriors in battle. While there is not space to name all the dynamic Chickasaw women play a role in educating and empowering others, it is only fitting that we take time this month to acknowledge the very real difference women make as they teach and empower us to reach for even greater heights.



BILL ANOATUBBY

Bill Anoatubby is Governor of the Chickasaw Nation. He was first elected to the position in 1987. He was reelected for his seventh term in office in 2011. Anoatubby manages more than 11,000 employees, more than 50 government programs and numerous tribal businesses.

# The missing equation in the XL Pipeline dispute

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

What is it that the South Dakota Congressional Delegation cannot understand about the Trans Canada XL Pipeline? The fact is that they and the national media are completely blind and deaf to the concerns of the citizens of the Indian reservations within the boundaries

Of course, that is nothing new. But Senator John Thune (R-SD) and Kristi Noem (R-SD) have voted and pushed for the XL Pipeline expounding upon the energy and jobs it will bring to South Dakota. Of course, the jobs are temporary, but the damage to the environment is permanent.

In 2009, three years ago, a Native American owned newspaper called Native Sun News, through its Health and Environment Editor, Talli Nauman, started to publish articles on the pipeline usually about one per month. This was before the XL Pipeline was even a blip on the screens of the local, national or international media.

Nauman dug into the secrets of the corporation pushing the pipeline and for the first time exposed their soft underbelly. She knew, after looking at maps provided by the Trans Canada that the pipeline would cut through the heart of the treaty lands of the tribes of the Great Sioux Nation. Lands, incidentally, that were stolen and never paid for and are still claimed by the Sioux tribes.

 $Historically\ Indian\ reservations\ downstream$ 

from mining operations in South Dakota have been carelessly placed in the path of higher than normal counts of radiation. The uranium extracted from the sacred Black Hills of the Lakota has caused untold damage to the residents of the Pine Ridge Reservation. Leo Vocu, Mike Giago, G. Wayne Tapio, Gerald Clifford and many more residents of Pine Ridge, died of throat cancer. The drinking water entering the reservation from the Black Hills has much higher counts of radiation than can be found anywhere else in South Dakota.

Activists like Charmaine White Face and Debra White Plume have spoken out about this ongoing disaster for many years and, for the most part, have been totally ignored. The United States government spent billions extracting uranium from the Black Hills without once considering the after effects on the Lakota people. Good old Uncle Sam did the same thing in Arizona and New Mexico causing many deaths among the Navajo people, deaths that are still happening.

What Thune, Noem and the rest of the Republicans do not understand is that the pipeline will not be allowed to cross the treaty lands of the Great Sioux Nation. White Face, White Plume, Alex White Plume and Tom Poor Bear, the vice president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, will not let it happen.

They intend to stop the pipeline even if it means giving up their lives and if this happens their blood will be on the hands of Thune, Noem and the rest of the Republican Party.

Thune and Noem should stop to realize that they have constituents that are Native American and not everything that is good for the rest of South Dakota is good for their Indian voters.

Uranium contamination has been polluting the drinking water of the Pine Ridge Reservation ever since the glory days of the uranium mining scourge. No one, and I mean no one, has taken the time to prove this irrefutable fact and residents of the reservation now have one of the highest cancer rates in America.

The Lakota know that when the pipelines break, and they always do, the impact and the ensuing contamination upon their drinking water will only add to an already horrific situation. To the Lakota, Maka Ina (Mother Earth) is very fragile and a pipeline that would cut through the flesh of their Mother is unthinkable.

The people of the Great Sioux Nation have drawn the line. If Sen. Thune and Rep. Noem cannot comprehend this they are badly out of touch with the minority population of this state. The Republican Party that is pushing this project without listening to the fears of the Sioux people is forcing a showdown that will definitely lead to the worst form of confrontation.

When the Lakota people lay down their bodies and their lives to stop this incursion upon their treaty lands the cries of injustice will go out across the world. America will be castigated.

What price a few temporary jobs and the dreams of cheap gas should America pay for trampling upon the rights of a people?

For the first time in their lives, Sen. Thune and Rep. Noem should make an effort to get the input from the people of the Great Sioux Nation. If they do not believe they are about to cross a line from which there is no return, they need to find it out face to face with the people



Tim Giago

that will never allow this to happen.

In protecting their own, the Lakota people have no fear of death and they will put up whatever obstacle that is possible, including their own lives, to stop this attack upon their sovereignty.

So wake up national and international media because so far the only newspaper in America covering this unfolding tragedy from the Indian point of view is the Native Sun News, a small weekly newspaper based in Rapid City, SD.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.



918-256-5585 LANGLEY

918-782-0011 MONKEY ISLAND

918-257-8869 www.okstatebank.com

Equal Housing Lender

Native American Owned



NATIVE
TIMES
recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint
Tile • Trim • Plumbing
Electrical • Solar Panels
Windmills • Winterizing
Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com – Mayes & Cherokee Counties –



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:
DI.		

\$65.00	for 52	2 issues	\$32.50	for 26	issues

□ \$16.25 for 13 issues □ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

shouldn't you?

www.nativetimes.com

# Hebrew language revival spawns hope for other indigenous groups

**DANIELLA CHESLOW** 

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) - Norway's Sami people, an indigenous community with roots as reindeer herders in the northern reaches of Scandinavia and Russia, are looking south to Israel for help preserving their fading native language.

A Sami delegation spent five days in Israel recently, hoping the Jewish state's experience reviving the oncedormant ancient Hebrew language can provide a blueprint for them.

Over the past century, Israel has transformed Hebrew, once reserved almost exclusively for prayer and religious study, into a vibrant, modern language. Through its "ulpan" language immersion program, it has taught a common tongue to immigrants from all over the world, helping the young state absorb generations of newcomers.

"We are trying different methods for 20, 30 years and we haven't succeeded in increasing the number of fluent Sami speakers," said Odd Willenfeldt, principal of Sami School for Mid-Norway and a member of the delegation. "So we are looking for methods that are good and have shown results to make people bilingual."

The Sami, the Nordic countries' only officially indigenous people, live in northern Sweden, Finland and Russia. There are no official population statistics for the Sami, but best estimates range between 80,000 and 100,000; around 30,000 speak Sami languages, Willenfeldt said.

Sami were formerly known outside their community as Lapps - a term that means "patch" and has been abandoned because the Sami regard it as derogatory.

Nils Ante Eira and Lars Joar Halonen stood in the corner of a Hebrew class late last month at Ulpan Morasha in Jerusalem as a class of two dozen adults mumbled through introductions in Hebrew. The men watched carefully, with an eye toward picking up ideas for how to teach adults Sami at home

Halonen was wearing a blue fleece over brown leather pants, shoes and a belt, all made by his mother from reindeer hide. He heads the Sami Language Centre in Lavangen, a mostly Sami community in northern Norway.

Eira, a member of the Lavangen town council, wore a green tunic edged in an elaborate woven ribbon that is the hallmark of his Sami

Both men speak Sami at home to their children, but say they are the exception following years of government suppression of the



SEBASTIAN SCHEINER / ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

In this photo taken Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2012, Nils Ante Eira, left, and Lars Joar Halonen, Sami of Norway, visit the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem, as part of their stay in Israel, viewed by many as a model for reviving ancient tongues. A delegation of Norway's indigenous Sami people visited Israel, to seek help in preserving and expanding their fading native language.

indigenous culture.

"It was prohibited to use Sami at school," Halonen said. "It was prohibited for Sami to have land, and it was prohibited for Sami to use

Today, most Sami are fully integrated into the societies where they live and have adopted Christianity instead of the traditional shamanism. Although reindeer herding remains prevalent, many Sami also work in fishing, education and other industries because of shrinking habitat and earlier official efforts to suppress the indigenous

In recent years the Norwegian government has made an about-face and now funds the revival of the Sami language. With government support, Eira and Halonen launched a Sami language kindergarten in 2009.

At the time, they consulted with educators in Wales, where efforts to teach children the Welsh language are under way. But when it came to teaching the language to adults, the Welsh recommended Israel.

The revival of Hebrew dates to 1881, when Belarus-born Eliezer Ben-Yehuda moved to Israel and

vowed to speak only Hebrew with his family, said Gabriel Birnbaum, a senior researcher at the Academy of Hebrew Language.

Ben-Yehuda, who also wrote Hebrew dictionaries and invented Hebrew terms for the modern world, eventually persuaded his friends and schools to switch to the new language.

"By 1914 Hebrew as a spoken language in the land of Israel was a fact," Birnbaum said. The language received an extra push in 1925, when universities in Jerusalem and Haifa opened and held classes in Hebrew.

The academy is an official body founded in 1953, five years after Israel gained independence, to coin new terms and preserve correct Hebrew usage in Israel.

Today, Israel offers free intensive Hebrew classes to new immigrants of all ages. The ulpan, Hebrew for studio, allows newcomers to gain a rudimentary grasp of the language in their first few months in the country while they adjust and search for

The Norwegians visited Hebrew University's Rothberg International School to observe Hebrew courses taught to foreign students. Then they spoke to professionals in the Education Ministry and observed an

They are not the first foreigners to look to Israel for language instruction tips. Visitors from the Maori tribes of New Zealand, from Wales and from the Basque region of Spain have come before.

Welsh expert Jasmine Donahaye, a researcher at Swansea University in Wales, said that Welsh educators visited Israel in 1973 to learn how to preserve their language at a time when Welsh-speaking areas were shrinking. They set up adult education courses across Wales with Israeli guidance. They even called their courses wlpan, a Welsh spelling of the Israeli title.

In a 2004 census, about 22 percent of the residents of Wales spoke Welsh, which Donahaye said was a vast improvement.

"It's been a huge success," Donahaye said. "It was a radical innovation."

In recent years the Welsh have moved away from Israel as a model because of rising criticism of Israel's policy toward the Palestinians, Donahaye said. Today it would be difficult to envision the same cooperation.

Halonen and Eira acknowledge there are differences between teaching Hebrew and Sami.

In Israel, new immigrants need the language for their daily existence; in Norway most people do not need to speak Sami. In Israel, ulpan lessons last for five months, at a time when new immigrants are settling in and searching for jobs. In Norway, the Sami already have jobs and established lives, which could make it harder to motivate them to learn another language.

Still, Halonen and Eira said they hope to open a two-month course for adults modeled on the Israeli ulpan next year, and they believe they will find eager students.

"Many of the people we're talking about, the language of their hearts is Sami. ... They call themselves Sami, they are Sami, they are proud to be Sami and they keep the language of their hearts," Halonen said. "They probably know some phrases in Sami and some Christian songs in Sami. They have a belonging to the

# New iPhone app teaches Lakota language, culture

**RUTH MOON** Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - A new iPhone application combines centuries-old Native American culture and cutting-

edge smartphone technology

to teach youngsters the Lakota language.

The Lakota Toddler app, now available for free in the iTunes store, is the second app by software developers Isreal Shortman and Rusty Calder. The two developers worked with Arlo Iron Cloud, the morning radio announcer for KILI Radio in Porcupine, to create an app that teaches Lakota vocabulary through text, pictures and sounds.

Shortman, a member of the Navajo tribe, created his first app for the Navajo language when he realized 11-year-old daughter

did not know basic Navajo history. He thought teaching her the language would help her remember the culture as well. Shortman now plans to develop two more Native language apps and expand to other Native American languages people request.

"We're trying to make learning the language fun," he

Shortman began working on the Lakota app when his friend Iron Cloud approached him. Iron Cloud said he had wanted to create a language app for about three years, but kept hitting brick walls with language programs.

"People are always saying we live in a Third World country and we don't have a lot here, but somehow a lot of us manage to have iPhones," he said. "This is one area that has never been tapped into as far as language revitalization goes."

Iron Cloud used his audio mixing and recording ability to record a local woman, Dollie Red Elk, speaking Lakota words for the app.

Right now, the app contains vocabulary cards for 33 food, body and number words. The cards show a photo of the object or number, the Lakota word spelling and the English word spelling. When a user presses the object, a voice speaks the Lakota word. There is also a matching game where users match written Lakota words to objects.

Shortman plans to add more games and vocabulary and expand the app to other platforms such as Android, Xbox and Wii soon. He estimates he and Calder donated about \$30,000 worth of time to produce each app.

Native American languages dying with elderly speakers, according to a report the Census Bureau published in December. Nearly a quarter of people ages 65 and older speak Native American languages and only one in 10 people younger than 18 speak them. There are 372,000 Native American language speakers in the U.S., according to the report.

Apps and other products that use new technology are one way to reach younger Lakota speakers and keep the language alive, Iron Cloud

"It's a tool we can use to restore Lakota language and culture," he said. "I don't honestly think that it's in a position that it needs to be saved. It just needs to be restored in the home, school setting, everywhere else."



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

# CLASSIFIEDS

### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

U.S. Department of the Interior Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs

Job Vacancy

#### **Deputy Assistant Secretary** Management

Job Announcement Number: ASIA-SES-2012-PQ609381 Salary: \$119, 554 - \$165, 300 per annum **Open Period: February 15, 2012 - March 30, 2012** Series & Grade: ES-340

Are you interested in working for a federal agency that is responsible for protecting and improving the trust assets of American Indian and Alaska **Native tribes and individuals?** 

The U.S. Department of the Interior is searching for candidates to develop and oversee the implementation of policies that govern and facilitate the provision of services to American **Indian and Alaska Native tribes and individuals by** a federal agency. These administrative functions include financial management, strategic planning, workforce planning, human resources, information technology management and safety management.

This is a full-time permanant position with the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs located in Washignton, D.C.

For more information and application procedures, please visit www.usajobs.gov or contact Indian Affairs Human Resources Office at (202) 208-2825.

The U.S. Department of the Interior is an Equal Opportunity Employer Preference will be given to American Indians and Alaska Natives





### HEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**POSITION CLOSES ON 3/13/2012** #4500 Inpatient RN/PRN/OR/T/PT, **WW Hastings Hospital** 

**POSITIONS CLOSE 3/14/2012** 5998 Medical Technologist/T/PT, WW Hastings Hospital

#5466 LPN/PRN/T/PT/OR, WW Hastings Hospital #5465 LPN/PRN/OR, WW Hastings Hospital

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

#### **Director of Human Services**

The State of Oklahoma is seeking a Director for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) who has a commitment to public service. OKDHS is responsible for Human Services Centers and other locations throughout Oklahoma's 77 counties, nine divisions in the central office and five institutions. OKDHS has more than 7,000 employees and an annual budget exceeding \$2 billion in state and federal funding.

The Director is expected to plan, organize, direct and coordinate operations of all divisions and offices in accordance with the established mission, vision and values of the agency, and assures that all programs are administered according to federal and state rules and regulations. Program areas include Child Support Enforcement, Developmental Disabilities Services, Child Welfare, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Temporary Aid to Needy Families, Aging Services, and related administration and service delivery systems.

The agency prefers candidates who hold a Master's degree and 10 or more years of experience in human services, including five years in managing and supervising an executive level human services staff. Salary will be commensurate with education and experience. The salary range is \$155,000.00 - \$185,000.00.

You may view the full job announcement at www.okdhs.org. To apply applicants must download an application at www.okdhs.org/library/forms/hrmd/. Email all documents to jobs@okdhs.org. Deadline for submitting applications is March 26, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

> Announcement Number 12-S038U Oklahoma Department of Human Services P.O. Box 25352, Oklahoma City, OK 73125 www.okdhs.org • www.ok.gov

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com



Sac & Fox Nation Casino is accepting Applications for

#### **General Manager**

Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in Business / Marketing Strong Leadership Skills Casino Management Experience

Applicants must pass background and drug screen. Native American preference is recognized.

Submit resume by fax @ 405-395-0790 or visit our website at sandfcasino.com to apply online

#### **ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY**

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma is seeking to fill a temporary (less than one year) or term position (more than one year) which may expire April 30, 2013, subject to availability of funds. This position may be extended and/ or made permanent without further advertising. Depending on the nature of the appointment, benefits may or may not be available. Salary is based on the number of years of professional attorney experience. Applicants must possess a J.D. degree, be an active member of the bar in good standing (any jurisdiction), and have at least one (1) year of litigation experience post-J.D. Resumes should be submitted to Lisa Engelke, HR Specialist, at usaokw. jobapplication@usdoj.gov. Resumes must be received by March 16, 2012, and should reference announcement number12-0KW-01-A.

#### OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

#### **INTERNAL AUDITOR**

Creates, maintains, and updates all internal audit programs. Tests, analyzes and reports all findings to management. MA or BA in accounting or related field. CPA or CIA required. Five years professional accounting, auditing or compliance auditing experience preferred. Salary commensurate with experience and education. Deadline for applications: 3/23/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http:// www.opers.ok.gov/jobs. EOE



# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation. org

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from** 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS **The Marble City Nutrition** Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. **Marble City Nutrition** Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** 

Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity** Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 31** Tulsa Library's Festival of Words. For events and times, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.

**THROUGH MAY** Free beginner-level **Cherokee language classes** in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

**MARCH 17 Skate Jam Competition 10** am - dark at the "Skate Park Off Broadway," 105 Reynolds in Poteau, Okla. www.nativeskateparks.com **MARCH 17** 

"Siconi Maehelan" - Spring Gathering hosted by the **Council of Lenape Elders. Delaware Community** Center in Bartlesville, Okla. Open to all tribal citizens regardless of age. Meal at 6pm followed by Lenape social dancing and stomp dancing. You may bring a covered dish to share.

**MARCH 17** Wild Onion Dinner at Fife **Indian United Methodist** Church, 1100 Eufaula St., Muskogee, Okla., 11am-3pm. \$8 a plate for onions, hominy, salt pork, ham, grape dumplings & drink. Info call 918-857-3116.

**MARCH 17 2011 OKC Princess Honor Dance at Heart of Oklahoma** Expo Center, 1700 W. Independence, Shawnee, **OK. Info contact Shirley** Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@sbcglobal.net

MARCH 17 Wild Onion Dinner from 11 am til 3 pm at Haikey Chapel UMC, 8815 E 101st St, Tulsa.

MARCH 20 **Confidential HIV testing at** the Claude Cox Omniplex, Muscogee Creek Nation, Okmulgee, from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

MARCH 23 **Miss Indian Oklahoma City Competition & Performance** at 6:30 pm, 3801 SE 29th St. Del City, OK. Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@ sbcglobal.net

MARCH 24 **Honor Dance for Shayla** Miller, 2011 Sac & Fox **Veterans Honor Guard** Princess, 5 miles South of Stroud, OK at Sac & Fox **Community Building.** Gourd Dance starts @ 2pm, 5:30 supper, intertribal/war dancing to follow

**MARCH 31** Wild Onion Dinner at Pickett crystal@nb3f.org **Chapel United Methodist** 

Church, 17610 S. Hickory Sapulpa, Ok, 5 miles south of Sapulpa on Hickory, 11am to 3pm. \$8 adults, \$4.00 12 and under. Proceeds to benefit our **Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference annual** apportionments. Info: 918-321-3109

MARCH 31 **Birthday Celebration for** Florabelle Franklin Yeahpau Wolf - 91 years Young. St. Patricks Catholic church - Parish Hall, Anadarko OK., 10 a.m - 5 p.m. Please bring a covered dish. Meat will be provided.

**MARCH 31** 

"Play Golf Native America Day," a free program for families to experience a day of fun, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Cherokee Hills Golf Club located at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Info email Crystal Echo Hawk:

### **National Native HIV/ AIDS Awareness Day**

**JOHN F. CO-CKE'** MCN Health

OKMULGEE, Okla. - March 20 marks the 7th observance of National Native American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. This day is set aside to acknowledge that HIV continues to threaten the health and well-being of our Native communities and to encourage all of us to support and advocate for HIV education and services.

American Indians and Alaska Natives rank third in the rate of new HIV infections, as compared to all other races and ethnicities. We know that HIV/AIDS exists in urban and rural populations, yet many Native people with HIV are not aware of their status. American Indians and Alaska Natives face greater health disparities and risk factors for HIV, such as higher rates of substance abuse and sexually transmitted infections. These statistics illuminate the need to raise awareness about HIV and demonstrate the need for ongoing initiatives that help make HIV testing, education, and health care a routine part of our health services.

We all need to work together to stop this disease. I encourage you to educate yourself and your community about how HIV is spread, prevented, and treated.

Muscogee Creek Nation has joined the fight of this disease by having an education booth along with confidential HIV testing on March the 20th at the Claude Cox Omaniplex from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Come by our booth for more information.

Remember one way to protect our future our people is to take the test. We have the ability to make a difference.

### **UKB holds March meeting**

M. THOMAS JORDAN United Keetoowah Band

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma's tribal council met March 3 for its monthly meeting.

During the presentations to council portion of the meeting, Dianne Barker-Harrold, special adviser to the chief, asked the council to allow Tribal Family Services to apply for Title IV funding.

The tribe already has a contract with TFS to provide child support enforcement, but the new funding would allow the tribe more direct involvement in the process by hiring four case workers through the tribe. Unlike now, where TFS case workers handle cases for multiple tribes, the new case workers would handle only UKB cases.

Barker-Harrold said this way the case workers could be sent out into the communities as needed, attend district meetings and be present at the satellite offices to fully serve the needs of the tribal members in this regard.

However, the new case workers would still be reinforced by TFS's legal department and experience.

In addition to four new jobs, the grant would also bring in approximately \$100,000 in funding for indirect costs to the tribe. The funding would help pay for additional accounting costs due to managing child support payments and other fiduciary responsibilities.

The council approved the measure unanimously.

In other business, Ken Bellmard, attorney general, presented two measures to the council for approval.

The first was a resolution to establish an advisory board to the tribe's corporate authority. The board is comprised of Assistant Chief Charles Locust, Bryan Shade, executive director of tribal operations, and Tim Goodvoice, executive director of tribal planning. The board has the delegated authority by council to oversee the day-to-day activities of the corporate operations of the tribe with monthly reports to the council of its activities.

Bellmard's second proposal was a Class III gaming compact between the tribe and the state.

Bellmard said with all of the gaming developments coming together for the tribe, it is necessary to have this piece of legislation approved by the council so everything can fall in place.

Once the compact is signed by all parties, the tribe has the ability to further expand its gaming opportunities and create more jobs and revenue for

In New Business, Georgia Dick, grants writer, asked the council for permission to apply for a grant with the National Park Service Historic Preservation Tribal Project Grants for \$40,000. The grant would purchase equipment for the John Hair Museum and Culture Center and fund training on the purchased equipment for the museum staff.

Because of Easter weekend, next month's council meeting is April 14.

#### Peoria Tribe election results

M. ANNETTE BLACK Peoria Tribe

MIAMI, Okla. - Citizens of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma on March 3 cast their votes to fill two positions on the Peoria Tribal Business Committee.

Results for the position of Treasurer were: Aaron Wayne Blalock, 87 votes and LeAnne Reeves, 84 votes, with Blalock declared elected.

A run-off election was called by the PTEC because none of the candidates for the position of First Councilman received a majority vote on the first ballot.

First ballot results were: Billy Hank Downum, 51 votes; Robert Knighten, 50 votes; Ilnd Carolyn (Garren) Ritchey, 70 votes. In accordance with the Tribe's Election Ordinance the run-off election was between Billy Hank Downum and Carolyn (Garren) Ritchey. With second ballot voting results of Downum receiving 42 votes and Ritchey receiving 60 votes, Ritchey was declared elected.

The term of office for both positions is four years.



2012 National Conference

Native American Fish & Wildlife Society April 30 - May 3, 2012 Cherokee, North Carolina www.nafws.org to register

"Weaving Together the Strands of Creation"

### SHS announces valedictorian, salutatorian

TAHLEQUAH, Okla.— Sequoyah Schools is proud to announce the valedictorian and the salutatorian for the graduating class of 2012. The valedictorian is Shawn Belcher and the salutatorian is Brendan Francis.

Belcher, 17, of Tahlequah, is the son of George and Johnna Belcher. He is Cherokee, Choctaw and Creek and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is active in robotics, journalism, computer club, is a cheerleader and has been named a finalist in the Gates Millennium Scholarship competition. Belcher plans

Arkansas in the fall and major in computer engineering.

Francis, 17, of Tahlequah is the son of Dion and Shannon Francis. He is Caddo and participates in cross-country, track, academic team, 4-H, drama and speech. He is a member of the National Honor Society and plans to attend Oklahoma Baptist University and has not decided on a major.

The following seniors are currently ranked in the top ten percent of their graduating class, Harley Adair, Kody Fisher, Brittany Hensley, Ashley Roach, Joleen Scott, to attend the University of Dylan Tucker, Dillon Wade syllabary.

and Carmen Wiley.

Sequoyah Schools' graduation will be held on Friday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m. at The Place Where They Play with a reception immediately following. A baccalaureate ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the same location.

Sequoyah Schools, a boarding school for Native American students, originated in 1871 as an orphan asylum to care for children who were orphaned by the Civil War. Now known as Sequoyah Schools, it is named for Sequoyah, the scholar who developed the Cherokee



Shawn Belcher





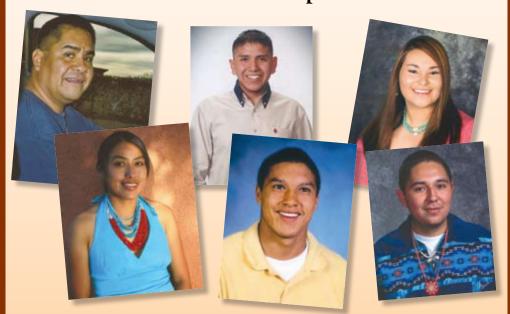
11th Annual



# **College Scholarships**

### **American Indian, Alaska Native & Native Hawaiian Students**

\$450,000+ awarded each year! All Undergraduate Majors Are Eligible. Graduate Scholarships Available.



### **Applications Due April 4th!**

**Download Application: aiefprograms.org** 



American Indian Education Foundation 2401 Eglin Street • Rapid City, SD 57703 (605) 342-9968

# "TO BRIDGE A GAP" **CONFERENCE**

**April 2 - 5, 2012** 

#### **Choctaw Casino Resort**

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma will be hosting the 11th Annual "To Bridge A Gap" Conference, in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service. This conference is designed to strengthen Government-to-Government relationships between federal and state agencies, and federally-recognized Tribes with interests in our forests. Topics for this year include:

Regional Executive Session with Forest Leaders and Tribal Leaders

Introductory GPS/GIS Preconference Hands-On Workshop

**NEPA and Section 106: Procedures and Issues** 

**Traditional Cultural Properties and Sacred Sites** 

NAGPRA: Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act

**Tribal and Federal Collaborative Partnerships** 

**FCC Meeting with Tribes** 

**Tribal Relations Report** 

National Historic Preservation Program: Updates and Application Process

Guest Speaker: Dorothy Lippert, Smithsonian, Natural History Museum, Repatriation Office

Several federal and state agencies will be present including USDA Forest Service from various regions, Army Corp. of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Offices, National Park Service, and National Resources Conservation Service.

The "To Bridge A Gap" Conference is a wonderful opportunity to discuss tribal relations and cultural preservation issues, and participate with others who are dedicated to improving this relationship.

For more information please contact Dr. Ian Thompson, Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation Department at (580) 924-8280 Ext. 2216, ithompson@choctawnation.com, or Johnnie Jacobs at (580) 924-8280 Ext. 2559, jjacobs@choctawnation.com.

Conference registration and hotel information can be found on the Choctaw Nation Cultural Services website at www.choctawnationculture.com/TBAG2012.

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Tribe touts singer's Indian roots
- Choctaw Chief nominated 'Most Admired' CEO
- Pen pals communicate only in Cherokee









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 12

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

MARCH 23, 2012

# **Tribe: Bald eagle permit** a victory for tradition

**BEN NEARY** Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - A federal government decision to allow a Wyoming tribe to kill two bald eagles for a religious ceremony is a victory for American Indian sovereignty as well as for long-suppressed religious freedoms, the tribe says.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service granted a

permit March 9 to the Northern Arapaho Tribe allowing it either to kill or capture and release two bald eagles this year.

While no one questions the religious sincerity of Northern Arapaho tribal members, spokesmen for some conservation and animal rights groups question why the tribe can't meet its religious needs without killing wild eagles. They say the tribe could raise captive birds, or accept eagle

See PERMIT Continued on Page 4



Bald eagles were removed from the federal list of threatened species in 2007. The birds remain protected under the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.

# Sacred white buffaloes slaughtered for profit, sport at Texas lodge

**JESSE ABERNATHY** Native Sun News

HUNT, Texas - A hunting lodge in this small, unincorporated – and fittingly named - community came under fire recently by Native Americans from across the country for its offering of staged white buffalo kills.

Situated in the heart of the Lone Star State, the familyowned Texas Hunt Lodge provides big-game packages to hunting enthusiasts from coast to coast. Rare white buffalo, or bison, packages run upwards of \$14,000, according to information once contained on the lodge's website.

Texas Hunt Lodge, which has been in existence since 2008 and touts access to over 100,000 acres of ranch land, is



A non-Native hunter poses with his not-so-hard-to-kill "trophy" – a revered white buffalo, near Texas Hunt Lodge. In the aftermath of a vociferous attack by Native Americans from near and far, the lodge abruptly discontinued its pricey white buffalo hunts.

headed by Aaron Bulkley.

"There are no seasonal restrictions on hunting the White Buffalo, or White Bison, in Texas, which makes it a suitable trophy year round," proclaims apparently nowexcised advertising from the

See **SPORT** Continued on Page 3

### Oklahoma water rights suit moved to federal court

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - The U.S. Justice Department says a lawsuit over the water rights of three major stream systems in southeastern Oklahoma should be heard in federal court.

The Oklahoman reports the department filed a notice March 12 to remove the case from the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

Attorney General Scott Pruitt sued on behalf of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, asking the court to decide whether

the state or the Chickasaw and Choctaw tribes had the right to use the stream and surface water.

Leaders of the tribe say they're pleased with the move, while the attorney general's office says it's still reviewing the decision.

The Justice Department says that hearing the case in federal court will conserve judicial resources because the tribes have already filed a separate federal lawsuit over the matter.

# **Recall of Comanche tribe** business officials sought

LAWTON, Okla. (AP) - Some citizens of the Comanche Nation are circulating petitions to recall six of the seven members of the Comanche Nation Business Committee.

The effort comes after the tribe's funeral home, water park and several other businesses were closed and about 40 tribal employees were laid off.

Petition drive leader Eleanor McDaniel told The Lawton Constitution that the committee members are abusing their

power and creating financial hardships with the closings and layoffs.

The tribe's Economic Development Commission posted a statement on the tribe's website saying that the businesses lost nearly \$5.4 million from 2006 to 2010 and that 2011 and 2012 are being audited and are under review.

The statement said the funeral home is expected to reopen in April if the Oklahoma Funeral Board approves unspecified changes in operations.



AP PHOTO PAT SHANNAHAN / ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Michael Perry and Cecelia Miller stand with a fry bread at Fry Bread House in Phoenix on March 13, 2012. Their restaurant just won a James Beard Award. They first started serving fry bread in 1992.

# AZ fry bread eatery wins culinary award

**HOWARD SEFTEL** 

The Arizona Republic

PHOENIX (AP) - Cecelia Miller of the Tohono O'odham Nation opened her first Fry Bread House in 1992, using the same frybread recipes and techniques she learned as a child.

She tops the handstretched, deep-fried dough with such savory toppings as red chile stew and chorizo and cheese, and her dessert fry bread with a killer combination of butter and chocolate.

Her food has always won praise from her customers. Now her restaurant has been ranked by culinary experts as among the best in

the country. Fry Bread House was one of five restaurants nationwide to receive

"America's Classics"

designation March 13 from the prestigious James Beard Foundation, which hands out the restaurant industry's version of the Academy Awards each year. It is the first Native American restaurant to receive the designation since the awards were started in 1998.

Miller's son, Fry Bread House manager Michael Perry, said he was "floored" by the honor.

"It's a testament to my mother and her hard work," he said. wanted something for the community."

The James Foundation gives the "America's Classics" designation to restaurants recognized for "timeless appeal," which are "beloved for quality food that reflects the character of the community." Winners

must have been in the business for at least 10 years and preferably be informal and moderately priced.

The Fry Bread House in central Phoenix is a tiny, loud, non-descript spot on North Seventh Avenue near Indian School Road. Come during the lunch-hour rush and you'll find yourself at the end of a line snaking back from the "Order Here" counter out the front door. The family operates a second location in Mesa, near Dobson and Baseline roads, with the same menu and recipes.

"America's Classics" winners are chosen by the James Beard Foundation's 17-member Restaurant and Chef Award Committee, which consists of food journalists and industry

See AWARD Continued on Page 2

### Women push for improved access to Plan B

Any woman 17 and older can get emergency contraception from behind the counter at retail pharmacies, but IHS has no retail pharmacies and treats emergency contraception the same as getting aspirin or cough syrup.

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - Micha Bitsinnie and her husband weren't ready to have another baby just eight months after the birth of their

So when she forgot to take her birth control pills for a couple of days, she sought emergency contraception

With no extra money, she went to the federal Indian Health Services hospital in Albuquerque, N.M., where she's eligible for free health care as a Navajo woman. It was there she discovered that the medication is available by prescription only and she would need to speak with a health care provider first.

"I was kind of caught off guard," Bitsinnie said.

Any woman 17 and older can get emergencycontraceptionfrombehind the counter at retail pharmacies, but IHS has no retail pharmacies and treats emergency contraception the same as getting aspirin or cough syrup. Women who are enrolled in any federally recognized tribe must visit a clinic, emergency room or urgent care facility and have a consultation before they're prescribed the medication that is dispensed on site.

Bitsinnie and other Native women say it's a burden they shouldn't have to bare and have been pushing for emergency contraception, particularly Plan B, to be available over the counter through IHS facilities. But an IHS official say while getting emergency contraception at the federal facilities

may be different than elsewhere, it's not inaccessible and there are clear benefits to the agency's methods.

"The benefit of obtaining emergency contraception from an IHS facility would be that it's available at no cost, that it's available much more readily in the local community without adding barriers of distance and travel cost, and that it's part of a larger health care system where information about long-term contraceptive options would also be available," said Dr. Jean Howe, the IHS' chief clinical

Bitsinnie, a community health worker, was one of about 60 women who participated in a round table discussion last year about accessibility to Plan B through IHS. The women's experiences were documented in a report released last week by the South Dakota-based Native American Women's Health Education Resource Center. The discussion also touched on tradition and culture, voting rights and the prevalence of domestic abuse and rape of Native women.

consultant for OBGYN.

One-third of all American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped in their lifetime and nearly three of five have been assaulted by their partner, the U.S. Department of Justice has said. The IHS released a policy a year ago that sets uniform standards of care for sexual assault victims at its facilities.

Under the policy, the facilities must have staff specifically trained to care for victims of sexual assault and must provide forensic examinations on site or by referral. It also includes requirements for emergency contraceptive options like Plan B and states that sexual assault victims are to be given priority in emergency situations.

But Charon Asetoyer, director of the center, said IHS has not set deadlines for service units to implement that policy or a customized one that incorporates minimum

requirements.

Furthermore, she said women shouldn't have to see a doctor or compete with other patients at urgent care or the emergency room to get emergency contraception, particularly when the effectiveness of the pill lessens over time. Retail pharmacies are often a long drive from reservation communities, and even then, many Native women don't have transportation or money to pay



Plan B One-Step® is a backup plan that helps prevent pregnancy after birth control failure. It must be taken within 72 hours (three days) to prevent a pregnancy. It is not the abortion pill the IHS budget is administered by and it isn't a substitute for routine birth control.

for it, she said.

"You lose that window of opportunity, that 72-hour window," Asetoyer said. "It's a very, very unpleasant situation. It's very difficult and just puts another layer of control and power over us that is not necessary. We're being treated differently."

Bitsinnie said she called the IHS hospital for an appointment to get emergency contraception more than once and was adamant that she needed to be fit in quickly. She said she was made to feel ashamed during her 30-minute consultation and imagined how other Native women might feel if they were questioned on why they needed the medication.

"Imagine not being married, having a few kids or 18 years old and coming in and somebody saying, 'Why aren't you using this, why aren't you using that?" Bitsinnie said. "I felt shameful ... This is not a shameful thing. I'm married. I'm just being cautious."

Howe pointed to ways in which IHS service units have made it easier for patients to get emergency contraception, through automated drug monitoring machines and expanding the list of people who can dispense it. In Shiprock, N.M., where she works, she said the medication would be available through an OBGYN, emergency room, urgent care and through a health provider's

> prescription. The IHS bases its stock of medication on the national core formulary, a list that includes dedicated emergency contraceptives like Plan B or an equivalent. Wait times depend on the patient volume, but she said access to health care has only increased over the more than 14 years she has worked for IHS on the Navajo

However, more than half of tribes through self-determination contracts or self-governance compacts, and Howe said policies there can differ from those at IHS-

"Our goal is to make it available as quickly as possible," Howe said. "That's why we adopt these strategies to streamline it. A nurse realizing a patient may not need to wait for a bed to open up could take that initiative to have that dispensed and let that patient go on her way quite promptly."

Not all IHS facilities operate around the clock. But the only other option than IHS is to drive, depending on location, perhaps even farther to a retail pharmacy and pay for Plan B themselves.

Howe said IHS would like to know about any problems in accessing health care that could be addressed through patient advocates or agency

For more information on what Plan B is, visit online http://www. planbonestep.com/plan-b-faq.aspx

Continued from Page 1

professionals.

The committee cited Fry Bread House's "blissfully delicious specialty," which it calls "downy bronze cushions the size of dinner plates."

It also cited the "all-Native staff" and the "democratic" clientele: "friends of the house to hipsters to businessmen and the ever-present lucky

Indian fry bread is a Native American staple made from white flour, baking powder, salt and Crisco, created out of necessity by Native Americans after they were relegated to reservations and provided with commodities from the federal government.

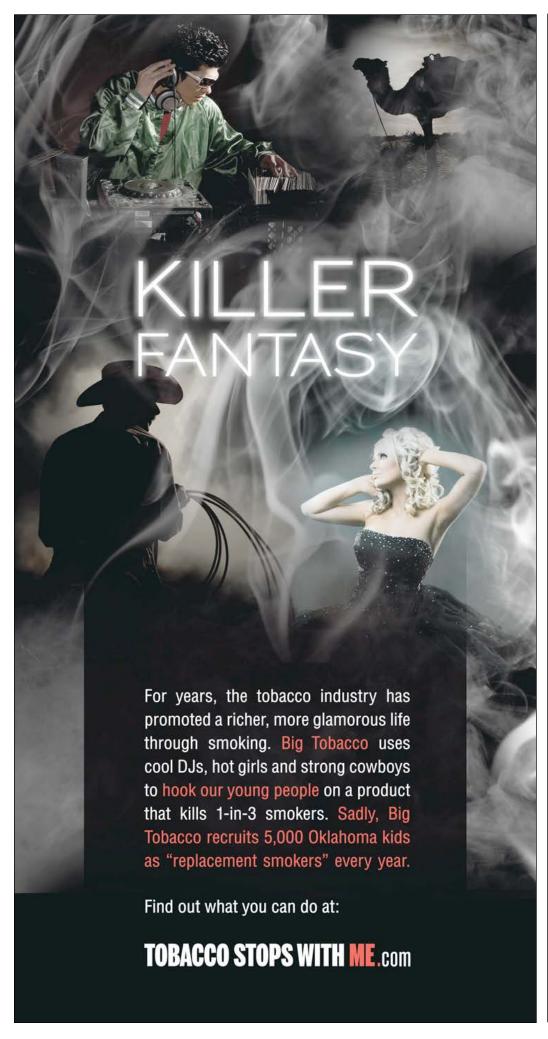
The bread fed large families like the Millers. In fact, the original Fry Bread House was opened to help pay for the education of the Miller family's seven children.

"As you might guess, the Fry Bread House is not where you'd come in search of green, leafy nutrition," The Republic wrote in a 2001 review when the restaurant moved to its current location. "It is, however, where you'd come to make happy grunting noises while you eat."

Fry Bread House is the second Valley restaurant to receive the "Classics" honor. El Chorro in Paradise Valley got the nod in 2005.

Other 2012 winners include Nora's Fish Creek Inn, Wilson, Wyo.; St. Elmo Steak House, Indianapolis; Jones Bar-B-Q Diner, Marianna, Ark.; and Glen, Manchester, Shady

The awards dinner will take place in New York City at Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center on May 7.





### for ourselves. for our families. for future generations.

Oklahoma ranks 48th nationally for health. That is unacceptable. We can no longer sit idle when our health hangs in the balance.

There is a plan to create healthier lives for all Oklahomans - the Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan. Endorsed by the legislature, this plan outlines a clear path of action to save lives and improve our health. Join us by supporting:

Restore the rights of local communities to pass smokefree policies that are stronger than state law

Assure health education is taught in sixth, seventh or eighth grade for all state public schools

Prohibit the use of a hand-held electronic device while driving for all drivers under the age of 18

Let's pull together to Shape Our Future. Your state is counting on you.



# Tribe touts singer's Indian roots

In jazz history books, the Coeur d'Alene woman has gone down largely as a white jazz stylist.

**JOHN MILLER** Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho (AP) -Mildred Rinker Bailey was known to fans as "Mrs. Swing," whose slight, throaty voice won her acclaim as one of the great white jazz singers of the 1930s and 1940s

But the Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe is now hoping to set the record straight once and for all: Bailey, who died impoverished in Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1951, was an American Indian who spent her childhood on the reservation near DeSmet,

Last week the tribe introduced a resolution honoring Bailey in the Idaho Legislature, in part to convince the Jazz at Lincoln Center Hall of Fame in New York City to add her to its inductees - on grounds she helped blaze a trail for better-known singers like Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday.

"Mildred was a pioneer," said Coeur d'Alene Tribal Chairman Chief J. Allan. "She paved the way for many other female singers to follow."

Though Bailey's Coeur d'Alene ties may not have been common knowledge among her fans, it clearly wasn't a

Mildred Rinker on a farm

near Spokane," reads her Associated Press obituary, dated Dec. 13, 1951.

Still, in jazz history books, Bailey has gone down largely as a white female jazz stylist.

The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz hails her as "the first white singer to absorb and master the jazz-flavored phrasing...of her black contemporaries."

Howard Koslow, illustrator who created Bailey's likeness on a 29-cent U.S. Postal Service stamp based on an image by iconic jazz photographer William Gottlieb, said he had only that brief New Grove entry as a reference.

But his depiction of Bailey's dark complexion and black hair, for the stamp issued in a series honoring jazz and blues musicians, appears to capture her complex heritage.

"She has that look about her," Koslow recalled Tuesday in an interview from his Toms River, New Jersey, home.

Bailey was born Feb. 16, 1900, in the Washington farming town of Tekoa, near the Idaho border.

Her mother was a Coeur d'Alene tribal member, her father of Swiss-Irish stock.

At 13, she moved from the reservation to Spokane, where a neighbor destined to become world famous as "Bing" Crosby joined Bailey and her brother, Al Rinker, at the family's piano. Al Rinker and Crosby formed the group "The Rhythm Boys."

By the mid-1920s, all three were singing in California; in 1929, Crosby recommended to famous orchestra leader



Mildred Bailey

Paul Whiteman he add Bailey as a regular.

"I was lucky in knowing the great jazz and blues singer Mildred Bailey so early in life," Crosby wrote in his 1953 autobiography. "I learned a lot from her."

So has Julia Keefe, a 22-yearold jazz singer from Spokane.

Keefe, a member of Idaho's Nez Perce Indian Tribe, discovered Bailey as a student at Spokane's Gonzaga Prep, while researching Crosby's own time at the Catholic high school.

"It took off like a flash flood," remembers Keefe, now a performance major at the University of Miami with Bailey's photograph hanging on her Florida apartment

In 2009, Keefe performed a musical tribute featuring Bailey's songs, including "Old Rockin' Chair" and "He's Not Worth Your Tears," at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

A year later, Keefe was touring the Jazz at Lincoln Center Hall of Fame, pondering the greats on its 18-foot video wall when she asked herself, "Where's Mildred?"

Thus began her quiet effort to elevate Bailey's profile in the modern jazz world, a push the Idaho Legislature hopes to

"It's sad to think she died penniless, or nearly penniless, after all the things that she accomplished," said Rep. Bob Nonini, a sponsor of resolution. "But it's never too late to recognize somebody."

Lincoln Center officials didn't immediately respond to an AP request for comment.

An important question remains: How important were Bailey's Indian roots to her

An undated quotation, attributed to her by the U.S. Postal Service in 1994, hints at an answer.

"I don't know whether this (Indian) music compares with jazz or the classics, but I do know that it offers a young singer a remarkable training and background," Bailey reportedly said.

Bailey's niece, Julia Rinker-Miller, a Los Angeles-based singer whose credits include the "Three's Company" theme, was seven in 1951 when her aunt died in a Hudson Valley hospital, from complications of diabetes and obesity; Frank Sinatra reportedly helped pay her medical bills.

"Even though she was large, she was delicate, very exotic, sensual," Rinker-Miller recalled during an interview Tuesday.

From her father, Rinker-Miller heard stories of how they were called "breeds" after moving from the Coeur d'Alene reservation to Spokane.

Consequently, downplayed his own American Indian background, she said.

She figures Bailey was forced to do likewise during her career - possibly why she became known as a white

"Mildred's returning to her roots," Rinker-Miller said, of the tribe's effort to reclaim Bailey. "She's going home."

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country



"Part Indian, she was born

SPORT

Continued from Page 1

Phone calls to the Texas Hunt Lodge by Native Sun News went unanswered.

hunting lodge's website.

centuries, For white buffalo has been a potent symbol of cultural preservation for the Lakota, Dakota and Nakota peoples of the Great Plains. Hunting and harvesting the hard-to-find icon is considered sacrilegious by many of these "Buffalo People."

"The company started the white buffalo hunts about two years ago, and there was a big outcry about it then," said James Swan, founder and president of the Rapid Citybased United Urban Warrior Society.

lodge acquiesced The to pressure from Native Americans at the time and ceased its white buffalo hunts, according to Swan.

"But now it's started back up again," he said. "It's a slap in the face for our people."

Swan is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

"(Texas Hunt Lodge's) argument now is that they're technically not white buffalo, but inbred beefalo," Swan said. "But the thing is, if you go to the pictures of what they claim are beefalo on their website - beefalo look more like a Brahma bull than beef or buffalo - but the pictures, those are buffalo."

However, there appear to no longer be any remaining images of or references to the white buffalo hunting package on the company's site.

Swan compares the biggame enterprise's white buffalo safaris to burning the Bible or Quran, both venerated books among Christianity and Islam, respectively.

"If I did that, it's not going to work – there would be a public outcry about it," he said.

And on top of that, the hunts are canned, said Swan, meaning the buffalo are entrapped in a confined area so the hunter is guaranteed the hunt, or white buffalo

United Urban Warrior Society wants to expose the lodge for being disrespectful to Native beliefs and a fraud,

And the organization has done just that, according to

Immediately Swan's posting of information about Texas Hunt Lodge's white buffalo package on UUWS's Facebook page, a stampede of criticism from Natives throughout America made more than just dirt fly.

"The people were just in tears, I mean there was outrage; I even had one guy who said he'd go take care of (Texas Hunt Lodge) and then send me the trigger finger," Swan said. "People take their religion and their culture seriously."

For the big-game lodge to blatantly advertise and provide white buffalo hunts as sport is just an invitation for trouble from Native Americans, he said.

After Swan's viral March

4 posting on the social networking site, he said the company removed all photos and information pertaining to white buffalo hunts on its website but continued to offer the sport.

"People just bombarded (Texas Hunt Lodge) with following phone calls after their number was posted, and now they won't answer their phone."

The ultimate goal of Swan's organization is "to come up with some kind of federal legislation to put a protective resolution on the white buffalo because of cultural sensitivity for what it is and what it represents," he said.

According to Swan, there are only around 20 genuine white buffaloes alive in the world today.

Akin to the second coming of Jesus Christ for Christians, the singular white buffalo calf birth long prophesied to signify the imminent return of Ptesan Winyan, or White Buffalo Calf Woman, to the Lakota, Dakota and Nakota peoples to restore order is an

event that will happen among Natives, not non-Natives, Swan indicated.

"It's not going to happen to Joe Blow in Pennsylvania," he

Subsequent to his initial interview, Swan informed NSN that Texas Hunt Lodge halted its contrived white buffalo hunts in the wake of thousands of emails and phone calls opposing the practice.

- Jesse Abernathy is the editor of Native Sun News in Rapid City, South Dakota. You may contact Jesse at editor@ nsweekly.com. Copyright permission by Native Sun News, www.nsweekly.com

#### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

# DRUMRIGHT DENTAL CENTER Advanced Dental Technology

We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

### **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# comment period for **Cobell draft**

This extension of 15-days will allow for more time due to numerous requests from Indian Country.

WASHINGTON - The Department of the Interior has announced that there is a 15-day extension to the public comment period on the Cobell Land Consolidation Draft Plan. The public comment period will now end on April 3, 2012.

The Cobell Land Consolidation Program will not be implemented until all court approvals are final; however, Interior has prepared the draft plan to continue the tribal consultation on the development of the program.

In accordance with the \$3.4 billion Cobell Settlement, a \$1.9billionlandconsolidation fund is to be used to purchase fractionated interests in trust or restricted fee lands from willing sellers to benefit tribal communities and aid in land consolidation.

The initial publication in the Federal Register, on February 23, 2012, opened a 45-day comment period on the draft Cobell Land Consolidation Plan. The plan seeks to remedy the proliferation of thousands of new trust accounts caused by the increasing subdivision or "fractionation" of trust restricted fee land interests through succeeding The generations. consolidation plan proposes a voluntary buy-back and consolidation of fractionated trust and restricted fee land interests that would occur over a 10-year period after the Cobell Settlement becomes final. This extension of 15days will allow for more time due to numerous requests from Indian Country.

# DOI extends | Students help restore old Indian school

MONTEGUT, La. (AP) -Armed with paint scrapers and saws, some University of Southern Mississippi students spent part of their spring break helping revitalize a historic Montegut building that once was a school for Indian children.

Built in the early 1940s, when public schools barred Indians, the old Montegut Indian School has survived a fire and dozens of hurricanes.

Fourteen USM students scraped flaking paint off the front of the old white schoolhouse on March 13, then painted it and built new steps the next day. Seeing people working on the school excited residents, said Chris Chaisson, a community advocate with the United Houma Nation.

The Courier reported United Houma Nation tribal leaders want to restore the cypress building as a cultural center and a place to house volunteers and disaster-relief efforts.

The building symbolizes education, and restoring it "lets people know that it's still a vital part of tribal life," Chief Thomas Dardar said.

Dardar said it was later used as a tribal and community center for the United Houma Nation. The tribe held holiday celebrations and meetings there and used the building, which is inside Montegut's levee system, as a distribution center after disasters.

The building has held relatively up well over the years. Chaisson said the roof needs to be replaced, and the kitchen caught fire in 2009, complicating restoration.

Tammy Greer, a citizen of the tribe and director of Southern Mississippi's Center for American Indian Studies, saw the school during the tribe's annual Indian Santa Christmas celebration.

"It seemed like the building could use some tender, loving care," she said.

Many of the students who volunteered are also American Indians - citizens of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians and the university's Golden Eagles Intertribal Society student group.

"After we heard about what's going on with the Houma tribe, we thought it would be a good idea to come down," said senior Danielle Isaac, 21, president of the Golden Eagles. "It's hard work, but we're having fun and meeting new people."

The students also went to Isle de Jean Charles, which is



ALYSHA JORDAN

**Montegut Indian School** 

rapidly losing its foothold to coastal erosion. It once was a thriving tribal community. Now only a dozen families reside on the sliver of land surrounded on all sides by water.

Greer is also asking Louisiana botanists to help identify native plants for a nature path. They also hope to create a community garden where tribal elders and young people can get together and learn from one another, Dardar said.

"We've got to hold on to the traditions, because a lot of that culture is being lost," said Tyler Meador, a University of Southern Mississippi student majoring in history and social

Another student group from Wisconsin will visit Montegut next month; Greer plans to bring yet another group in the

Dardar said the tribe does not yet have an estimate of how much it will cost to restore the building, but they hope to do much of it using volunteer labor.

"As a young Native American in this community, it makes me happy to see other young people getting involved," Chaisson said.

Anyone interested in helping restore the center, either by volunteering labor or donating money, should call the United Houma Nation tribal office at 223-3093 or Chaisson at 232-5053.

# ND Supreme Court considers Fighting Sioux case

**DALE WETZEL** Associated Press

Dakota's Supreme Court grilled the state Board of Higher Education's lawyer profile of an American Indian warrior. March 15 about the board's tardiness in challenging a law that requires the long as the nickname and logo are kept, University of North Dakota's sports teams to carry the Fighting Sioux nickname.

pro-nickname law in March 2011. Yet it wasn't until last month, after the law was repealed and then revived in a contends the law interferes with its referendum campaign, that the higher own powers, granted under the North education board sued to block the law, Dakota Constitution, to manage the Justice Daniel Crothers said.

ago ... Why now? Why in the face of a referendum off the ballot. referral?" Crothers asked Douglas Bahr, an assistant attorney general who is Kapsner and Mary Muehlen Maring representing the board, during Supreme Court oral arguments Thursday.

Secretary of State Al Jaeger scheduled a June 12 referendum on the law after nickname backers turned in more than

16,000 petition signatures demanding a action because state legislators wanted in their own arguments.

The law says UND's sports teams BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - North must be known as the Fighting Sioux and keep a separate logo that depicts the

NCAA officials have told UND that as the Grand Forks school may not host NCAA post-season tournaments. Its teams, cheerleaders and band members State lawmakers first approved the may not wear them on uniforms during post-season play.

> The Board of Higher Education state's 11 public colleges. The board

> Crothers and Justices Carol Ronning questioned whether waiting for the June vote would harm UND. The election will let voters decide whether the law should be kept or repealed.

Bahr said the board delayed legal referendum campaign, about assertions you've got to do something."

to see whether the law would cause the NCAA to rethink its opposition to UND's nickname and logo. It did not. The NCAA considers both offensive to American Indians.

The pro-nickname referendum campaign has required the board "to backtrack, and have its authority infringed and all the issues re-raised,"

The problems the law causes "may go away in three months," Bahr added. "But the board should not have to suffer this injury for three months."

Bahr and lawyers for Jaeger, the Legislature and the pro-nickname "That harm has been there since wants the Supreme Court to declare making their arguments Thursday the statute was passed almost a year the law unconstitutional and take the during an hour-long Supreme Court session. Chief Justice Gerald VandeWalle said the court will make its ruling later.

> The justices also peppered Patrick Durick, a Bismarck attorney representing the Legislature, and Reed Soderstrom, a evidence," Durick said. "You've got to Minot lawyer who was chairman of the either have (a sworn statement), or

Durick argued that the nickname and logo, and protecting their monetary value, are part of the university's work, which he said the state constitution allows the Legislature to regulate.

VandeWalle said Durick's contention was so broad that it "would consume the constitutional authority of the board, if the Legislature wanted to do it."

Justice Dale Sandstrom asked whether the Legislature could use Durick's argument to set class schedules, decide which professors may teach certain courses, and specify the colors and designs of the teams' uniforms.

"I don't know a bright-line test. I'm referendum committee took turns here to tell you that (the Legislature) can decide what the nickname of the athletic program is," Durick replied.

He said the Board of Higher Education had presented nothing but "bare allegations" that the university had been harmed by keeping the nickname.

"I think there needs to be some

### PERMIT

Continued from Page 1

Spokesmen for some conservation and animal rights groups question why the tribe can't meet its religious needs without killing wild eagles.

feathers or carcasses already available from a federal repository that collects birds killed by power lines or other

The Northern Arapaho the Wind River Reservation central Wyoming with the Eastern Shoshone Tribe. The Northern Arapaho decline to say specifically what they will do with the eagles the federal permit allows them to kill.

"It has been since the beginning of time with us, and we respectfully utilize the eagle in our ceremonies," said Harvey Spoonhunter, a tribal elder and former chairman of the Northern Arapaho Business Council. "We get to utilize the eagle, which we consider a messenger to the

Bald eagles were removed from the federal list of threatened species in 2007. The birds remain protected

under the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Several Indian tribes have been allowed permits to kill golden eagles for religious purposes.

Suzan Shown Harjo, president of the Morning Star Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based American Indian rights group, notes that only a few tribes still practice ceremonies that require them to kill eagles.

From the 1880s to the 1930s, the federal government enforced so-called "Civilization Regulations" that criminalized traditional ceremonies, including the Northern Arapaho's Sun Dance. Many Indian religious ceremonies were stamped out, Harjo said.

"They've done the correct thing, the proper thing. It's a good step in the direction of the United States trying to make amends for things that they did all too well to suppress Native American religious freedom for so long," Harjo said.

Andy Baldwin, lawyer for the Northern Arapaho Tribe, said the tribe went to court last fall to get the bald eagle permit following the federal prosecution of Winslow Friday, a young tribal member who shot a bald eagle on the Wind River Indian Reservation in 2005 for the Sun Dance. Friday ultimately pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a fine in

tribal court.

"One of the goals of the current suit is to prevent any young men like Winslow Friday from being prosecuted in the future for practicing their traditional religious ceremonies," Baldwin said this week.

The Fish and Wildlife Service says it issued the permit in response to the tribe's application, not the lawsuit it filed against the

Federal lawyers filed a status report in the lawsuit this week saying that the Eastern Shoshone Tribe had opposed the killing of eagles on the reservation the two tribes share. The Northern Arapaho permit specifies the two bald eagles must be killed or captured off the reservation.

Edward Wemytewa, a member of the Zuni Tribe in western New Mexico, said he's happy for the Northern Arapaho.

"The common theme for a lot of indigenous peoples is that the bird, it brings not only strength and courage, it's just one of those creatures that still brings awe to many, many people," he said of eagles.

The Zuni Tribe has a federal permit allowing it to keep live eagles, most of which come from raptor rehabilitation projects while some are caught in the wild. Wemytewa declined to say whether any Zuni practices

require killing eagles.

think because of ceremonies, our language has survived, our communities have survived, and I think that is one of the keys for endurance of Native American culture," Wemytewa said. "So if again, other tribes harvest

of The Humane Society of the United States.

Saying his understands the importance of many animals in Native American culture, Pacelle said, "in this case, we had hoped they would use feathers and carcasses that they could



LUCY FOWLER WILLIAMS / COURTESY

Suzan Shown Harjo, president of the Morning Star Institute, says granting the permit to kill bald eagles is " a good step in the direction of the United States trying to make amends for things that they did all too well to suppress Native American religious freedom for so long."

birds for sacrifice in the name of ceremony and tradition, and longevity and health, I guess it makes sense."

Reaction to the Northern Arapaho bald eagle permit was muted among some non-Indian groups.

"We hold bald eagles in great esteem as well, and as a humane organization, we don't want to see them killed," said Wayne Pacelle, president obtain from trustworthy sources and not resort to direct killing."

Brian Rutledge, president for the Rocky Mountain Region of the National Audubon Society, said his group encourages tribes to raise captive birds, rather than killing wild ones.

"But we understand that there are religious decisions that are made here that may

not be understandable to all, but are well within the rights of the people acting on them," Rutledge said.

Matt Hogan, assistant regional director for the Fish and Wildlife Service in Denver, said no other applications to kill bald eagles are pending. And Harjo emphasized the Northern Arapaho permit isn't likely to unleash a flood of applications from other tribes.

"This isn't a wholesale run on the bald eagle that would drive them back into an endangered or threatened position," Harjo said. She emphasized that only a few tribes have intact ceremonies involving eagles and said that only a few individuals within those tribes have a religious need to kill wild birds.

On the Wind River Indian Reservation, the Northern Arapaho are preparing for spring. Nelson White, a tribal elder, said his people are listening for this year's first clap of thunder.

"That thunder represents the eagle hollering," White said. "And when that happens, that's when everything is waking up. The grass is coming back up, the birds are coming back, the plants and animals that were in hibernation are coming out. It's a new beginning."

"So in essence, with this decision, with this you might say victory, we say 'ho'hou,' -'thank you," White said.

# COMMENTARY

# Around the Campfire: How to write a book

DR. DEAN CHAVERS

One of our scholarship students asked me a few weeks ago how to write a book. I have written 27 books without giving much thought about how to do it. But let me share some things with you budding writers.

First of all, you need to have a passion about the topic of the book. If you do, the book will write itself, because you will have learned about all there is to learn about the subject. One book ("Reading for College") took me ten years to write, and it was only 220 pages long. But it covered everything from ancient Greek and Roman classics to modern-day medicine. It took awhile.

The longest book I wrote, 736 pages, ("Modern American Indian Leaders") only took ten months to write. But let me qualify the ten months. I have a full time job running a scholarship program. That takes me 50 to 70 hours a week. So all my writing is done nights and weekends. Obviously I poured on the coal to write 70 pages a month in my spare time. But I loved the subject. I had also been learning about tribal sovereignty from Roger Jourdain, Wendell Chino, Newton Lamar, and Joe De La Cruz for a quarter of a century.

Second, you need to study the subject for a few years. Not five years, but more like 10 to 15. A few geniuses can master a topic in three years, but fewer than one percent can do that. Most of us 99 percenters take longer. My forthcoming book on termination was in germination for 35 years. My first book on grant writing was in germination for 15 years. I wrote my first proposal on a Saturday morning in Beverly LeBeau's kitchen in Redding, CA in 1970; it was

jail. I did not know until Robert Mendoza told me that people gave away money. He said there was a man on San Francisco named Dave Fuller who ran a foundation that had given money to radical causes such as Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers. I took a shot at the proposal, and a week later we got the money! Holy cow, Batman, free money!

I knew so little about the subject that I immediately started studying grant writing. I read dozens of books on the subject. I took a course from Ann Miller at Stanford the next

My current book on Indian dropouts has been in germination for 25 years. My first book on Exemplary Programs in Indian Education (EPIEs) took 20 years to be ready. My last book "Racism in Indian Country" took over 20 years to put together. There were no other books on the subject, so it took a lot of both observation and digging to come up with the facts about the rape of Indian woman, sterilization, racism in lending practices, and racism in the schools.

Third, read a lot. I read about two books a week, and have for about 60 years. If you are not reading, and this means you, mommies and daddies, if you don't set the example, don't expect your kids to be readers. If I had more time I would read three or four books a week.

All people who want to become writers first have to learn how to be readers. Before you start writing, you should have read everything on the subject.

Fourth, do some practical work related to the subject. This could be training, writing reports, writing proposals, and doing program

Fifth, serve on boards, commissions, and to get bail money to get Pit River people out of panels. In the past 40 years I have been on the Minority Panel of The College Board, the minority panel for the American Association for Higher Education, the board of the National Indian Education Association, active member of the California Indian Education Association, consultant to the National Institute of Education, and a member of the National Society of Fund Raising Executives. I learned lots of things on all of them. I have also been a field reader for half a dozen federal programs, including OIE, Aging, Bilingual, and WEEA.

Now that you have done all these things, and are ready to write, you can start to do the following things-the actual stuff of writing and publishing.

- First, define your audience. It will not be everyone in the U. S., believe me. You will have to sell this to the publisher. If you don't know who your audience is, and how many there are, God help you. The publishing industry in the U. S. comes out with 60,000 new books a year, when they should probably only come out with 10,000. Nine out of every ten books lose money, so the publisher literally has to live on the profits from that tenth book. Your book will sell between 300 and 500, unless it is a sensational best seller. A lot of best sellers are trash-Peyton Place, Jacqueline Suzanne, and
- Second, prepare an outline. The minimum to put in an outline is chapter headings. The maximum will be 15 or so pages going into detail with every part of every chapter.,
- Third, find a publisher. This mostly means to find an agent first, which is the really hard part. Finding a publisher on your own is probably too hard, and you won't succeed. I was 66 years old, and had already written 25 books, before I got my first "legitimate" publisher.

- · Fourth, prepare your book proposal and submit it. Most publishers have easily accessible procedures for preparing a proposal. And don't think that your proposal will fit every publisher. Every time you submit it to a publisher, you will have to re-write it.
- Fifth, write the book. You should be able to produce between five and ten pages a day. And you will have to rewrite it between five and seven times. Seven was the magic number for both Hemingway and Suzanne. You will not get it right the first time, believe me.
- · Sixth, develop your bibliography. All academic books will require a biblio, and many pop books will as well. Every time I find something relevant to the book, I immediately put it into the biblio. My biblio on the dropout book is already 14 pages, and I am only 80% done with the writing.
- Seventh, compile your index. Every significant thing you mention in the book will go in the index—characters, studies, research, places, events, lawsuits, and so on. Nobody will do this for you.

In the past two years I have also become an editor for Mellen Press. They just published the first book I worked on, Troy Johnson's "The Cherokee Settlements of East Texas." And they want me to find more Indian books. Good luck, all you writers.

Dean Chavers, Ph.D., is the Director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship and school improvement program for American Indians, located in Albuquerque. His address is CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com. His latest book is "Racism in Indian Country," published by Peter Lang.

# Newspapers: Looking at our past to find our future

**NOTES FROM INDIAN COUNTRY** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

When radio appeared on the national scene in the early 1900s speculation began about its impact on the newspaper industry.

In the end radio never tried to compete against and has evolved to where the current format to call it "MacPaper." focuses on talk shows like Rush Limbaugh and followed the path of newspapers more closely by reporting the news from an independent perspective. Because NPR does not necessarily follow a political pattern, it is often accused of being a liberal media.

The major newspapers did not try to compete with nor emulate radio but instead stuck to the format that made them successful. And then along came television and many pundits predicted that newspapers would diminish in importance or die out altogether. A young co-ed named Susan Hurrah from San Jose, California once quipped, "I'm going home and catch my half-hour newspaper on my TV set." With its evening news that was national and local, television did attempt to compete against

But once again newspapers not only held by becoming more relevant, newspaper

growth in televisions heyday. A newspaper like USA Today made its debut in the 1980s and soon became one of the largest newspapers in America. Nearly every newspaper changed its layout and design to emulate television. USA Today went to a more television type format with a lot of great photos and colorful graphs and charts. It also started to include many very newspapers but instead took its own route short news articles so much so that some began

A South Dakotan named Allen Neuharth had Laura Ingraham. National Public Radio has a vision of a national newspaper and against all odds USA Today is still holding its own. A man named Rupert Murdoch purchased the Wall Street Journal and has pushed it to the lead in circulation of all major newspapers. Considered a maverick and a conservative, Murdoch's chain of newspapers landed in troubled waters recently with the revelations of phone tapping and other illegal methods of getting private information for his tabloids. But Murdoch will withstand these problems and continue to be one of the biggest newspaper publishers in the world. How he does it should serve as an example for all other newspaper magnates.

But along came the Internet and newspaper publishers did a complete back flip. Instead of continuing as they had for 200 years as news vehicles that competed with radio and television

their ground, but actually experienced extreme publishers decided to follow the path of the not making money on the Internet. Then why Internet and join it.

There were no cries of "extra, extra" on the streets of New York, but instead there were messages in the newspapers pushing people to America dropped off of the Internet and went join them on their websites. And for far too long back to concentrating their news coverage on the the websites were free pushing away subscribers communities they served so successfully for so of the daily newspapers. Circulation numbers many years? Would the Tucson Citizen, Rocky dwindled rapidly and advertising revenues, Mountain News or the Seattle Post-Intelligencer the life blood of newspapers, also went into the still be publishing if they had remained true to tank. This double-hit brought about the death their beginnings? knell of far too many daily newspapers. Instead of looking at the Internet as a challenge to their Perhaps some of us Lakota people are just plain existence as they did when radio and television old-fashioned, but the growth and success of threatened, newspapers instead joined the very a small weekly newspaper that is owned and villain about to bring them down.

newspaper Native Sun News hit the newsstands in South Dakota. The staff and management of the newspaper decided not to go on the Internet in a big way, but instead just show our front page, our editorial and our editorial cartoon. This was kind of a teaser because when people went to our website they saw a front page with good articles that usually jumped to another page. In order to see "the rest of the story" they had to subscribe. Did it work? In less than three years Native Sun South Dakota, a state with many, many weekly

It is a long proven fact that newspapers are knology.net

do they keep giving away the news that people were more than willing to pay for?

What would happen if every newspaper in

It is a question that offers food for thought. operated by the Lakota people, a newspaper that Three years ago on April 1, 2009 my weekly continues to grow, is any indicator of surviving without going on the Internet, perhaps it is a method that should be studied by the big boys.

> The fact of the matter is that although I am now retired, I continue to love the newspaper business and I believe it should look to its past in order to find its future.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. News became the largest weekly newspaper in He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.



918-257-8869 www.okstatebank.com Equal Housing Lender

Native American Owned

**MONKEY ISLAND** 



Native TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you? Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:
Phone:		

■ \$65.00 for 52 issues ■ \$32.50 for 26 issues ■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

www.nativetimes.com

#### International leaders in Indigenous housing to speak at WIH Conference

Well-known TV host and housing expert Mike Holmes will give the opening keynote address.

VANCOUVER, Canada An outstanding lineup of international leaders in Indigenous housing will speak at the 2012 World Indigenous Housing Conference, being held June 11-15, 2012, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. This is the first international event to bring politicians, best practices, build a global First Nations communities. network, and showcase Indigenous cultures.

conference themes—Sharing design, led by the AFN. Our Stories, Governance include:

Well-known TV host and and in Canada and the Holmes sufficiency and prosperity. Group—to renovate housing

Holmes stars in Holmes on Homes\*, the #1 show on HGTV Canada, which is syndicated in the United States and other countries. Holmes will also lead a workshop at the conference—Rebuilding Devastated Communities on strategies for Indigenous communities to build the social, financial and technical capacity to respond to natural disasters.

National Chief Shawn A-inchut Atleo of the Assembly of First Nations will open the conference and join Mike Indigenous housing leaders, Holmes to share information policymakers, on the AFN-Holmes Group researchers and corporate Pilot Project, designed to leaders from around the build housing, skills and world together to learn from employment capacity in Ultimately, this project will lead to the creation of a First Keynote speakers and Nation Centre of Excellence on presenters will cover five green, sustainable community

The 2012 WIHC focuses Capacity Building, on Indigenous housing Government Partnerships, providers from the United Housing as a Determinant States, Canada, New Zealand of Health, and Disaster and Australia, because these Preparedness. WIHC speakers developed countries share common housing experiences established have housing expert Mike Holmes infrastructure. Consequently, will give the opening keynote the knowledge exchange at address at the conference on Sharing Our Stories; Sharing Building Homes and Building Our Successes is expected to Skills—a partnership between help enable Indigenous people the Assembly of First Nations around the world achieve self-

For more information Atikameksheng contact Andrew Leach, AHMA Anishnawbek First Nation CEO, at 604-921-2462 or in Ontario, and build a andrew.leach@ahma-bc.org. sustainable community based To register for the 2012 WIHC, on green practices. Mike visit www.indigenous2012.

# Quapaw leader, business CEO create new gaming conference

**SEAN HARRISON** Public Relations Manager Downstream Casino Resort

QUAPAW, Okla. - Not all Indian gaming and development conferences are alike, but they are pretty similar. And none are like DNA (Development in Native America), which features a powerhouse line-up speakers in an unusual format, and debuts this April at Downstream Casino Resort, located in the northeast tip of Oklahoma. The idea for DNA sprouted from an almost rebellious attitude toward the "conference business," said cocreator Chairman John Berrey of the Quapaw Tribe.

"We kept seeing the same stuff at every conference and we just became kind of disenchanted with the approach they all used," Berrey explained, "We decided there was a need for something different."

So DNA offers a new and unique approach to spreading the whys and wherefores of successful gaming and development in Indian Country. The root of it there shouldn't be a secret to success. That is, Berrey said, if a tribe has achieved success and can identify the things that created that success then they should share it with other

And that's where John

Thompson, CEO of Elm Tree Partners, came in as a cocreator of DNA. Thompson is a finance consultant who specializes in Indian gaming and has helped develop numerous successes in the industry, including with Chairman Berrey and Downstream Casino Resort. Where Chairman Berrey and the Quapaw Tribe might have been more humble than to talk-up their successful resort, Thompson doesn't hold back.

"They are undoubtedly one of the great success stories in Indian Country right now," Thompson said. "So the DNA conference is basically about using Downstream as a very strong case study and sharing all those details about how the Quapaws did it."

The speaker line-up is a virtual who's who of today's most successful insiders and decision-makers in Indian Gaming. It includes Steve Stokdyk, partner, Latham & Watkins; James Freeland, managing director Summit Partners; Kevin Wadzinski, partner with DrinkerBiddle; Mathew Robinson, co-founder and principal of Klas-Robinson Q.E.D.; Mark Dvorchak, principal, Pro Forma Advisors LLC; Darryl La Count, deputy director of Bureau of Indian Affairs, Rocky Mountain Region; Steve Ward, partner, Conner & Winters; Brian

Davis, design principal with JCJ Architecture; John Maxwell, managing director, Jefferies; Christine Swanick, partner, SheppardMullin; Steven Drewes, general manager, Downstream Casino Resort; Vice Chairman James Crawford of the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe; and John Baily, CEO, Tigua Inc.

Chairman Berrey and John Thompson will co-emcee the two days of sessions.

There are other important differences between DNA and the standard fare of gaming conferences. All DNA attendees will stay on the same path in the same room over the two days of seminars and sharing there will be no break-out sessions. Sessions will follow a sequential order that covers entire development process from start to finish. Each 50-minute session will be followed by an open forum so that anyone can ask questions or add comments to make sure everything is clearly understood. And DNA will be a vendor-free event.

"We really want to get away from the sales pitches and the secondary agendas," Berrey

Thompson added: "Our goal is to present unfiltered information and experience in a very straightforward way. It's a bit like the old adage, if you do what these people have



**Quapaw Chairman John Berrey** 



John Thompson, CEO, Elm Tree **Partners** 

done then you can have what they've got."

To that end, all presenters were very thoughtfully chosen for their specific areas of knowledge and experience, and for how they fit into that step-by-step philosophy of sharing.

The first DNA conference will be April 10-12, 2012. For more information call Heidi Buss at 651-335-4915.



Gregory E. Pyle, Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

# **Choctaw Chief nominated** for Most Admired CEO

TRAVIS MORROW

OKLAHOMA Gregory E. Pyle, Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, was nominated for The Journal Record's third annual Most Admired CEO award. He was the only Native American tribal leader so honored. The award honors Oklahoma CEOs who consistently demonstrate strong leadership, integrity, vision, financial performance commitment community.

"The leaders we honored,"

Record, "give me great confidence in Oklahoma's future as we work to grow our state and make it better in every way."

Chief Pyle was first elected Chief of the Choctaw Nation in 1997. Since that time the tribe's membership has grown to over 200,000. The Choctaw Nation operates seven casinos, a manufacturing business, management services company, a printing company, document archiving company, 13 travel plazas

said Mary Mélon, president and 12 smoke shops. These don't cut corners — we just and publisher of The Journal businesses generate hundreds get it done." of millions of dollars annually, which support tribal health care, education, housing, senior care and other social services.

One of the hallmarks of Chief Pyle's term in office has been his commitment to home-grown health care. The Choctaw Nation has built seven health clinics within its tribal area.

"When you build your own, you can build much cheaper and much faster than anybody else," Pyle said. "We

He describes his executive leadership style as a willingness to be innovative and to take chances.

"We're not afraid to fail because every failure brings us closer to success," Pyle said. "I've coined the phrase, 'Our executives need gray hair."

This year's nominees for Most Admired CEO were honored at an awards dinner at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.

Stickball · Drawing

# Free concert aims to raise Native HIV/AIDS awareness

American Indians and Alaska Natives had the third highest rate per 100,000 persons of new HIV infections in 2007.

ARDMORE, Okla. - MAMA Knows, Inc., has committed to taking action to raise HIV awareness in their community. On Saturday, March 24th, at 7:00 p.m. MAMA Knows will host a free community concert in honor of National Women, Girls and Native American HIV/ AIDS Awareness Days at the Charles B. Goddard Center in Ardmore, Oklahoma. Musical entertainment will be provided by TAJJ, a jazz ensemble featuring Ardmore native Jemar Poteat.

March 20, 2012 marks the sixth annual National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. The purpose of this day is to: 1) encourage Native people to get educated and to learn more about HIV/AIDS and its impact in their community; 2) work together to encourage testing options and HIV counseling; and 3) help decrease

the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS. It is a time to reflect on those who have passed as well as those who are currently infected and affected by HIV/AIDS a "Celebration of Life" for all Native people.

HIV continues to increase among Native people as it has over the past decade. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) had the third highest rate per 100,000 persons of new HIV infections in 2007, notwithstanding having the smallest population. Despite this, over half of AI/ANs and almost 60% of NHOPI have never been tested for HIV. This represents an enormous disparity that can only be addressed by HIV prevention efforts tailored to fit the needs of the community.

The distinguished sounds of TAJJ will be unmistakably shown through their diverse style of music selection including R&B, jazz, blues, and neo soul. TAJJ has performed at events and venues throughout Oklahoma including Riverwind Casino and Tulsa's Hard Rock Hotel and Casino. In addition to performing in Oklahoma TAJJ has performed at the infamous Buttons in Addison, Texas, Brooklyn's Sankofa, Houston's Red Cat, Chicago's Blue Room and L.A.'s Libertine.

The Charles B. Goddard Center is located at 401 First Ave SW in Ardmore, Oklahoma. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The performance will start at 7:00 with the first 300 gaining admission as this concert is free and open to the public with open seating. For more information about the event contact Kayla at MAMA Knows at (580)277-0367 or via email, kayla@mamaknowsinc.org. Knows and its programming are brought to you in part by the following: Oklahoma AIDS Care Fund, Jerome Westheimer Family Foundation, Inc. and a partnering agency of United Way of South Central Oklahoma, Inc.



· Fancy dancing · Beadwork **Big Brothers Big Sisters** Traditional language of Oklahoma Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

# CLASSIFIEDS



#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

U.S. Department of the Interior Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs

Job Vacancy

### **Deputy Assistant Secretary** Management

Job Announcement Number: ASIA-SES-2012-PQ609381 Salary: \$119, 554 - \$165, 300 per annum **Open Period: February 15, 2012 - March 30, 2012** Series & Grade: ES-340

Are you interested in working for a federal agency that is responsible for protecting and improving the trust assets of American Indian and Alaska **Native tribes and individuals?** 

The U.S. Department of the Interior is searching for candidates to develop and oversee the implementation of policies that govern and facilitate the provision of services to American **Indian and Alaska Native tribes and individuals by** a federal agency. These administrative functions include financial management, strategic planning, workforce planning, human resources, information technology management and safety management.

This is a full-time permanant position with the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs located in Washignton, D.C.

For more information and application procedures, please visit www.usajobs.gov or contact Indian Affairs Human Resources Office at (202) 208-2825.

The U.S. Department of the Interior is an Equal Opportunity Employer Preference will be given to American Indians and Alaska Natives





Sac & Fox Nation Casino is accepting Applications for

#### **General Manager**

**Oualifications:** Bachelors Degree in Business / Marketing Strong Leadership Skills Casino Management Experience

Applicants must pass background and drug screen. Native American preference is recognized.

Submit resume by fax @ 405-395-0790 or visit our website at sandfcasino.com to apply online

#### **ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY**

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma is seeking to fill a temporary (less than one year) or term position (more than one year) which may expire April 30, 2013, subject to availability of funds. This position may be extended and/ or made permanent without further advertising. Depending on the nature of the appointment, benefits may or may not be available. Salary is based on the number of years of professional attorney experience. Applicants must possess a J.D. degree, be an active member of the bar in good standing (any jurisdiction), and have at least one (1) year of litigation experience post-J.D. Resumes should be submitted to Lisa Engelke, HR Specialist, at usaokw. jobapplication@usdoj.gov. Resumes must be received by March 16, 2012, and should reference announcement number12-0KW-01-A.

#### OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM **INTERNAL AUDITOR**

Creates, maintains, and updates

#### all internal audit programs. Tests, analyzes and reports all findings to management. MA or BA in accounting or related field. CPA or CIA required. Five years professional accounting, auditing or compliance auditing experience preferred. Salary

commensurate with experience and education. Deadline for applications: 3/23/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http:// www.opers.ok.gov/jobs. EOE



### CHEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

#6217 RPT Cook I (Food Distribution) Nowata - Close 03/22/2012

**HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH #5768 RPT Medical Technologist** Close 3/27/2012 **#5745 RFT Medical Technologist** Close 3/27/2012 #6105 RFT Medical Technologist II Close 3/27/2012

#6286 RFT Inpatient RN (12 Hour Rotations) Close 3/20/2012 Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

Cherokee Nation **Human Resources Department PO** Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered. 

#### **Pawnee Tribal Development Corporation Vacancy Announcement**

**HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR** Closing Date: March 21, 2012

The Human Resources Director answers directly to the Chief Executive Officer and is responsible for management of human resources activities, such as administration, employment, compensation, benefits, employee relations, safety, employee development, and training. This individual is expected to exercise a high degree of confidentiality and responsibility. In the performance of job duties, this individual must exercise sound judgment, initiative, and self-direction. Performs other duties and projects as assigned. Bachelor's degree or equivalent, or four to six years Human Resources related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Closing Date: March 21, 2012

The Administrative Assistant reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer and is responsible for providing administrative support to the CEO. This individual is expected to exercise a high degree of confidentiality and responsibility in the conduct of administrative duties. In the performance of job duties, this individual must exercise sound judgment, initiative, and self-direction. Performs other duties and projects as assigned. Must have 3-years general office experience or equivalent business or clerical coursework.

COMPLETE JOB DESCRIPTIONS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

TO APPLY, SEND A RESUME TO: P.O. Box 280 Pawnee, OK 74058 Phone: (918)762-4832 Fax: (918)762-2219 Email: hr@pawneetribaldevelopment.com

Pawnee Tribal Development Corporation operates a drug-free workplace. The selected applicant must submit to and pass applicable drug test. Additionally, must be able to pass background check in order to obtain gaming license.

# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** 

The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** 

- Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS **The Marble City Nutrition** Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad

Gilley (918) 382-2204 or

nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 31** Tulsa Library's Festival of Words. For events and times, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www. tulsalibrary.org.

**THROUGH MAY** Free beginner-level **Cherokee language classes** in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

MARCH 20 **Confidential HIV testing at** the Claude Cox Omniplex, Muscogee Creek Nation, Okmulgee, from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

MARCH 23 Miss Indian Oklahoma City **Competition & Performance** at 6:30 pm, 3801 SE 29th St. Del City, OK. Info contact Shirley Wapskineh 405-632-5227 or swapskineh@ sbcglobal.net

MARCH 24 **Honor Dance for Shayla** Miller, 2011 Sac & Fox **Veterans Honor Guard** Princess, 5 miles South of Stroud, OK at Sac & Fox Community Building. Gourd Dance starts @ 2pm, 5:30 supper, intertribal/war

dancing to follow

**MARCH 31 CCC Rally in The Valley Youth** Powwow at Coffeyville Community College. A youth competition and intertribal powwow. Doors open at Noon. Call Taylor Davis at 620-251-7700 ext. 2092.

**MARCH 31 Wild Onion Dinner at Pickett Chapel United Methodist** Church, 17610 S. Hickory Sapulpa, Ok, 5 miles south of Sapulpa on Hickory, 11am to 3pm. \$8 adults, \$4.00 12 and under. Proceeds to benefit our Oklahoma Indian **Missionary Conference** annual apportionments. Info: 918-321-3109

**MARCH 31 Birthday Celebration for** Florabelle Franklin Yeahpau Wolf - 91 years Young.

St. Patricks Catholic church - Parish Hall, Anadarko OK., 10 a.m - 5 p.m. Please bring a covered dish. Meat will be provided.

MARCH 31 "Play Golf Native America Day," a free program for families to experience a day of fun, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Cherokee Hills Golf Club located at Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Tulsa. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. Info email Crystal Echo Hawk: crystal@nb3f.org

**APRIL 3-5** OSHA 10-hour class. \$10 fee - free for all TERO and 477 participants. Info and registration call Pawnee **Nation Education Division** 918-762-3227.

**APRIL 6** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**APRIL 7 Tulsa Creek Indian Community Wild Onion** Dinner from 11-3 at 8611 S Union Ave, Tulsa OK 74132 Ph: (918) 298-2464

**APRIL 7 Ponca Gourd Dance 9th Annual Spring Dance** White Eagle Cultural Center 5 miles south of Ponca City, OK (580) 268-3313

**APRIL 14** All Gourd Honor Dance for Micheal Tsotaddle at Red Buffalo Hall, Carnegie, OK, 2p.m. - ? For more information call Darla Tsotaddle (405) 432-8377 or Mavis Tsotaddle (580) 654-1704.

APRIL 28 "O-SKOO" Co-Ed Basketball Tournament (All Indun) PRE-"O-SKOO" ~ 30 YRS TO 39 YRS & "O-SKOO" ~ 40 YRS TO ??? YRS. \$50.00 Entry fee. 8 Man Roster: 4 Ole Men & 4 Ole Women. For more info, call Tonkawa Tribe Education Programs: 580-628-2561 LISA ext 125 or LEAH ext 131. Fund Raiser for end of summer WIA Youth trip!



COURTESY / CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS

Cherokee Nation second-grade immersion students Braelyn Patterson and Wesley Shade examine the rocks and cards they received from their pen pals at the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians' Immersion School in Cherokee, N.C. The two schools recently started the pen pal program to encourage and promote stronger cultural interactions in Cherokee.

# Immersion students share with pen pals in Cherokee

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — The Cherokee Nation recently started a new pen pal program with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in North Carolina to encourage and promote stronger cultural interactions in the Cherokee language.

Immersion students in kindergarten, first grade and second grade from both tribes have been exchanging activities, cards and cultural items, all written in Cherokee. Recently, Cherokee Nation's second-grade immersion students received a package from their pen pals containing materials they collected in the forest. Each student bagged up items including sticks, moss, lichens and rocks and labeled the bags with their Cherokee name.

"The kids are excited and they feel like they're getting to know the other kids a little bit," said Denise Chaudoin, Cherokee Nation Immersion School second-grade teacher. "It's a really good program for the kids in both areas to get to know each other and realize we're all Cherokees, whether we're from the east or west."

The Cherokee Nation Immersion School, Tsalagi Tsunadeloquasdi, began in 2001 as a language preservation program, which aims to educate children in a cultural environment while revitalizing and promoting the use of the Cherokee language. Students in preschool through sixth grade are immersed into an environment where Cherokee is the only language spoken.

According to Sequoyah Schools Curriculum Director Samantha Benn-Duke, the objectives of the pen pal program are to facilitate stronger communication with schools in Cherokee, introduce students to other dialects of the Cherokee language, provide opportunities to interact with other students that speak Cherokee and to create mutual topics of discussion to facilitate communication with the Eastern Band.

"The Atse Kituwah Academy in Cherokee, N.C. has students beginning at six months of age through second grade," Benn-Duke said. "We have communicated with them sporadically in the past, mostly via iChat, but we hope the new pen pal program will elicit stronger and more frequent communication between classes."

For more information about Cherokee Nation Immersion School visit www. cherokee.org or call 918-207-4900.

# Evening of poetry on tap at Northeastern

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – Northeastern State University and the Center for Tribal Studies is presenting an eventing of poetry by Lance Henson, Southern Cheyenne, Tuesday, March 27 at 7 p.m. as part of the university's 2012 Arts of Indigenous Cultures series.

The event is free and will be held in the Webb Auditorium.

Henson's poetry, which incorporates Cheyenne philosophy and traditions as well as social and political commentary on the modern world, is known for its powerful imagery, brevity and universal appeal.

Born in Washington, D.C., Henson was raised on



Sheldon Bernard Chase

a farm near Calumet, Okla. and grew up living in the Southern Cheyenne culture. He has published 28 volumes of poetry and has been translated into 25 languages.

The Dictionary of Literary Biography says of Henson, "One of the few contemporary Native American poets who writes bilingual poetry, Lance Henson has received international recognition for his knowledge of Cheyenne language and culture and his skill as a poet in English.. Having traveled and read widely, Henson acknowledges influences from European, Latin American, and Oriental literature; but he remains Cheyenne in his basic outlook, returning to Oklahoma each June for the Sun Dance."

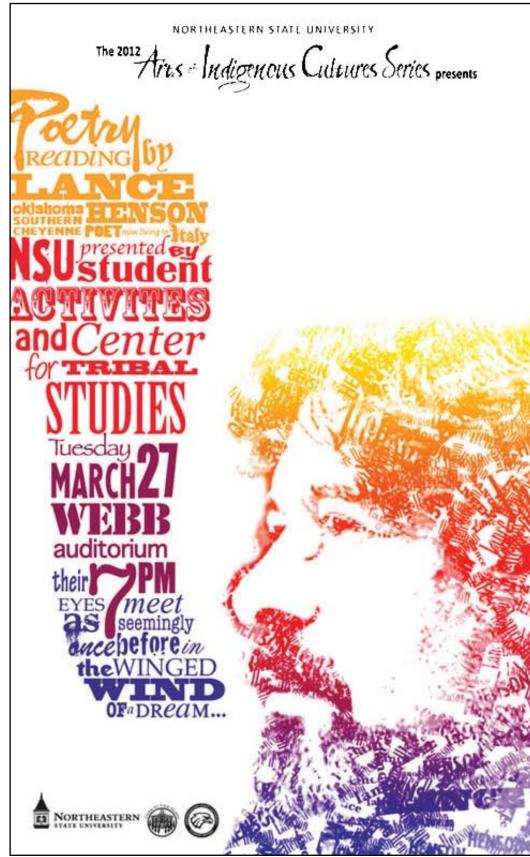
Henson conducted poetry workshops through the Artist in Residence program of the State Arts Council of Oklahoma for 10 years, then began to travel. In 1993, he represented the United States Information Service as a Featured Lecturer in Singapore, Thailand, New Guinea and New Zealand. He also has represented the Southern Cheyenne Nation with the European Free Alliance in Leeuwarden, Netherlands and at the United Nations Indigenous Peoples Conference in Geneva in

His readings include the One World Poetry Festival in Amsterdam, the International Poetry Festival in France and the Geraldine Dodge Poetry Festival in New Jersey. He was selected for a residency at the Smithsonian Institution through the Distinguished Native American Scholars program and was also a resident at the Millay Colony for the Arts in 1995 and poet-in-residence at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

Henson is a member of the Native American Church, the American Indian Movement and the Cheyenne Dog Soldier Society.

He currently resides in Italy.





MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

- Artists depict Wounded Knee Massacre
- Tonto: The new and improved version?
- Senate votes to honor 'Mrs. Swing'









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# AMERICAN

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 13

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**MARCH 30, 2012** 

# Eagle makes trip from Metro tracks to repository

■ At least two acts of Congress make it a potential crime to possess even a single unauthorized feather.

STEVE HENDRIX and DANA HEDGPETH The Washington Post

COMMERCE CITY, Colo. (AP) - In a nondescript building on a decommissioned Army

base in Colorado last week, a man with a face mask opened a cardboard box, removed a black plastic bag, snapped the seal and pulled out a bald eagle.

A black mist of eagle down filled the air, some of it settling on the man's Tyvek lab coat.

"His tail is really nice," declared Dennis Wiist, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service specialist. He held the bird in two gloved hands, briskly considering the huge dark wings folded across its trunk, the talons

locked in a final clinch, the beak slightly ajar.

"And a really good head," Wiist said as he laid the bird on the stainless steel table and began probing with practiced fingers. "That's good; we are desperate for good heads."

It was that unmistakable white head - spotted by a Metro Blue Line commuter during rush hour - that launched this bird on its strange journey from a train track in Alexandria to the U.S. Eagle Repository

on the outskirts of Denver, the only legal supplier of bald eagle parts used in Native American religious ceremonies.

There are few animals in the United States more shielded by law than bald eagles, a revered national symbol but a species that was nearly wiped out four decades ago. At least two acts of Congress make it a potential crime to possess even a single unauthorized feather.

See EAGLE Continued on Page 6



FILE PHOTO / JOE AMON / THE DENVER POST / WWW.DENVERPOST.COM

Wildlife repository specialist Dennis Wiist checks an eagle at the National Eagle Repository in Commerce City, Colo. The Repository receives eagle bodies from wherever they fall and helps process them so Native American religious practitioners have the requisite eagle feathers, talons, etc. for their ceremonies.

### Turning the century mark: Comanche woman celebrates 100 years



PHOTO COURTESY COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Josephine Myers-Wapp, Comanche, celebrates her 100th birthday Feb. 10 in Lawton, Okla. with family and friends.

DANA ATTOCKNIE Native American Times

LAWTON, Okla. - Bouquets of flowers color the path from the entry way into the living room where Josephine Myers-Wapp, Comanche, sits in her recliner watching TV and visiting with her son Ed Wapp on a warm Sunday afternoon. The visit is a time to reminisce as well as a history lesson.

"There were signs that said no Indians or dogs allowed," Ed Wapp said from the edge of a recliner

"Yeah. Indians and dogs," Josephine said, then laughed and teased her son, "They compared you with a dog?"

"I guess so," Ed, 68, laughed, still in disbelief of how people were treated long ago.

Josephine and her son reflected upon the evolution of people and places, including Josephine's own achievements in her life and her career. She turned 100 years old on Feb. 10, and has experienced drastic changes in the world as well as events like the Great Depression, the Oklahoma Dust Bowl of 1930, the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr., and the first trip to the moon.

The flower arrangements sprinkled throughout her home are from family and friends who helped celebrate her birthday on Feb. 10 at the Comanche Nation Elderly Center in Lawton, Okla.

What Josephine does remember from the past 100 years brings laughter, reflection and appreciation.

See 100 YEARS Continued on Page 8

# **Tribes dealing with** illegal trade of eagles

■ In a recent case on the Crow Reservation, six tribal citizens were charged with and pleaded guilty to various violations related to illegally trafficking in eagles and eagle parts.

LORNA THACKERAY The Billings Gazette

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) - In the free-roaming days on the Western Plains, only certain tribal members were given the right to trap eagles.

They dug pits in the flight path of eagles and lay down inside, covering the opening with a lattice of sticks and leaves. Fresh meat baited the trap. It always faced west because eagles came down on the west wind, according to Hidatsa legend. The Hidatsa, who now live in North Dakota, are close kin to the Crow and were as one with them hundreds of years ago.

While the eagle focused on the meat, a skilled eagle hunter lying in the loosely covered pit would grab the

bird's feet and tie them together. The wings were tied as well. The hunter would carry the eagle back to camp. If only one or two eagles were caught, the Hidatsa plucked the tail feathers and released their captives. If there were more, some might be killed.

It was not a disrespectful, wanton act. Eagles, spirit messengers and spirit helpers to those who had been visited by the bird during vision quests, were held in high regard by Plains Indians.

That's not the way eagles have been treated by poachers preying on the population in Montana and other states. In a recent case on the Crow Reservation now making its way through the courts, six tribal citizens were charged with and pleaded guilty to various violations related to illegally trafficking in eagles and eagle parts.

At least 10 whole bald and golden eagles were listed in the indictments along with feathers, wings, tails and bones of many more.

Court documents said Ernie L. Stewart, 33, of Wyola, told a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service informant

See TRADE Continued on Page 6

# Agency uses traditional healing to tackle abuse

RYAN BOETEL Farmington Daily Times

Anonymous meetings.

FARMINGTON, N.M. (AP) - At Totah Behavioral Health Authority, alcoholics take weekly sweat lodges and Navajo language instruction instead of mandatory one-onone counseling and Alcoholics

Staff reports show the traditional techniques, often combined with standard substance abuse counseling, are working. The agency is reporting that more than 50 percent of its clients are finding employment after substance abuse treatment, according to six years' worth of the program's annual evaluation reports.

show consistent increases of relatives leaving and being housed, having less involvement in the legal system and their employment is increasing," said Kristine Carlson, the program and clinical administrator at

Totah was established in 2001. Staff treat San Juan County's homeless population for substance abuse and mental health issues. About 70 percent of the program's clients are court ordered to start therapy there.

The agency is unique because it takes standard

substance abuse counseling American employees blend it with traditional Navajo cultural.

About 90 percent of the patients Totah staff refer to them as relatives are American

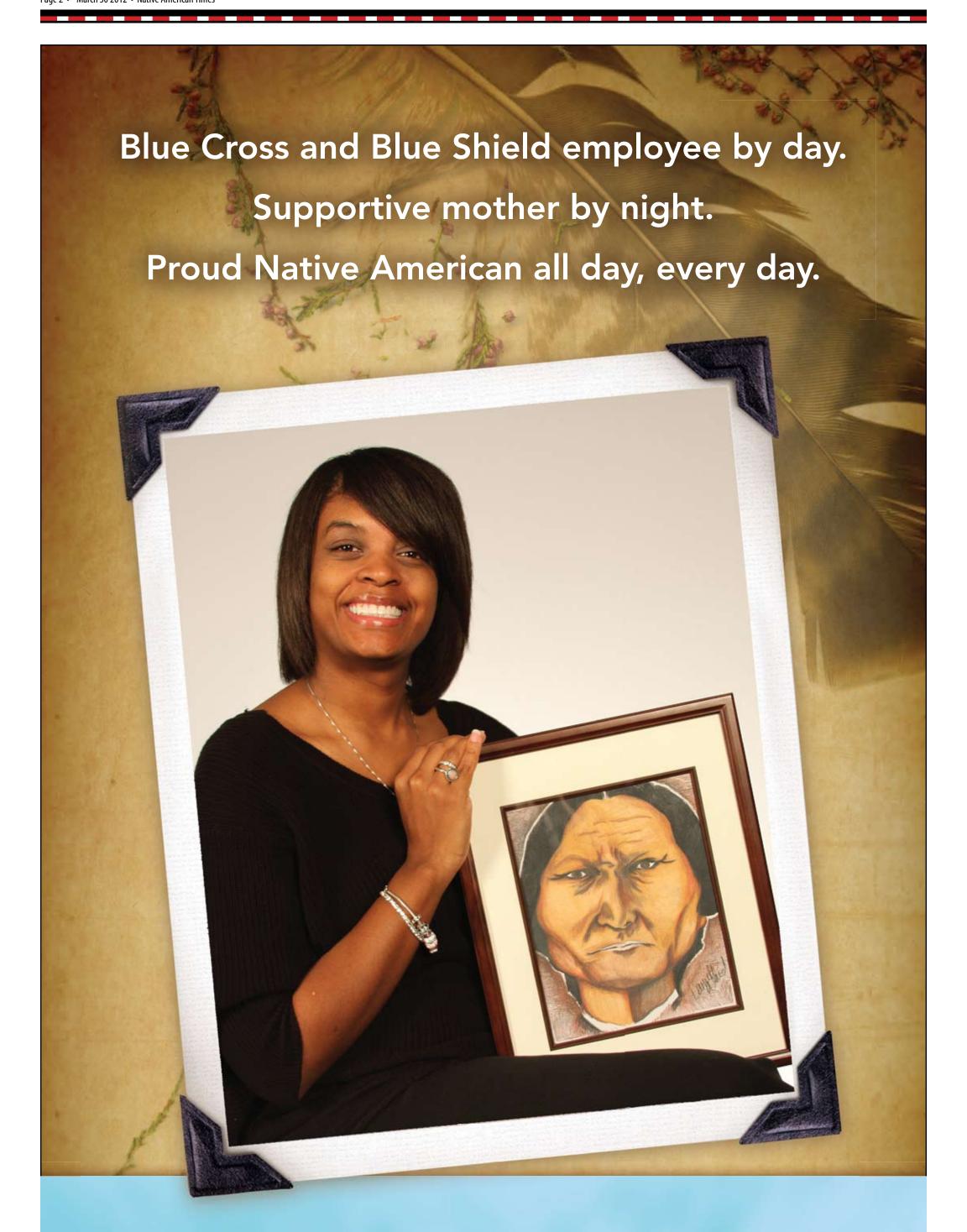
"On the Western-medicine side, our staff is well trained on evidence-based practices for substance and mental health issues," said Mike Renaud, the regional director of Presbyterian Medical Service, which operates the agency. "And then we rely on our Native staff to bring their expertise to us."

See **HEALING** Continued on Page 5



AP PHOTO / AUGUSTA LIDDIC / THE DAILY TIMES

Alice Holiday, a traditional service coordinator at Totah Behavioral Health Authority in Farmington N.M. holds sage used for therapy and burned in the traditional sweat lodge Totah on Friday, March 2, 2012.



Congratulations to Danielle Ward, winner of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma's Native American art contest, for her portrait of Sitting Bull. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma is proud to honor the Native American culture and Oklahoma's rich heritage through our diverse workforce and commitment to our communities. **Together, we are Oklahoma**.



BlueCross BlueShield of Oklahoma

bcbsok.com

# Native leaders tackle fetal alcohol issue

RACHEL D'ORO Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) -Morgan Fawcett calls himself an alcoholic who is about to celebrate two decades of sobriety - on his 20th

Even though he is a non-drinker, the Anchorage-born Tlingit blames alcohol for a host of ailments, including constant headaches, learning disabilities and constricted muscles.

He was born with fetal alcohol syndrome after his mother drank as much as 100 days during her pregnancy, he told Alaska Natives, American Indians and others who gathered Thursday in Anchorage for a two-day conference on fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

"Everybody is affected by alcohol," Fawcett said. "Nobody is immune.

And we all have to deal with the effects every day."

State officials say Alaska Natives have greatly brought down the prevalence of the most severe form of FASD among Native newborns - fetal alcohol syndrome. The rate of fetal alcohol syndrome, however, remains significantly higher among Alaska Natives than non-Native newborns in

Nationally, the incidence of FASD is more than two times greater among indigenous newborns than in non-Native births, according to information available for a problem that is underreported in Native and non-Native populations alike, said Candace Shelton, a senior Native American specialist with the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SAMHSA is the sponsor of the conference.

Fawcett, a Native flutist and advocate for public awareness of FASD, was among people directly affected by fetal alcohol syndrome who spoke at the conference. He said his goal in life is to share his story, not because it's unique but because it's common and he has the gift of public speaking.

"I can come from a place that offers you the truth as I know it," he said.

Another speaker was Mary Andrews of Bethel, who said she struggles with the anguish of being a mother to a 14-year-old boy with FASD. "It was very hard to talk about at first," Andrews said, fighting back tears. "I was guilty for what I did to my boy."

Andrews said a stepson who had FASD died a few years ago, at age 20. He helped her see how little she knew about what the condition feels like, she

He helped her deal with the

challenges of her younger son being different from his other siblings, who lose patience with him, calling him stupid. "It hits me hard when I hear him labeled like that," she said.

Other participants in the conference include behavioral health specialists, policymakers and tribal leaders from around the state and lower 48.

Patricia Getty, one of the SAMHSA officials in attendance, said that alcohol-exposed pregnancies are not a stigma unique to Native communities alcohol is consumed globally.

Getty told the crowd she is Irish and noted the recent St. Patrick's Day holiday, which for many is nothing more than a celebration of drinking and intoxication.

"It is a universal, human population problem," Getty said. "It's not just Native populations."

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES**

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country





# bill into law

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) Gov. Chris Gregoire has signed into law a bill that opens the door for dismantlingstatejurisdiction American Indian tribes.

Signed into law March tribes themselves.

Washington state in 1963

Taking effect in June, the law requires both the governor and the federal Department of Interior to agree to the state ceding its authority. That is done in consultation with state and

The state will retain the ability to civilly commit those it deems to be sexually

## **Native American**

lisa@nativetimes.com

### Governor signs tribal retrocession

19, the measure creates a procedure for a tribe to ask the state to cede its jurisdiction over criminal and civil matters to the federal government and the

assumed jurisdiction over matters including juvenile delinquency, truancy, mental illness, adoption proceedings and motor vehicle traffic on tribal lands.

local elected leaders.

violent predators.

#### hiring preference? Advertise to Native Americans!

FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to

# Artists depict Wounded Knee massacre, 1973 occupation

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – Jerry Fogg was just a teenager when he was handed a gun and told to help guard the South Dakota town of Wounded Knee during one of the most public displays of protest by the American Indian Movement nearly four decades ago.

For three days, Fogg joined about 200 Oglala Sioux members and their followers as they occupied and seized the town for 71 days.

"It felt like you were guarding a president," the Yankton Sioux tribal member who now resides in Sioux Falls recalled. "I was told if I was to fire, I was to fire over everyone's head."

Fogg is one of nearly 25 artists – both Native and non-Native - from around the country displaying their artwork at Augustana College's Center for Western Studies in Sioux Falls as part of a first-ofits-kind art exhibit and show.

"Interpretations of Wounded Knee 1973 and 1890" is meant to help foster understanding and build stronger relationships between Natives and non-Natives as the 40th anniversary of the Wounded Knee takeover approaches, said Timothy Hoheisel, director of Outreach and Promotion at The Center for Western Studies.

In 1890, the U.S. Army killed Miniconjou Lakota chief Spotted Elk, also known as Big Foot, and 300 of his followers, including women and children, on the banks of the Wounded Knee Creek

"I didn't do anything to Jerry Fogg. My ancestors basically killed his ancestors," said Hoheisel, referring to the 1890 massacre. "By us coming together with this exhibit, there's a chance for reconciliation."

The exhibit is a prelude to the annual Dakota Conference, which brings together professional and amateur historians and researchers to present papers on a particular topic relevant to Northern Plains history. The theme for this year's

conference is "Wounded Knee 1973: Forty Years Later." The event, scheduled for April 27-28, is bringing together all sides from the occupation – former American Indian Movement members, federal agents and prosecutors, and journalists and bystanders who witnessed the uprising.

"This one has a bit of an edge to it, as we anticipated it would," said Harry Thompson, executive director for The Center for Western Studies.

This is the first time in the conference's 44-year history that there has been an art show to go along with the conference. Hoheisel said it fit well with this year's theme.

The exhibit, which runs through May 26, includes two-dimensional and threedimensional pieces in various art forms.

In one oil-on-canvas painting - titled "Still Hanging on the Res" by artist Bruce Preheim of Vermillion, S.D. - Christ, a feather atop his head, is shown crucified.

"We crucify Christ every day by not dealing with Native American disparity and rights," Preheim wrote in his artist description of the piece.

Red paint covers half the canvas in "Last Stand II (Massacre at Wounded Knee)" by Sioux Falls artist Kevin Bierbaum, who is not Native American. Hoheisel said the red paint depicts the blood from the massacre.

In "Archive," one of Fogg's pieces about the 1890 killings, the history lies in the

A map of Wounded Knee Creek drawn by a soldier moments before the killings acts as the bottom layer of the work. On top of that, there's another sheet with the names of those who died or were wounded. An actual broken hoop is placed in the center, representing the end of the Native's freedom to choose. Inside the hoop Fogg shows Chief Spotted Elk



'Still Hanging Around the Res' by Bruce Preheim

frozen in the winter cold.

Metal pins represent the 7th Cavalry, while a small pair of moccasins with a hair plume is in honor of the children killed. Thirty-eight 1890 Indian head pennies line the bottom of the piece, with an 1890 silver dollar in the middle that is meant to "give attention to a dreadful time that should never be forgotten or repeated," Fogg wrote in his artist note.

Fogg spent three months working on the piece and hopes it will help remind today's young people to remember and honor the past.

"You should remember. There's a story behind every work," he said.

If you go...

THE CENTER FOR WESTERN STUDIES AT AUGUSTANA COLLEGE: 2001 S. Summit Ave., Sioux Falls; http://www.augie. edu/cws or 605-274-4007. "Interpretations of Wounded Knee 1973 and 1890" through May 26. Open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Closed Sundays and major holidays. Free.

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

### PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

> **INDIAN LAW PROBATE ADOPTIONS**

RESTRICTED LAND **ISSUES** 

**SOCIAL SECURITY** DISABILITY



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA

VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

### **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# COMMENTARY

# Stunned by Tonto: A new and improved version?



S.E. RUCKMAN

It was less than perfect. The publicity still of a new Tonto character by Johnny Depp was destined to polarize views on the depiction of American Indians. I read that some folks loved it and some hated it. I think I may fall into the stunned category.

Having been a longtime Depp fan, I have tried to see virtually all of his movies because what he does is done so well. I even loved his depiction of the novelist, Hunter S. Thompson, as a kind of LSD Lone Ranger in "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas."

But I am getting a dose of fear and loathing at this moment as I consider the open season it continues to be on Indian stereotypes. We are

a country in which only a very small majority of people admit to having prejudice of some type. Most of us like to think of ourselves as very in tune and hip to the idea of race as a reality in America: We are all one big happy melting pot.

I read recently an essay in which a writer offered that we should be grateful that it was Depp who portrayed the icon Tonto. Furthermore, it was intimated that we had bigger fish to fry in Indian Country (I assume this meant social ills) than to whine about how Tonto was portrayed.

Years ago, one of the actors who portrayed Tonto (Mohawk actor, Jay Silverheels) was named "Indian of the Year," at a local Indian fair. As befitting an Indian pioneer in media culture, he was fawned over by all. I remember him smiling from one side at my mom's Kodak Instamatic because by then he was recovering from a stroke.

It's safe to say that Silverheels' era in Hollywood has long evolved. Even in this semi-enlightened state, we view a round robin of Indian characters regularly played by a handful of actors. The portrayal of American Indians in popular culture is the stuff of doctoral theses.

But chiding the Indian populace that life is bad enough and that we should embrace a modern Tonto interpretation is just short of incredulous. This is a hot topic and one way to keep it relevant is to keep talking about it.

It might serve to remember that the propagation of stereotypes is not only limited to Native peoples. It crosses every racial barrier in full effect. It has been suggested that profiling was a factor in the recent shooting of an African American teenager in Florida by a neighborhood watch leader. This is not to say that the new Tonto portrayal will lead to bloodshed but it does point to the sustained powerful effects of stereotypes in our society.

To insinuate that a tepid portrayal of Indians for public viewing rings blameless is lame. Stereotypes can reduce people to an emblematic decal rather than represent acceptance. Besides, I would venture that most of Indian Country's social ills like suicide, domestic violence; alcoholism and unemployment have a root somewhere in the negative perception by the dominant culture. Surface appraisals are rarely harmless.

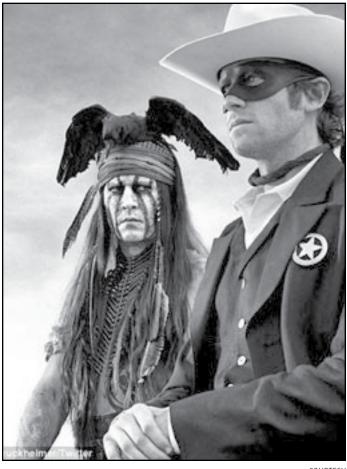
Fixing those problems is a high priority and I know people whose whole lives are dedicated to this very cause. But as I have learned, problem solving is only momentary if no room for growth exists to those in the inferior position. Ignoring negative stereotypes of native people stunts the potential for growth because the perception remains in others' hands. Going along for the sake of getting along is appeasement by a different name. History has proven that approach never works.

Problems exist in Indian Country, no doubt. Life on the reservations or predominantly Indian towns continues to be difficult thanks in part to the enduring nature of negative stereotypes. I could list a few reservation border towns to illustrate this point but I don't want to be guilty of negative connotations myself.

Yet as the new and improved version of Tonto makes clear, Indian culture remains free enterprise to anyone who can sew a stuffed crow to a head band and wear grease paint.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of

Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.



Movie producer Jerry Bruckenheimer released this photo from the upcoming Lone Ranger movie starring Armie Hammer in the title role and Johnny Depp as Tonto.

### Turtle Mountain Times: 'Jiggers' said he wanted a newspaper



TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

The man on the phone said simply, "We want you to help our tribe start a weekly newspaper."

The man on the line was Richard J. "Jiggers" LaFramboise, then chairman of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and the year was 1992.

I flew up to the Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota not too long after that call and met with Jiggers and his staff. We discussed the ways and means of starting a newspaper, set a price and got down to

the business of starting a newspaper in Belcourt, the main community on the reservation.

Turtle Mountain is in the Northeastern part of North Dakota right on the Canadian border. In fact you can cross into Canada from Turtle Mountain.

Back in the old days when the French Canadians and the improve communications on Metis played an important role on many of the Northern Indian reservations, one of their favorite things was a fiddle and a dance known as the jig. In his youth Richard LaFramboise was quite handy at doing the jig, and hence the nickname "Jiggers."

Well, Jiggers had his mind set on economic development. He secured a contract with the federal government using a closed military plant to construct trailers. The contract brought 200 new jobs to Turtle Mountain where the unemployment rate hovered at 50 percent. With money left over from the block grant, he built the Heritage Center. He also built the community bowling alley and added new businesses to the tribal

mall. Jiggers brought the tribe's gross income from \$23 million in 1992 to \$200 million in 1994.

tribe's schools, The community college and the reservations roads and highways all saw considerable improvements during Jiggers' terms in office.

But in 1992 he wanted to the reservation. He already had a radio station, KEYA-FM, but now Jiggers wanted a newspaper because he was a firm believer in the power of the press.

I told him that he had to choose a strong editor because knowing tribal politics as both of us did, the time would come when politicians would find a reason to interfere with the freedom of the press. Jiggers chose Robin Poitra Powell as his editor and then he picked Shirley Belgarde and Logan Davis as staff members.

The training took several weeks. Powell, Belgarde and Davis flew down to Rapid City and started working daily at Indian Country Today, the paper I owned

back then. Powell dug into the editorial side of the paper working diligently with our writers, proof readers and editors. Davis worked with my then sales manager Lynette Two Bulls and the advertising sales staff, and Belgarde worked every day with Christy Tibbetts and the bookkeeping and office crew. We figured we would then have an editor to put out the newspaper every week, a sales manager to bring advertising dollars to the paper, and an office manager to handle all of the accounts payable and receivable. That would give the paper a strong nucleus.

Our next step was to find a location at Turtle Mountain and to purchase the equipment necessary for a start-up. I talked Rick Musser, a professor of journalism at the University of Kansas, to join our efforts. Musser and I, plus several of our staff members, drove up to Turtle Mountain to complete this next step. The Tribe offered one of the newly constructed homes to house the new venture and we got on the phone to order desks, file cabinets, chairs

and, of course, computers. Musser worked with the team that had just returned from Rapid City in organizing the office and staff and to prepare for the first issue of the paper that would be named The Turtle Mountain Times.

After all of the phones and other electronic equipment was in place, the Turtle Mountain Times hit the streets in June of 1993. Next year the newspaper will be celebrating its 20th anniversary and of all of the employees who trained in those beginning days, Shirley Belgarde is still working at the paper. Others have moved on, but the newspaper is still hitting the streets every Wednesday.

Belgarde said, "We still have to survive every new administration change and each time this happens we are often threatened with having our funding reduced or cut altogether, but that's tribal politics and we are about to face another administration change."

I know how that goes because after "Jiggers" left office the new administration decided that the debt he incurred in starting the Turtle Mountain Times was no longer relevant, and my company was left holding the bag. It was a lesson learned and life goes on as does the newspaper that we got off of the ground.

I am still very proud of the Turtle Mountain Times because it survived for nearly 20 years in the face of economic downturns and the ever-changing administrations. had a dream and that dream became a reality. To Shirley Belgarde and those early newspaper pioneers, I say congratulations, good luck, and keep the presses rolling.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
□ \$16.25 for 13 issues □ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com Equal Housing Lender Native American Owned



'Changing the culture of waste."

NATIVE

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you? Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

www.nativetimes.com

### Senate votes to honor 'Mrs. Swing'

BOISE, Idaho (AP) - At least March 23, famed Idaho jazz star Mildred Rinker Bailey would have no reason to sing the blues.

The Senate unanimously followed the House in backing a resolution honoring Bailey for her contributions to American music.

It's part of the Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe's bid to win recognition for one of its members in the Jazz at Lincoln Center Hall of Fame



Mildred Bailey

in New York. Bailey grew up on the Center's list of greats.

reservation near Desmet before hitting it big in California.

Before she died in 1951, she was credited with helping launch Bing Crosby's career.

In 1994, Bailey was featured on a 29-cent U.S. Postal Service stamp.

But the tribe figures the woman known as "Mrs. Swing" and "The Rockin' Chair Lady" should also be enshrined in the Lincoln

### Indians join fight vs. Nevada bear hunt

**MARTIN GRIFFITH** Associated Press

RENO, Nev. (AP) - A group of Native Americans is joining the fight against Nevada's black bear hunt and criticizing what they call a wildlife official's racist remark about it.

The group complained about a comment made at a Washoe County wildlife advisory board meeting last week by its chairman, Rex Flowers.

Flowers told the group of about eight Paiute, Washoe and Shoshone tribal members he didn't want to "hear of bows and arrows" because his panel was committed to the bear hunt, said Raquel Arthur, spokeswoman for the northern Nevada chapter of the American Indian Movement. Arthur also was personally insulted by being addressed as "sir" at the meeting, she said.

"We were offended. It was racist, pure and simple," Arthur said.

Flowers declined comment.

Opponents of the state's bear hunt called Gov. Brian Sandoval's office to complain about the remarks.

"The comments are not reflective of the governor's position," Sandoval spokeswoman Mary-Sarah Kinner said March 23. "If remarks like this were made, he believes they are offensive and have no place in public or private discourse, and Mr. Flowers owes an apology."

Randal Massaro, spokesman for Union Members for the Preservation of Wildlife, said Flowers phoned later and apologized for the remarks.

"He stated in no way did he ever mean to insult, degrade or disrespect Native Americans ... and (he) would be more than happy to make a public apology to them and anyone else that took the (bow and arrow) comment the wrong way," Massaro said.

Someone else made a comment that bears would be shot with AK-47 assault rifles, said Massaro, who helped coordinate Native American opposition to the bear hunt.

Last Friday's hearing held by state wildlife commissioners in Reno was on a proposal to close portions of the Lake Tahoe basin to bear hunters.

"We believe bears are sacred," Arthur said, adding her group thinks the state's black bear population is insufficient to sustain a hunt.

Fourteen bears were killed during Nevada's inaugural bear hunt that ended Dec. 31.

## HEALING

Continued from Page 1

Behind Totah's administrative building is a large yard with a fenced-in sweat lodge and a traditional hogan used for ceremonies.

Counselors approach recovery in creative ways. Men who arrive at the center from jail often go through sweat lodge ceremonies to purify their bodies. Patients are encouraged to speak in Navajo and search for their 30 percent have permanent other health agencies need families and clans.

"A lot of them have abandonment issues," said Anna Holiday, the traditional services coordinator for Totah. "I tell them to reconnect with themselves and do research on their families."

David Johnson, one of the first clients to go through the Totah program, failed to recover from his alcohol addiction at court-ordered rehabilitation at places like the DWI treatment center in San Juan County.

He said the trust and respect incorporated into the Totah recovery program helped him to stop drinking.

"Some people can handle being told what to do and how to live their lives. I didn't like that," Johnson said. "These guys trusted me."

Though no longer receiving treatment for his alcohol addiction, Johnson still spends time at Totah, including attending weekly breakfasts at the facility.

After years living on Farmington streets, Johnson now has a home, a driver's license and a van. He works as a groundskeeper at Bethany Christian Church.

In addition to 50 percent of the clients finding employment after discharge, homes and 75 percent report continuing to abstain from alcohol, according to patient surveys from the last six years.

"We're not a cookie-cutter program," Carlson said. "It makes us successful ... and it can make it harder to get funding."

Totah has about an \$800,000 budget and treats between 300 and 400 people per year, Carlson said.

At Totah's request, county commissioners recently voted to add the agency to the list of providers that can access San Juan County's Indigent Health Care Fund. The fund consists primarily of gross receipts taxes and can be used by people without health insurance seeking medical treatment.

In 2011, San Juan County reduced the amount of funding it provided to Totah from \$80,000 annually to \$40,000. The agency has also seen a dip in funding from the state. By accessing the county's indigent fund, it can continue its services, Carlson said.

Questions remain about how Totah will gather the needed information to access county indigent funds. Liza Gomez, the indigent program director, said patients from to fill out forms that include social security numbers and addresses.

She was also unaware of how much money Totah will take from the indigent fund each year. It will likely draw between \$40,000 and \$80,000 annually, she said.

"It will be tricky," Renaud said. "It's fantastic the county was willing to (add Totah to the Indigent Health Care Fund). But it's going to be tough on our part to get the documentation people need to qualify. That population is not walking around with a lot of tax forms."

Information from: The Daily Times, http://www.daily-times.



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com



#### **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

Thursday, April 19:

DR. TERRY CLINE

Commissioner of Health

**KEVIN COLLINS** 

Prevention

Oklahoma State Department of Health

Centers for Disease Control and

**Conference Location:** 

Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Rd., Midwest City, Oklahoma

#### **REGISTRATION IS FREE**

PLEASE COMPLETE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PARTICIPANT

Please check the dates that you plan to attend:	April 17	April 18	April 19
Name:			
(Please print legibly)			
Organization/Tribe			
Address:			
City, State, Zip Code:			
Telephone:	Fax:		
E-mail:			
Please let us know if you have any spe	cial needs:		
``			
4			
To Register, please ma	il, fax or e-mail c	ompleted form	to:

Linda Robertson Office of Tribal Liaison 1000 N.E. 10th St. Oklahoma City OK 73117 Phone: 405/271-9444 EXT 56420 Fax: 405/271-1225 Email: lindaj@health.ok.gov

To Book Lodging: Sheraton at Reed Center (405/455-1800 Or copy the following link into a web browser http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1201190271&key=6994D

### TRADE

Continued from Page 1

Many of the eagle fans and feathers used now in traditional ceremonies have been handed down for generations, since long before eagles were protected by any law.

that he baited eagles with deer ribs and would sneak up on the feasting birds and shoot them. The document said he also disclosed to the informant that he sold eagles with a partner in Arizona and could get \$2,500 to \$3,500 per bird.

FWS and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Billings declined to provide even general information on how big a problem eagle trafficking is in Montana and the region.

The Crow Tribe's Fish and Game Code has protections for eagles that mirror federal statutes, said Burton Pretty On Top, Crow cultural director. The traditional Crow spiritual leader knows firsthand how long it can take to get the eagle parts needed but said he recognizes that the eagle population needs to be protected and honored.

"You follow the law; you respect the eagle," he said. "You don't sell eagles for profit. I don't know what their (the Crow eagle defendants') purpose is. I don't condone

their action."

Pretty On Top said that on one of his 12 vision quests, he went to the Crazy Mountains and fasted for four days and nights.

"One time an eagle came to me and spoke to me and I was adopted by him," he said. "I was up in the air flying with eagles."

He uses eagles for peyote ceremonies at the Native American Church and for naming ceremonies. He has been asked 33 times to preside at naming ceremonies, where Crow names are given to young people.

"I ask God for a special blessing for those people who I give names for," he said. "I firmly believe that the eagle is my sacred helper."

He has waited years for eagles from FWS National Repository in Denver. He has received two and is waiting for a third.

"Anyone can do as I have done. Eventually, when your time is right, you will get an eagle," he said.

Conrad Fisher, historic preservation officer for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, said people do get frustrated when they can't have ready access to eagle feathers that have been an important part of spiritual life going back thousands of years. It's not just the Cheyenne, he said. More consultation with FWS is essential to help protect Native Americans' spiritual needs, he said.

"The tribes are realizing

they need to play a role in how feathers should be distributed," he said. "We've got to have something in place – otherwise there's a lot of trafficking going on."

Jerome Whitehip, who works with the Crow Cultural Department, said, "Some members of the tribe made a mistake killing eagles and selling feathers, which is not right. At the Cultural Department we try to educate people not to do that."

Many of the eagle fans and feathers used now in traditional ceremonies have been handed down for generations, since long before eagles were protected by any law. Whitehip's own war bonnet has served four generations of his family.

He resents any implication that eagle poaching is uniquely an Indian Country problem. Farmers and ranchers who poisoned and shot eagles to protect their livestock brought eagles to the brink of extinction, not tribal members taking a few for religious purposes, he

"We respect tribal law and federal law," Whitehip said.

In times long past, hunters seldom killed eagles, he said.

"They'd take the feathers they needed and let them go," he said. "Before Europeans came, we didn't have any endangered species."

Information from: Billings Gazette, http://www. billingsgazette.com

### **EAGLE**

The repository makes twice-monthly shipments of eagle parts that the recipients use for powwows, naming ceremonies and funerals from Alaska to Florida.

Which leaves, effectively, one source for the bald and golden eagle parts that American Indians consider a sacred link between the human and spiritual realms: this room.

"This is definitely very, very important to Native people," said Bernadette Atencio, supervisor of the repository, who stood between the lab bench and two walk-in freezers where racks of eagle bodies hung, waiting to be shipped. There are more than 6,000 licensed members of federally enrolled tribes on the waiting list; some have lingered almost five years.

"I had no idea it was so involved," said Robin Johnson, 60, the birdloving commuter who first sighted the female eagle in Northern Virginia. "I'm glad to think of her being used like that, rather than just dying out by the tracks. It's very spiritual."

The final chapter of the Alexandria eagle's life began one evening last month on Johnson's regular Blue Line run from her job at a downtown law firm to her home in Fairfax Station. Somewhere between the Van Dorn Street and Braddock Road stations, a dark blur caught her eye. A glimpse of white-feathered head confirmed it: a bald eagle, not eight feet from the train window, flapping against a fence.

"I thought it might have been eating something," she said. "I was so excited. I told everybody at work, 'Oh my gosh, I saw a bald eagle.'?"

She was less excited the next day when the bird was still in the same spot. Healthy eagles don't hang out by train tracks. She got in touch with the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia, a rescue group, and then she and her husband got in the car. Driving along back streets near the tracks, they finally found the eagle next to a high chain-link fence. Its left wing clearly was damaged.

A couple of days later, on Feb. 25, Metro officials had organized a rescue run. A six-car train left King Street Station that afternoon, empty except for the train operator, three transit police officers, an Alexandria animal control officer and three volunteers from the conservancy. They found the injured eagle in some brambles about 300 yards past the Van Dorn

Finding hurt and dead eagles in the Washington region has become increasingly common as the species's population has continued to rebound nationwide. Bald eagles were removed from the federal endangered species list in 2007. Some Native American tribes are pushing for the right to kill eagles for religious ceremonies, rather than wait years for the repository to deliver them. This month, the Fish and Wildlife Service granted its first-ever permit for the Northern Arapaho tribe in Wyoming to kill two bald eagles for religious purposes - a decision that has been questioned by some conservation and animal rights groups but reflects the dramatic comeback of the eagles.

"They're doing fantastic," said Matt Whitbeck, a wildlife biologist at the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge near Cambridge, on Maryland's Eastern Shore. In a census in January, 168 bald eagles were counted in the refuge. That's up from fewer than 25 birds in the 1980s.

But more living eagles mean more dead eagles, including birds hit by cars and planes and electrocuted on high-voltage lines. "We're going to see more and more of this sort of thing as the birds try to coexist with humans in places where they didn't used to be," Whitbeck said.

Kent Knowles, the Virginia conservancy's president, has already shipped five dead eagles to the Denver facility this year. Initially, he was hopeful that the Alexandria bird could be rehabilitated. But after the rescuers threw a net over it, took it back to the train and rushed it to the veterinarian, hope faded.

"As soon as I saw the X-ray, I knew what was going to happen," Knowles said. Whatever had collided with the eagle - he suspects a train - had ripped its left wing off just below the joint, making a stable amputation

After notifying federal wildlife officials of the findings, the vet injected a lethal dose of pentobarbital.

Knowles put the body of the eightpound bird in a black plastic bag, sealed it and put it in a freezer in his basement. A few days later, the Fish and Wildlife Service sent a cardboard box and a packing label for Denver.

"This is not one of our more fun jobs, I tell you," Knowles said as he nestled the bag into the packing peanuts and placed a sheet of paper reading "EUTHANIZED" on the top. "We're here to help these birds."

A FedEx truck has to negotiate four miles of remote road to reach the Eagle Repository, housed in a vast and largely empty former Army chemical weapons facility. Inside, a lobby display is filled with stuffed polar bears, cobra-skin boots and other illegally trafficked wildlife contraband that has been confiscated by federal officers.

But in the lab, it's all eagles. A stack of shipping cartons sat near Wiist's table, which was covered with lopping shears, pliers and the other tools of dismembering large birds. The repository receives about a 2,400 eagles a year from refuges and rehab centers around the country.

Wiist processes 25 to 30 birds a day, spending 10 or 15 minutes on each.

He doesn't seek a cause of death, preserve or clean the bird in any way. He merely checks to see which parts are suitable for filling the requests of Native Americans, which range from loose feathers to whole birds.

Some eagles, which may have been lying dead in the wild for weeks, are too decayed to use. Others offer feathers, under plumes, maybe talons. If parts are missing or rotten, Wiist will borrow from other birds.

"I'm noted for being picky," Wiist said, a spectacular view of the distant Rocky Mountains in the window behind him. "People have waited a long time for these birds, and it means a lot to them."

He quickly fanned the right wing of the Alexandria eagle, counting 10 primary feathers, 14 secondary. The feathers were intact but worn, probably from its time flailing by the

"It was getting ready to molt," he said beneath his mask as he flipped the bird over to look at its left side. "Ah, this wing is pretty much torn

Because the bird was injected with a killing drug, the repository will not use the trunk. Some tribes may use the organs for medicine bags, Atencio said, and officials don't want to risk contamination.

Wiist's verdict: The Alexandria eagle will provide a right wing, tail feathers and its head. Each part may fill a specific order, or be make other birds whole.

He reached for the heavy shears. The repository makes twice-

monthly shipments of eagle parts that the recipients use for powwows, naming ceremonies and funerals from Alaska to Florida.

"We don't ask what they want to do with them," Atencio said. "Some are pretty secretive. The most interesting ones are probably the ones we don't know about. "

Most go to members of tribes in the Plains states or the Pacific Northwest. But some come to the D.C. area.

Marian Hansson of Indian Head, near La Plata, received 112 eagle feathers from the repository in 2010. A member of the Kiowa Tribe, most of whose members live in Oklahoma, she wove them into the headdress she wore for a ceremony marking her son's military service.

Honoring warriors is an ancient use of eagle feathers, Hansson said, recalling her grandparents' stories of such ceremonies.

"They represented a warrior's valor and served as a reward for his coming back alive," said Hansson, who also has an eagle feather fan from her mother and a cluster of feathers from a medicine bundle passed down from her paternal grandmother.

Hansson had to wait four years for her feathers from the repository, but she said she never considered tapping the robust black market in eagle parts. A single feather can fetch \$150, according to Fish and Wildlife Service officials. A whole bald eagle can go for up to \$2,000; golden eagles, which are in higher demand, are even more expensive. (The tribes are not charged for what they receive from the federal repository.)

There also are Web sites offering "legal" eagle feathers, which are typically painted turkey plumes.

But for tradition-minded tribe members, there is no substitute for the real raptor. And if that requires waiting for an eagle to die somewhere like Alexandria and for the wheels of the federal government to slowly turn, well, they take the long view.

"The eagle is considered a messenger between human beings and our creator," explained Dennis W. Zotigh, cultural specialist at the National Museum of the American Indian in the District. "It's our most widespread object of ceremonial use, and has been since prehistory."

Information from: The Washington Post, http://www.washingtonpost.

# CLASSIFIEDS















#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

# HEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

> **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** Positions Close: 03/30/2012

#6329 R/FT Medical Technologist; W.W. Hastings Hospital, Tahlequah

#5998 T/PT Medical Technologist;

W.W. Hastings Hospital, Tahlequah Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

> **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Check nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

#### **Records Administrator**

Under the direct supervision of the Education Director, employee administers and implements routine operations that support the Education Department to include these programs: Adult Education, College, Vocational, Johnson O'Malley and Tribal Education Assistant Program. Employee maintains records management of the Education database. Greets and assists clients in person or on the phone. Performs general office support functions. Oversees data entry into the Education database. Ensures that system records are accurately recorded and periodically audits data. Inputs, generates and maintains program records, supportive information such as spreadsheets, and files on clients. Responsible for creating and printing detailed reports and querying the database. Performs general office support functions.

1-2 years college experience, 1-2 years customer service experience and 1-2 years of database management is required, Associate's Degree in Business Administration, Marketing or related field is preferred.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe is an equal Opportunity Employer. Native American preference will be observed. All appointments are subject to drug screening and background checks.

Please submit employment application to Human Resources, 8151 Hwy 177, Red Rock, OK. 74651 by 4:30 p.m., April 4, 2012 or email to hr@omtribe.org. An application form can be found at www.omtribe.org (Human Resources\Forms). Resumes are accepted but will not substitute for application.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 



Sac & Fox Nation Casino is accepting Applications for **General Manager** 

Qualifications: Bachelors Degree in Business / Marketing Strong Leadership Skills Casino Management Experience

Applicants must pass background and drug screen. Native American preference is recognized.

Submit resume by fax @ 405-395-0790 or visit our website at sandfcasino.com to apply online

Up to \$169,700 for school! Enter the Navy BDCP program today! Focus on your grades, and have a future career w/NO Limits! Jobs\_Dallas@navy.mil 877-628-9562

#### **Request for Qualifications**

RFQ / RFP

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is advertising for Construction Management Services for the renovation of the Tribal Ceremonial Roundhouse which is located at 900 Agency Road on the Pawnee Tribal Reserve which is located east of Pawnee, Oklahoma. The complete Request for Qualifications including the criteria that will be used to select the most qualified firm is available upon written request.

Submit your request by fax or email (mrobedeaux@pawneenation.org) and please include your email address and/or your fax number)

Qualifications documents must be received no later than 4:30 pm on Monday, April 9, 2012.

Point of Contact for Information: Muriel Robedeaux, ICDBG Coordinator

Contact: Marshall Gover, President, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, (918) 762-3621. Fax: (918) 762-6446. Attn: ICDBG Ceremonial Roundhouse Project.

# Osage Museum to unveil final 'Osage Ten' bust

KATHRYN RED CORN Osage Nation

Pawhuska, Okla. - The Tribal Museum, Osage Library & Archives, the oldest tribally-owned museum in the country, will commemorate the unveiling of the final Osage bust of THE OSAGE TEN on Saturday, April 28, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Constantine Theatre, 110 W. Main, in Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

The creation of The Osage Ten began over 100 years ago in Pawhuska when molds and pictures were made of ten live models from the Osage Tribe and cast into full-size plaster busts by Smithsonian Institution's Department of Natural History. The Smithsonian created this collection to be displayed

at the California-Panama Canal Exposition in 1915-16 as part of "The Evolution of Man" exhibit. Millions of people from around the world attended this historical event.

During the past seven years, the Osage Tribal Museum has been collaborating with the Smithsonian in obtaining replicas of The Osage Ten to be permanently displayed at the museum. This exhibit collection will bring to life again these Osage tribal members and, in a sense, bring them home to be honored and remembered of an era long

Descendants of Albert Penn, the first replica bust to be unveiled in 2005, retrieved and donated their ancestors bust to the Osage Tribal Museum. The other busts that have been donated in the past six years are: Shun-kah-molah, Charles McDougan, Wah-To-Ke-Ah (William Fletcher), Henry Pratt, Ah-Hu-Shin-Kah (Little Wing), Che-Sho-Wah-Ke-Pah (Fidelis Cole), Wa-Xthi-Zhi (Charles Wah-Hre-She), and Wah-Noh-She-Shin-Ki (Principal Chief Fred Lookout).

After the final bust of Wahhrah-lum-pah (Margaret Goode) is unveiled on April 28, she will take her place with the other nine Osages on permanent exhibit at the Osage Tribal Museum, the only location in the world to view an exhibit of this kind.

A lunch will follow the unveiling hosted by the Osage Tribal Museum and Spyglass Energy Group, L.L.C.

# Bacone hosts H2O exhibit

Bacone College

spring art exhibition

to Oklahoma's Water Issue. The along the Illinois, Cimarron, this event to serve as a reflection art exhibition will inaugurate Arkansas, Verdigris, and North of our sovereignty and hope for the public exhibition space in the new Merritt Donaghy Betts availability for our local water Library on Bacone's campus.

gas prices have skyrocketed and been thrown around as political ballyhoo, critical water issues have been rising like the slow moving floods of the Mississippi River. These issues include the persistent statewide drought; the litigation between the State of Oklahoma and the Choctaw

the water rights for Sardis and scholarship. We conceive of MUSKOGEE, Okla. - The Lake and other similar cases; this as an opportunity to serve BaconeCollegeArtDepartment and the extensive personal and as a conduit through which is pleased to announce the economic woes related to the dialogue and creativity might 100-year and 500-year floods flow through our community. H2OK: The Native Responses that have struck the state We embrace the potential of Canadian Rivers. The projected the future." resources reveals the delicate America Meredith, Heather "In the last few years, while relationship between human Ahtone, and Tony Tiger. populations and the water the discussion about renewable that is needed to sustain them. April 2 and run through May energy, especially wind, have For indigenous communities 14,2012 with an artist reception water is recognized as an agent on April 14th 4:30-6:30 at the for community engagement, Merritt Donaghy Betts Library personal transformation and 2408 East Shawnee Muskogee, spiritual renewal.

> this project is conceived as an of Art Bacone College at opportunity to examine water tigert@bacone.edu for more currents from any and all of information.

> and Chickasaw Nations over these perspectives through art

The exhibition is curated by

The exhibition will open OK

For these reasons, and others, Contact Tony Tiger Director





# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org Words. For events and times,

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma**  Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal CCC Rally in The Valley Youth

Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City,

Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 31** Tulsa Library's Festival of call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www. tulsalibrary.org.

**THROUGH MAY** Free beginner-level **Cherokee language classes** in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

MARCH 31

**Powwow at Coffeyville Community College. A youth** competition and intertribal powwow. Doors open at Noon. Call Taylor Davis at 620-251-7700 ext. 2092.

**Bacone College Stomp** Dance on campus in the Warrior Gym. All ceremonial grounds, shell shakers, leaders, and visitors are welcome to participate. Free to attend and open to the public. Info (918) 360-3935 or kamps@bacone.edu

Wild Onion Dinner at Pickett **Chapel United Methodist** Church, 17610 S. Hickory Sapulpa, Ok, 5 miles south of Sapulpa on Hickory, 11am to 3pm. \$8 adults, \$4.00 12 and under. Proceeds to benefit our Oklahoma Indian **Missionary Conference** annual apportionments. Info: 918-321-3109

**Birthday Celebration for** Florabelle Franklin Yeahpau Wolf - 91 years Young. St. Patricks Catholic church - Parish Hall, Anadarko OK., 10 a.m - 5 p.m. Please bring a covered dish. Meat will be provided.

**APRIL 3-5** OSHA 10-hour class. \$10 fee - free for all TERO and 477 participants. Info and registration call Pawnee **Nation Education Division** 918-762-3227.

APRIL 6 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM

- 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**APRIL 7** Indian Taco Sale 8 am to 4pm APRIL 14 \$7.00 with drink and desert Call in orders welcome 918-752-5300. Duck Creek Community Ranch House, 10071 Ferguson Road Beggs, OK. Look for signs. Call Sue Walker 918-381-3793 or Jacqueline Rolland 918-752-5300

All You Can Eat Wild Onion Dinner 11 am -? at Springfield Church, 2 miles South on Hwy 27 from Okemah Exit, four miles East, then 2 miles South. Follow Signs. \$9 per person \$5 for children 12 & under.

**Tulsa Creek Indian Community Wild Onion Dinner from 11-3 at 8611 S** Union Ave, Tulsa OK 74132 Ph: (918) 298-2464

**Ponca Gourd Dance 9th Annual Spring Dance White Eagle Cultural Center** 5 miles south of Ponca City, OK (580) 268-3313

**APRIL 9-14** Symposium of the American Indian, Northeastern State University, University Center, Tahlequah, OK .Hosted By: NSU Center for Tribal Studies. All events are FREE

and open to the public

**APRIL 13-14, NSU Powwow, University** Center, NSU Tahlequah, OK Info call the Center for Tribal Studies, 918-444-4350 or tribalstudies@nsuok.edu

Wild Onion Dinner, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, Sac & Fox Multipurpose Center, 215 N. Harrison, Shawnee, OK, Sponsored by: Seminole Hitchitee Methodist Church, Adults - \$10/plate / Children - \$7/plate (8 and under)

Rodeo Queen Pageant 10 am at Rockin DJ Arena, Tahlequah. Must have CDIB and ride alone. Info call Shirley Martin 918-642-5387.

Oklahoma Indian Missionary **Conference SW District Churches Benefit Powwow** at Comanche Nation Center, Apache, Okla. Gourd Dance at 2pm. More info call Aneeda Harjo 580-704-0106 or Tina Baker 580-591-1579.

**All Gourd Honor Dance** for Micheal Tsotaddle at Red Buffalo Hall, Carnegie, OK, 2p.m. - ? For more information call Darla Tsotaddle (405) 432-8377 or Mavis Tsotaddle (580) 654-1704.

APRIL 21 **Inaugural Native American Conference & Powwow at** Victory Christian Center/ Activity Center, 7700 S.

Lewis, Tulsa, Ok. Info call Stephen Loi 918.491.7830 or 918.346.4303

APRIL 24 Native American Art Festival, Tulsa Hard Rock Hotel. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. sponsored by Seminole Nation of Okla. For booth space contact [walker.s@sno-nsn.gov] or 405-257-7241 by April 16.

APRIL 27 **Kiowa Higher Education Graduates Banquet at Cross Timbers Restaurant in** Anadarko, OK. Info call 580-654-2300 ext. 324

APRIL 28 "O-SKOO" Co-Ed Basketball Tournament (All Indun) PRE-"O-SKOO" ~ 30 YRS TO 39 YRS & "O-SKOO" ~ 40 YRS TO ??? YRS. \$50.00 Entry fee. 8 Man Roster: 4 Ole Men & 4 Ole Women. For more info, call Tonkawa Tribe Education Programs: 580-628-2561 LISA ext 125 or LEAH ext 131. Fund Raiser for end of summer WIA Youth trip!

**Church Fundraiser for New** Joy Baptist Church 11:00 to 5:00, 1103 South Main, Sapulpa. All you can eat spaghetti lunch - Cost \$8 All proceeds will go towards the church and church events. Call Jimmy Alexander 918-322-5407

**Seminole Nation Honor Guard Powwow** at Okfuskgee County Fairgrounds, Okemah, Okla.

# **UKB** offering one-time reinstatement to rolls

M. THOMAS JORDAN

UKB Communications Office

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is giving former tribal citizens a one-time opportunity to be reinstated into the tribe.

As the UKB Membership Ordinance does not have a provision for relinquished members to come back to the tribe, this is a one-time chance to come back.

Chief Wickliffe said some members were coerced into relinquishing from the tribe to receive medical care or job opportunities that were not available to them while they remained members of the UKB and now they have one chance to return to the tribe.

The idea for reinstatement

was discussed in council for at least the last seven years. The council took formal action in the January council meeting by appointing a five-member ad hoc committee to process reinstatement requests for approval by the full council.

The tribal enrollment office is processing reinstatement requests March 26 through April 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during regular business days. Requests can be up to one page handwritten or half a page typed.

The requests should state why the former member relinquished and why they want to be reinstated with the UKB. The former member must provide a good reason for being reinstated and must have a good attitude.

During this time, the enrollment committee is available to attend district meetings to answer questions about the reinstatement process.

The actual requests must be turned in at the enrollment office in the UKB Community Services Building at the tribal complex or mailed to the enrollment office. Mailed requests need to be received in enrollment by 5 p.m. on April 19 at the latest.

Former members can, also, request that a reinstatement form be mailed to them.

Mail reinstatement requests to C/O UKB Enrollment Department P.O. Box 746 Tahlequah, OK 74465.

For more information, call the enrollment department at 918-453-9375.

### SHS students earn art awards

Cherokee Nation Communications Office

MUSKOGEE, Okla. -Three Sequoyah Schools students recently took top honors in the Five Civilized Tribes Museum Student Art Show in Muskogee.

"The arts are an important component of the total emphasis for our students here at Sequoyah Schools, along with academics and athletics," said Geary Don Crofford, Sequoyah's dean of academics. "We are fortunate to have excellent and innovative instructors and leaders in art, music, drama and other areas."

Senior Christie Tiger-Blair won first with her artwork, "Story Telling Time." Her brother and fellow artist, Lisan Tiger-Blair, took first, second and third place in the sculpture category and won the Willard Stone Memorial Award. Rusty Vickery won second place in the cultural items category with his pottery piece, "Homeland of the Cherokee."

"I've had all three of these students in art class at some point during their career at Sequoyah," said Sequoyah art teacher Brandi Adair. "They are each very talented. The work they submitted was exquisite."

The students' artwork will remain on display in Muskogee at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, 1101 Honor Heights Drive, until the end of the month. It is also available for purchase through the museum's store.

For more information on the Sequoyah Schools art program, contact Adair at 918-453-5400 or brandiadair@cherokee.org.

The Five Civilized Tribes Museum will be hosting its next show, Art Under the Oaks, beginning April 1. For more information visit www. fivetribes.org.



### **100 YEARS**

Continued from Page 1

"There was a lot of prejudice," Josephine said of the past. She and Ed talked about the separate drinking fountains, bathrooms and places when there was segregation, including on trains and buses. She was born in 1912 when William Howard Taft was president. She has lived through 18 U.S. presidents at the helm, but said she does not have a favorite.

Josephine was born and raised in Apache, Okla. Her parents are Heva Lena Fisher and James Myers. She wasn't born in a hospital so instead of having a birth certificate, she has a letter from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She has two sisters and six brothers, who have all passed on. Her two children are Ed and Barbara; she was four grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and one

When she grew up it was, "before all these modern things developed." She said it was the "horse and buggy days." Her older brothers, sisters and mother all received allotments and that is where she would sometimes help on her brothers' farm.

"We had cattle too but it was with all of the other farming," she said. "I was too young, I didn't get an allotment."

Josephine said powwows back then, "were just really more formal than they are today. I know I used to dance with my grandmother and my great aunt ... when I was a little girl. I always got teased. You know how the custom was, they give away when you're dancing," she said. "Someone threw some money under me when I was dancing and I wasn't supposed to pick it up. Somebody else was supposed to pick it up. I picked it up myself and took to the stand to go buy some soda pop ... they always tease me about it."

Ed laughed and later added there were no contests at powwows back

then either. Josephine said while growing up in people would go into town to trade.

"I used to go with my grandmother to interpret for her because she didn't know too much English; mostly Comanche," Josephine said. Her grandfather is not Comanche.

"Fisher is German. The old man is from Fredericksburg. He was a captive when he was 10 or 12 years old. He was captured by the Comanches and a family adopted him and he became part of the Comanches. He spoke Comanche fluently," she said. "I understand (Comanche). I don't speak it too much because I don't

have any one to speak to, but if someone talks to me or if I heard someone speaking I understand. I learned it when I was growing up. When we went to boarding school they tried to make us forget, you know, forget that language, but I know when I discovered this one classmate, roommate, and she was from the Shoshone area," Josephine said. "When we found out we could understand each other we used to hide in the closet and talk and compare words. It's very much like the Comanche language, some of it varies a little bit but they're mostly all the same."

When her family left the horse and buggy days behind, Josephine's

family bought a car. She's not sure of the model or how she felt but thought the invention of a car was, "interesting, especially when I first got to ride in it," she said. "We lived out in the country so we drove it to town."

Josephine attended Catholic boarding school at Saint Patrick's Mission in Anadarko. She tried public school for a spell in Boone, Okla. but ended up going to high school at Haskell in Lawrence, Kan.

"I enjoyed attending Haskell ...

enroll in nursing, but I had to take home economics because I wasn't old enough but ... my learning of the home economics was real beneficial to me," Josephine said.

After Haskell, Josephine completed an art education program established by the BIA at Santa Fe Indian School in Santa Fe, N.M. Under the umbrella of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, American Indians were shaped into art teachers and placed in American Indian boarding schools to teach. She said 10 students were



PHOTO COURTESY COMANCHE NATION NEWS

Josephine Myers-Wapp recalls the stand-out moments of her 100 year life following her recent birthday celebration in Anadarko, Okla.

selected for this program, which included her neighbor from Apache, Allan Houser. Josephine studied the fiber and traditional arts curriculum. After graduating she was selected to teach at Chilocco (Oklahoma) Indian School. Josephine married Edward Wapp, Sr. and they had two children. This was before World War II.

"Well, I was teaching at Chilocco," Josephine said. " My children were small and I couldn't get a full time housekeeper so I had to resign to take care of them. We went to California

Apache, Saturdays were the day most whenever we got to the 11th grade because my husband was working in (years old)," Josephine said. "Yeah. and we were 17 or older we could the shipyard ... but we didn't stay too I made two A's. I couldn't believe long because the climate didn't agree with the children so I had to take them back to Oklahoma."

> Because of his football injuries, Edward Wapp, Sr., was not able to go to war but had to participate in the war effort and that's why he worked in California, Ed said.

The United States has been involved in seven wars throughout Josephine's life. She said she doesn't remember exactly how war changed the world back then but, "It was worrisome, especially since I had brothers having to go."

Josephine began teaching American Indian traditional arts and culture in 1963 at the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) in Santa Fe. While there she assisted in teaching dance, which led to organizing a dance presentation for the 1968 Summer Olympic Games in Mexico City.

"The kids just really had a good time," Josephine said. "When we came back to the art school, we were loaded down with sombreros and guitars."

Josephine still has a gold trimmed tea set as a souvenir from their 10 day bus trip to Mexico; it sits on a shelf in her living

"I enjoyed spending time with the students and their learning really

pleased me. I enjoyed teaching them because they were interested and really learned the things they were supposed to learn. We did some interesting things," Josephine said.

She has visited seven countries including Germany, France, Austria and Spain to study Native American material culture and to help museums correctly label and identify artifacts.

Josephine retired as a teacher in 1973, but it wasn't the last time she

sat in a classroom. "I took a course in computer at 92 it. I enjoyed it. But I just haven't continued to use it. I just didn't want to be the only one in my family who didn't know about computers. I think that's the only reason I took it."

After retirement Josephine concentrated on finger weaving. Her work has been displayed throughout the United States, Europe, Canada, the Middle East and South America. Her oral autobiography is part of a collection in the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of the American Indian's (NMAI) cultural resources center. NMAI also recruited Josephine in the 90s for a project involving contemporary artists their work and travel is documented in a book titled "We Travel: A Celebration of Contemporary Native American Creativity."

"She's been quite a role model for some of her students," Ed said. "Wherever I've been and people know I'm her son, people will make comments of how she was really influential in their lives."

Her friend Geneva Woomavoyah Navarro traveled from New Mexico along with Jerri Ahbehill to celebrate Josephine's 100th birthday with her. Navarro said Josephine's mother was a midwife and delivered her when they all lived in Apache. On her birth certificate it says 'Old Lady Fisher,' Navarro said.

"She certainly didn't look like 100 years old. She was visiting people, up and around ... I haven't seen too many 100 year olds," Navarro said. "There were so many people around ... She was glad to see everyone there. She's still a school teacher. She remembers everybody ... she never forgets names. She's always alert. She's such a friendly lady."

Josephine's advice is to, "Just live a clean life; leave the alcohol and drugs(alone) and you'll grow up to be 100."

She said, "I'm just glad I got to retire and come back to be with the Comanche people. (There was) a lot of relatives I didn't know and I got to meet them. Made a lot of friends. I'm glad I got to come."

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Creek Chief vetoes resolution opposing casino
- Annual Symposium on the American Indian
- Slam dunk success with a message









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 14

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**APRIL 6, 2012** 

# Echo Hawk resigns from BIA to accept Mormon job

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY - The top official for the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs is resigning to accept a full-time leadership position with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, ending three years with Secretary Ken Salazar says "opened a new chapter" in U.S. Indian tribes.

is being appointed to the accelerated the restoration of appeal. is the Mormon Church's third-Salt Lake City.

the department that Interior appointed Echo Hawk, 63, to in a statement. oversee the BIA in 2009.

relationships with American leadership, we have opened a \$3.4 billion class-action a new chapter in our nation lawsuit with Native American Larry Echo Hawk, the to nation relationships with landowners over mismanaged assistant secretary of the American Indian and Alaska royalties. Interior for Indian Affairs, Native tribal governments, reached in late 2009 is under University law professor for 14 then. "It's not going to be easy."

Quorum of the Seventy, which tribal homelands, improved safety in tribal communities, highest governing body. The resolved century-old water announcement from the church disputes, invested in education, came Saturday during its semi- and reached many more annual general conference in milestones that are helping Indian nations pursue the future President Barack Obama of their choosing," Salazar said

During Echo Hawk's tenure, "With Larry Echo Hawk's the Interior Department settled The settlement

Salazar said he would work with Echo Hawk to ensure a smooth transition within the BIA. It was not clear who would be appointed to oversee the BIA after Echo Hawk's departure.

Echo Hawk, a member of the Pawnee Nation, was elected Idaho attorney general in 1990, the first Native American to be elected to the position in any state. He ran unsuccessfully in 1994 for Idaho governor as a Democrat.

He was a Brigham Young

years before leading the BIA.

After his appointment, Echo Hawk said in a speech in Salt Lake City in 2009 that he wrestled with the decision to accept a position that would make him a "face" for a federal government that has had a sordid history of mistreating Indians. He finally reconciled his hesitation by vowing to be an "agent for change" instead of a mere caretaker.

"How do you reverse 200 years of struggles?" he said



Dave Wilson and his new pygmy goats

COURTESY PHOTO / STEPHI WILSON

# Minority farmers small but growing group

S.E. RUCKMAN Native American Times Special Contributor

GERONIMO, OK- Out here on the flat prairie fields, there are few short cuts. The formula is hard work and sweat to make a living off the land in Comanche County. New farmer, Dave Wilson, is up early every day to work his 12-acres of leased land. Tall, robust with cowboy boots, he is every foot the farmer by

A transplanted Pima Indian from Arizona, he moved to the area with his wife and two children from Missouri just months ago. He "kind of fell into" acquiring the land

from a local landowner and is giving farming a go because it's been his dream for the past five years, Wilson said. The farming tendency comes to him naturally because his grandfather, Daniel Black Water, was once the main irrigator for the Pima Tribe decades ago.

So while Wilson seeks his agricultural pursuits, he unwittingly became one of a small but growing group of minority farmers. Officials are seeing the figure for Indian farmers increasing because the official formula used for counting Native farmers has

Until recently, a whole reservation was counted as

one farm, but census officials are now counting individual farmers within the same land area. As a result, the 2007 Census of Agriculture reports that 79,703 Indians work on some 61,472 farms in Alaska and the United States, a growth of 88 percent since 2002, a change mainly accredited to the tally method, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Census of Agriculture figures show.

The states with the most principal farm operators are Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Oklahoma and Montana. Indian farms In Oklahoma came about after land was broken up by the

See FARMERS Continued on Page 4

# Tribe worries pipeline will disturb graves

KATIE FRETLAND Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - As President Barack Obama pushes to fast-track an oil pipeline from Oklahoma south to the Gulf Coast, an American Indian tribe that calls the oil hub home worries the route might disrupt sacred sites holding the unmarked graves of their ancestors.

Sac and Fox Nation Chief George Thurman said he fears workers placing the 485-mile Keystone XL pipeline that would run from Cushing to refineries on Texas' Gulf Coast could disturb holy ground without consideration of the tribe. He and another tribe member say the pipeline's route travels through areas where unmarked graves are likely buried.

"We've been here 171 years," said Sandra Massey, the Sac and Fox Nation's historic preservation officer. "We've been living and dying here. We are all over."

Obama announced last month in Oklahoma that he was directing federal agencies to expedite the southern segment of the Keystone XL line, removing a critical bottleneck in the country's oil transportation system. The full, 1,700-mile Keystone

pipeline, which would run from Canada to the Gulf Coast, became a political flashpoint late last year when congressional Republicans wrote a provision forcing Obama to make a decision, and environmental groups waged a campaign to kill the project. Obama delayed the full project in January.

Shawn Howard, a spokesman for TransCanada, the Calgary-based Keystone pipeline operator, said the company works closely with Indian tribes whenever its operations have a potential impact on their lands. TransCanada has archaeologists and other experts to help identify and avoid areas of concern, he said.

Work stops immediately when artifacts or important materials are discovered, said Terry Cunha, manager of stakeholder relations for Keystone Pipeline System.

"We would then work with the tribe to ensure that the materials are handled properly and that we agree on a plan to move forward before work resumes," Cunha

According to a report released by TransCanada, a survey of the project found 70 archaeological sites, 18 individual artifacts

**See PIPELINE** Continued on Page 5

# **BIA takes over Apache** Tribe's '638' programs

■ 638 programs include services such as transportation, improvement planning, social services, job placement and training and Indian Child Welfare.

LYN MURPHY Native American Times

ANADARKO, Okla. - The Bureau of Indian Affairs has assumed operation of the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma's 638 programs, citing a concern that the tribe could not continue serving those programs with its current "internal conflict."

The tribe has been plagued with financial difficulties, intratribal disputes and struggles with repayment of a loan issued by Wells Fargo Bank to the tribe's previous

"The tribe presently has a difficult situation in which it operates, due to internal conflict. So we hope that the internal issue can be overcome in the near future once the tribe's

election is held," said Nedra Darling, BIA spokeswoman. "In order for us to reassume something there usually is a problem. If they're not working in the proper order that is something that we would step in to assume."

The BIA notified the tribe several years ago of its intent to reassume all of its Public Law 93-638 contracts and grants. According to the Department of Interior, in the early 1970s, Congress passed the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act that allowed Indian tribes and tribal organizations to acquire increased control over the management of federal programs that impact their members, resources and governments. These agreements are referred to as "638 compacts and contracts."

Darlin said the tribe went through an appeals process in February. However, the Interior Board of Indian Appeals upheld the BIA's decision to reassume the tribe's 638 programs.

Homer Flute, Apache Business Committee vice-chairman, said the tribe's financial difficulties were brought on by the "actions of members of the previous Business

See APACHE Continued on Page 2

## **AAIP teams with Kickapoo Tribe** to launch new diabetes initiative

Olympic Legend Billy Mills and Kickapoo Chairman Steve Cadue will serve as co-chairs

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) recently announced a new national diabetes prevention plan titled "Conquering Diabetes in Indian Country." Billy Mills, 1964 Olympic Gold Medalist and Oglala Lakota (Sioux) tribal member, will join Kansas Kickapoo Tribal Chairman Steve Cadue, as cochairs of this fundraising effort designed to create a national diabetes prevention initiative.

The Conquering Diabetes in Indian Country national effort will officially launch at the National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) annual meeting slated for April 1-4 in San Diego, California.

AAIP President Dr. Donna Galbreath said the organization is tackling one of the biggest health issues in Indian Country. Diabetes is at near epidemic levels among Indian people with nearly twice as many Native Americans being diagnosed as compared to non-Native Americans.

"To make strides in defeating diabetes in our communities, we need to band together and work for a common cause," she said. "This is really an education and awareness campaign about diet, exercise and the tools we need to teach American Indians and Alaska Natives on how to stay healthy and diabetes-free."

Galbreath said AAIP was honored to be working with visionary tribal leaders like Cadue and Mills, who is also the Running Strong for Indian Youth spokesman. The duo will lend leadership experience and contacts within the Indian Nations to help AAIP raise both diabetes awareness and prevention

AAIP currently is working under a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant to eliminate diabetes-related disparities, the National Diabetes Plan will expand current prevention activities throughout Indian Country.

For more information on the AAIP/Kickapoo diabetes initiative, visit www.aaip.org or call the organization at (405) 946-7072.



An aerial view of the museum's "Hall of the People" with the Oklahoma City skyline in the background.

### **OKC Council pledges \$9M** to finish Indian museum

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - The Oklahoma City Council has approved a \$9 million pledge to support the completion of the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum.

Officials announced March 27 that the pledge is contingent on a \$40 million commitment from the state of Oklahoma. Another \$31 million is expected to be raised through private and tribal

Oklahoma City contributed the land

near the intersection of Interstates 35 and 40 for the museum in 1999, which was valued at \$3.2 million.

Some state legislators have been critical of the museum's total costs, estimated at \$171 million.

City officials expect \$4 million in new sales taxes annually as a result of visitor spending at the facility.

According to the museum's director, Blake Wade, construction is on track for completion by December 2014.

Continued from Page 1

Committee, their associates and attorneys."

"Through various time periods (2005-2011) of their intratribal disputes, the BIA has worked closely with the Apache Tribe providing them with technical Darling assistance," "Although no actual assistance has been requested at this time, the BIA staff is working with tribal staff on the transfer of the bureau-funded programs from the tribe to the BIA based on the resumption of the 638 contracts."

Darling said 638 programs include services such as transportation, improvement planning, social services, job placement and training and

Indian Child Welfare.

"Once the tribe has resolved all the deficiencies and can demonstrate to the BIA they have the financial capability to account for funding, they are eligible to request to contract their program," Darling said.

The BIA would not run the tribe's programs indefinitely, she added.

The current situation, Flute said, is best described in the lawsuit Apache Tribe of Oklahoma v. Betsy Brown.

"The case history sums up the problems created by the previous Business Committee between Wells Fargo Bank and the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma. Wells Fargo Bank has been aggressively trying to collect on the debt," he said.

According to the lawsuit, the loan was purportedly for acquiring land to develop a

proposed casino and remodel an existing casino.

Flute said the Business Committee is optimistic about the tribe's future and the tribe has never experienced this type of difficulty in the past.

"The most positive expectation is that the NIGC (National Indian Gaming Commission) will rule that the Wells Fargo Bank's contract with the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma is a management contract, if this is ruled a management contract then it could be ruled null and void the contract," he said.

Darling said the local BIA agency in Anadarko is "always willing to assist the tribes in any matters before them."

Even with the tribe's current financial situation, it is conducting regular business with its employees and tribal citizens.

## Tribe buys restaurant, marina on Grand Lake

GROVE, Okla. (AP) - An Oklahoma Indian tribe has purchased a restaurant on Grand Lake that offers sightseeing riverboats and a marina for \$3.9 million.

The Seneca-Cayuga Tribe announced the purchase of Royal Bay Restaurant, Royal Bay Convention Center, Royal Bay Marina and two Cherokee Queen riverboats March 23. The multi-deck paddle-wheel riverboats specialize in scenic cruises, parties and weddings on Grand Lake.

Officials say they plan to extend the operation hours of the restaurant and the riverboat, but tribal economic development director Hoyit Bacon says there are no plans for riverboat gaming.

In 2007, the Miami, Okla.-based tribe applied to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 30 acres to be held in trust for gaming

Those plans included a 100,000-squarefoot, \$60 million casino and resort, which would employ about 450 people.

# Creek Chief vetoes resolution opposing casino

**SUSAN HYLTON** Tulsa World

OKMULGEE, Okla. (AP) - Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief George Tiger has vetoed a National Council resolution opposing the Kialegee Tribal Town's construction and operation of a gaming facility in Broken Arrow.

Tiger said he vetoed the resolution last Friday because he had asked a council committee to postpone the vote for 30 days so that he could meet with Kialegee and other tribal town officials.

"I felt like we gave our word to the Kialegee and other tribal members too, and that we should honor it," Tiger said.

The Creek Nation was



**Chief George Tiger** 

originally a confederacy of tribal towns in Georgia and Alabama. The Kialegee Tribal Town gained federal recognition as its own tribe in 1941, but its 439 members are still considered part of the Creek Nation.

The Creek Nation's two the National Indian Gaming other tribal towns are the Alabama-Quassarte and the Thlopthlocco, which operate gaming facilities in Wetumka and Okemah, respectively.

The National Council passed the resolution opposing the Kialegee casino in a split 9-4-1 vote on March 8, eight days short of Tiger's requested postponement.

Speaker Sam Alexander said some members of the council felt pressed to go ahead and vote on the resolution due to pressure from U.S. Rep. John Sullivan, R-Okla., and a vocal neighborhood group that has fiercely fought the casino.

"Sometimes there seems to be a sense of urgency, but we can't control the time frame of the Bureau of Indian Affairs or

Commission," Tiger said. "As far as I'm concerned, the ball is in their court, and as a nation we can voice our opinion in terms of our opposition to it, but still yet, a decision is going to be made outside the realm of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation."

Alexander said the National Council will consider a veto override. A veto override would require a two-thirds majority, or 12 votes from the 17-member body.

"According to constitution, the chief has a right to exercise his objection with a veto. We look forward to resolving it at the next council meeting," Alexander said, noting that he will vote for the override.

the Kialegee Tribal Town does not have jurisdiction on the restricted Creek allotment owned by Marcella Giles and her sister Wynema Capps. Several modular buildings have already arrived on the plot and are being assembled in preparation for a summer opening of the casino.

The resolution also states that the Kialegee Tribal Town lacks a gaming license through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation gaming commissioner and noted that a district court has ruled that governmental powers cannot be transferred through a lease agreement.

Tiger said he takes no position on the resolution and referred to his comments at a January news conference

The resolution asserts that when he said the land should not be used for a casino by any other tribe without the Creek Nation's consent.

> He did not rule out the possibility that the casino project eventually could gain approval from the Creek Nation.

"The only position we have is we are going back to our traditional cultural belief that if we sit across the table from each other that issues can be worked out. It's not only this particular issue but others, as well," Tiger said.

The new chief said he has had three meetings so far with leaders of the tribal towns. "It's the first time in the history of the nation that we've been able to do that," he said.

### WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

#### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments - No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment
- Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details. \*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com



Member FDIC TENDER



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

# Wyoming tribe blasts bald eagle permit

**BEN NEARY** Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - The Wyoming tribe that received the nation's first federal permit allowing members to kill bald eagles for religious purposes renewed a legal challenge against the government March 30, calling the permit a "sham" because of restrictions against killing the birds on the tribe's reservation.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on March 9 granted the Northern Arapaho a permit allowing members to kill two eagles only outside the Wind River Indian Reservation. The Arapaho share their reservation with the Eastern Shoshone, who opposed the killing of eagles on the tribes' shared land.

Many American Indian leaders nationwide and those in the Northern Arapaho tribe initially hailed the permit decision as a victory for Native sovereignty and Native religions, which the federal government actively suppressed well into the last century.

However, in an amended lawsuit filed against the government last Friday, the Arapaho Tribe takes issue with the permit provision that would require tribal members to kill eagles off the Wind River Reservation. The tribe states that the state of Wyoming prohibits killing eagles off the reservation while the federal permit itself requires adherence to state

"Any tribal member taking an eagle pursuant to the March 9, 2012, permit is subject to arrest and prosecution by the State of Wyoming, whether the take occurs on federal, state or other lands " tribal attorney Andy Baldwin and his associates wrote in the amended complaint.

A spokeswoman for the Fish and Wildlife Service in Denver said the agency had no comment on the tribe's amended complaint because the issue is in litigation.

In its amended complaint, the Northern Arapaho tribe argues that federal government action barring tribal members from taking bald eagles for religious purposes violates their free exercise of religion.

Baldwin said the tribe discussed the permit concern with federal officials before filing the amended complaint but declined further comment. Attempts to reach tribal officials weren't immediately successful.

Bald eagles were removed from the federal list of threatened species in 2007. The birds remain protected under the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act. Several Indian tribes have been allowed permits to kill golden eagles for religious purposes.

The Northern Arapaho first filed suit against the Fish and Wildlife Service last fall seeking to force the federal agency to grant an eagle permit. That court action came more than two years after the tribe first applied for a permit.

The tribe's lawsuit filed last fall followed the contentious prosecution Winslow Friday, a young tribal member who killed a bald eagle without a permit in 2005 for use in his tribe's Sun Dance. Friday shot the eagle on his reservation.

Former U.S. District Judge William Downes dismissed the charge against Friday in 2006 saying it would have been pointless for him to apply for a permit. "Although the government professes respect and accommodation of the religious practices of Native Americans, its own actions show callous indifference to such practices," Downes wrote.

A federal appeals court reinstated the criminal charge against Friday. After the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear his case, he ultimately pleaded guilty in tribal court and was ordered to pay a fine.

In response to written questions from Associated Press earlier this

month, Matt Hogan, assistant regional director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, stated that Wyoming would not have to give its permission Northern Arapaho members to kill eagles off the

reservation.

"Permission for take of eagles would not be required by the State of Wyoming," Hogan stated in a March 14 email. "However, one of the permit conditions is consent from the landowner from where the bird will be taken."

In a status report to a federal judge presiding over the Northern Arapaho Tribe's lawsuit filed March 13, federal lawyers stated that the Eastern Shoshone Tribe had informed the Fish and Wildlife Service that they opposed the killing of eagles on the Wind River Reservation because they believed it was against the tribes' joint law and order code. Attempts to reach Eastern Shoshone officials for comment Friday weren't immediately successful.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON

advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country





#### BIA finally taking apps to fill Okla. director post

WASHINGTON — The Bureau of Indian Affairs is now taking applications to lead one of its largest regional offices after its top position was unofficially vacant for more than two years.

A member of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, Jeanette Hanna was named director of the Eastern Oklahoma regional office in May 2002, but was reassigned to Washington, D.C., in 2009 due to a personnel matter. During her absence, the office was overseen by acting area directors.

On Sunday morning, the position was listed on the federal government's Office of Personnel Management website, www. usajobs.gov, with an application deadline of April 30.

Calls to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to clarify the terms of Hanna's departure were unanswered.

Eastern Oklahoma regional office serves more than 20 tribes, including the Cherokee Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation and its three federally-recognized tribal towns, the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians and the Osage Tribe. It has agencies in Ada, Okla.; Miami, Okla.; Okmulgee, Okla.; Pawhuska, Okla.;

**SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA** 

**INDIAN SUPPLY** 

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each

Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00

36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

**STAFF REPORTS** 

Based out of Muskogee, Okla., the Talihina, Okla.; and Wewoka, Okla.

#### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

## Native inmates challenge tobacco ban

**DIRK LAMMERS** Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – A Lakota traditional healer said March 27 that tobacco is an integral part of Native American religious ceremonies and denying its use is akin to taking away the Bible from a Christian.

Richard Moves Camp, testifying during a federal trial challenging a South Dakota prison policy banning its use in such ceremonies, said tobacco has been a central part of prayer for thousands of years. It's traditionally mixed with other botanicals in pipes and smoked to bring peace and harmony and connected to cloth in prayer ties that are burned in fires as a symbol of offering, he said.

Inmates Blaine Brings Plenty and Clayton Creek, members of prisonbased Native American Council of Tribes, filed the suit in December 2009 against prison warden Doug Weber, corrections secretary Dennis Kaemingk and attorney general Marty Jackley.

James Moore, the officials' attorney, said ceremonial tobacco inside the state penitentiary was becoming increasingly abused and inmates had been caught separating it from their pipe mixtures and prayer ties. Moore said the state policy allows other botanicals such as red willow bark to be burned, and prison officials stopped short of banning the use of

"That hasn't been done," Moore said. "All that is limited is what can be smoked in it."

The state prison system went tobacco-free in 2000 but made an exception for tobacco used in Native American ceremonies. But in an October 2009 letter eliminating that exemption, Weber said tobacco was being sold or bartered to other inmates.

"Sometimes, the prison gangs are pressuring the inmates to sell their tobacco instead of using it for spiritual reasons," Weber wrote.

Other states, including Nevada and New Mexico, have prison smoking bans but allow Native Americans to use tobacco during religious ceremonies.

Moore said that South Dakota's policy change followed more than 10 years of conversations with tribal elders and traditional healers, some of whom perform pipe ceremonies without tobacco.

He said there was no rush to South Dakota's judgment, and

corrections department has fairly liberal policies regarding Native American religious practices that support sweat lodges, pipe ceremonies, drum music, prayer ties and powwows.

"This is something that's ingrained into the culture of the institution," Moore said.

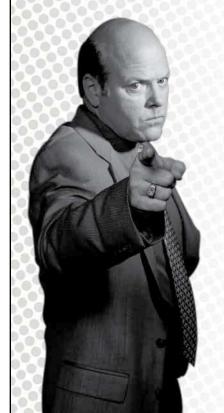
Brings Plenty and Moore in their suit said the policy change violates their U.S. Constitutional rights ensuring that no prisoner be penalized or discriminated against solely on their religious beliefs or practices.

Their attorney Pamela Bollweg, said prison officials have to show there's a compelling interest in limiting access, and even if there is a compelling interest they have to use the least restrictive alternative.

Creek, a Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal citizen who's been imprisoned since 1990, said he takes his role as a pipe carrier very seriously. It involves carrying the burdens of the world on one's shoulders and clearing oneself of any negative thoughts to respect the higher power.

He said tobacco is sometimes mixed with other botanicals in Native American ceremonies, but it is always part of the tradition.

### Investigate BEFORE you invest



- Learn how to spot investment fraud
- Verify the registration of a brokerdealer or investment advisor with the Oklahoma Securities Commission before investing at securities.ok.gov
- Download your free investor protection kit at investedok.org



twitter\*



You Tube

### Reeves Renovations

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing

Quality Work • Free Estimates

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties



www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

### **Proposal would create** tribal national park

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) Officials from the Badlands National Park in South Dakota and the Oglala Sioux tribe are hoping a meeting with Interior Department officials will move them one step closer to creating the country's first tribal national

The U.S. government's War Department took what is now the South Unit from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to establish a practice bombing range in the 1940s. It was returned to the Oglala Sioux tribe in 1976 and has since been co-managed with the National Park Service. In 2002, disagreements arose between the tribe and the National Park Service over plans for the land and the tribe began pushing for greater control.

forward with management of paleontology," he said. the South Unit has been under

Unit is mostly undeveloped and less traveled compared to the North Unit.

"This is wildly different. I've been at this for 26 years now, and I've never seen a general management plan that ever had a management option, because it's understood that it's a national park service operation," said Badlands National Park Superintendent Eric Brunnemann. "This unit sits on land that is tribal."

Officials will discuss moving forward with the plan. If approved, they can start discussing what the tribal national park will include, Brunnemann said.

John Yellow Bird Steele, the president of the Oglala Sioux tribe, already knows the park will offer one thing much sought after on the reservation: jobs.

"For a few of our people, it would be creating careers in The plan on how to move archaeology, anthropology,

Congress would need to development since 2005, with approve such a park - a step the preferred alternative that could take years - but being the creation of a tribal Oglala Sioux and park officials national park, to be managed are moving forward with and administered by the intentions of bringing more Oglala Sioux tribe. The South tribal awareness at Badlands.

#### Wilson is optimistic that one day he'll add cattle to his operation.

Allotment Act in the late 1800s. Here, farms are individual endeavors rather than reservation aligned, although some tribes, like the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Comanche Nation have tribal farm operations.

Wilson is so new to farming he does not qualify for any of the 2010 Keepseagle settlement for \$ 760 million by the USDA. The lawsuit awarded Indian farmers monies for federal subsidies that were denied under guidelines.

His new occupation is novel but if the question comes up, he has learned to fend off any critics.

"People are amazed by my decision to be a farmer," he said. "They say, 'aren't you out looking for job?' like it's not work. I call it being a professional farmer."

Wilson's every day check list is like a near-forgotten catechism of chores. He's up around 5:30 a.m. daily to release and feed his chickens (he also sells eggs). He works

his vegetables plots having in Ada. The Oklahoma State plowed the ground with his prized piece of farming equipment: A tiller.

"I lack a lot of the equipment," Wilson said. "But I welcome the advice on when to plant and I am working to University (OSU) farming outreach regards diversity in farming as an emerging trend they try to address at a grassroots level.

But OSU is discreet; the agency doesn't want to violate



COURTESY STEPHI WILSON

Dave Wilson is up at 5:30 a.m. daily to release anda feed his chickens.

produce on a regular cycle and to provide a livelihood for my family, you know, be selfsufficient."

Wilson, as an Indian farmer, is drawing the attention of professional agriculturalists like Claude Bess of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service's Southeastern District office

federal laws by asking farmers if they are Native. Sometimes, they go by clues; like family names or ties. So they don't have carry concrete figures on how many Indian farmers are in Oklahoma. They leave that to the feds, Bess said.

On a collective scale, Bess said OSU Extension is looking to expand interaction with

both individual Indian and tribal farmers.

"We aren't talking money," he said. "But if we could make the contacts, we'd like to cosponsor with the tribes on all of our educational programs. We think we have a leg up, we're not going to tell them how to do it, but we'll give them information that will work for them."

Meanwhile, this week has been marked on the Wilson farm by the arrival of pygmy goats. Then it will be horses and a donkey. Standing in his cowboy boots and dungarees in a field of chickens, Wilson is optimistic that one day he'll add cattle to his operation. To him, it's just a matter of time.

"I set a goal and I don't like to quit," Wilson said. "I don't' see my farm as a short-time thing."

And at the end of a day, he usually has a new post for his farm's Facebook page. This is where his farming operation bucks a national trend since the agriculture census notes that Indian farms usually lack Internet access.

His Pima relatives are regular visitors to the Facebook site. They are enthusiastic and supportive about his farm.

"The pictures (I post) abound," Wilson said.

For information on or from OSU Extension, visit online www.oces.okstate.edu

# COMMENTARY







## When Leader Charge spoke, Kevin Costner listened



TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

We've all had to send a "belated" birthday card in our lives, but today I am writing a "belated" column.

I say belated because two months ago I made a note to myself to remember the day my friend Doris Leader Charge died. It was on February 20, 2001, that Doris made her journey to the Spirit World. I set aside the note and it got buried under the day-to-day paper that gathers on my desk every week and time slipped by.

For those who never heard

me repeat the headline in an article written by David E. Thigpen for People Magazine in January of 1991. His headline read, "Kevin Costner said the words but Doris Leader Charge made the Dances dialogue truly Sioux." Thigpen was referring to the role Leader Charge played in making the movie, Dances with Wolves" an Academy Award winner.

Doris was born on the Rosebud Reservation on May 4, 1930. She attended St. Francis Indian School before she was sent to St. Mary's School for Girls at Springfield, S.D. She was raised in a Lakota speaking family and did not learn to speak English until she was sent to the boarding school.

Dances with Wolves producer Jim Wilson was driven to make his movie as authentic as possible and found that many of the actors and extras, some of them Lakota and some from tribes other than Lakota, spoke little or no Lakota. He said, "Someone recommended

of Doris Leader Charge let Doris Leader Charge, a fluent Lakota speaker and teacher of the language, and we set out to get her on board."

Leader Charge was a Lakota language instructor at Sinte Gleska (Spotted Tail) University on the Rosebud Reservation when Wilson sent her a script to translate from the English to Lakota. Three weeks later she sent the script back to him fully translated. Then Doris and a cousin translated each actor's lines on tape, first in English and then in Lakota and Wilson mailed the tapes

to the cast members. Doris approached teaching the Lakota language parts to the two main characters, Kevin Costner and Mary McDonnell, a little differently. To her, Costner was a recent arrival to Lakota country so his knowledge of the language was limited and so she felt the he did not have to speak as fluently as McDonnell, who in the movie had been a white captive of the Lakota, had married a member of the tribe and therefore needed to be much more fluent in the Lakota language.

Thigpen writes, "When the actors began to rehearse outside of Rapid City, Wilson asked Leader Charge to be on hand as a dialogue coach." Wilson soon realized he needed her on the set 90 percent of the time. Wilson said, "If any of the extras were late or had not studied their parts, she scolded them and because she was an elder a lot of the younger Indians looked up to her and she smoothed things out a lot."

I worked with Michael Blake on the script of the movie with a lot of input from Doris. When he won the Academy Award for best screenplay I was amazed and thrilled to see Ms. Leader Charge walk on the stage with Michael and translate his English acceptance speech into Lakota for the folks back home on the Rosebud Reservation. I believe a lot of Hollywood stars in the audience were shocked and surprised by her elegance, grace and charm.

As an offshoot of the movie, Rodney Grant, the

man who played "Wind in His Hair" stopped by my news office at Indian Country Today and all of my female employees wanted to pose for pictures with him. One of them noticed that his fly was unzipped and when it was subtly pointed out to him he turned a little redder than usual and stepped behind nickname of "Wind in His

Doris went back to teaching at Sinte Gleska University without missing a beat. She used most of the money she earned from the movie to repair her home in Parmelee on the Rosebud Reservation. She earned \$23,800 for her teaching and acting (she played Pretty Shield in the movie) and with that sum she purchased a new stove, refrigerator and a washer and dryer, and that was the extent of her Hollywood money splurge.

Leader Charge said of her movie role, "The kids are so proud that I'm their teacher and that I did all of those things. I hope the film shows young people on our reservation, where selfesteem is low, that you have to do the best you can and be proud of yourself."

Doris is buried at the Holy Innocents Cemetery near a door to zip up. The staff her home at Parmelee. To immediately gave him the the very end she was a leader and she did love to take charge, but above all she was a traditional Lakota woman who brought great pride to her oyate (people).

> So if you ever get a chance to see "Dances with Wolves" again, think about Doris.

> Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
□ \$16.25 for 13 issues □ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com Equal Housing Lender Native American Owned



'Changing the culture of waste." NATIVE

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you? Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

www.nativetimes.com

# Navajo Nation eyes Grand Canyon for development

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

of Navajo families have grazed livestock on a remote but spectacular mesa that overlooks the confluence of the Colorado and Little Colorado development.

But ancestral tradition and the tranquility of the landscape could be subject to change if the Navajo government's plans are realized for tourists from cliff tops to water's edge.

The vast 27,000-square-mile (70,000-squarekilometer) Navajo reservation abuts Grand Canyon National Park, and tribal leaders say they're losing out on tourist dollars and jobs for their people by leaving the land undeveloped. Navajo President Ben Shelly recently signed a nonbinding agreement that lists the gondola, a restaurant, a half-mile (800-meter) river walk, a resort hotel and spa and recreational vehicle park among the attractions of a proposed development that he says will bring up to \$70 million a year in revenue to the tribe and 2,000 jobs to the impoverished reservation.

"We want people from all over the world to visit Navajo land and the Grand Canyon," Shelly said. "We have many of the world's wonders in

True enough, but the National Park Service already is voicing objections to the large-scale development on its eastern flank. Environmental organizations and some Navajos who call the area home also oppose the project.

"This is just one more thing that is going to chip away at the solitude of the area, and it's really not the appropriate type of development for that area," said Alicyn Gitlin of the Sierra Club, an environmental group.

Similar proposals for a tramway that would take tourists from the East Rim to the river have been opposed by the local community of Bodaway-Gap. They oppose the scale and character of the current plan and want more say in what could be built there.

The confluence, as locals call it, is a 100-mile (160-kilometer) drive off Interstate 40 from Flagstaff off a rough dirt road. Sagebrush, rolling hills, arroyos, canyons and desert mark the landscape where the Colorado meets the bluegreen waters of the Little Colorado. It's mostly quiet, save for the occasional helicopter tour over the Grand Canyon or the shouts from river rafters below.

The land has remained undeveloped for decades because of a land dispute between the Navajos and the neighboring Hopi tribe, both of which claimed aboriginal ties to it. A construction ban implemented by former U.S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs Robert Bennett imposed a ban on home and land improvements in 1966. It was lifted in 2009, though little development has occurred on the 700,000 acres (280,000 hectares).

The western edge of the Grand Canyon outside the national park boundaries belongs to the Hualapai Tribe, which has a horseshoe-shaped glass bridge that juts out 70 feet (21 meters) over the canyon's edge and gives tourists a view of the Colorado River 4,000 feet (1,200 meters) below. Most people visiting the Grand Canyon go to the South Rim within the national park. The North Rim, also within the park, is less developed, but has a seasonal lodge.

The memorandum of agreement that Shelly signed with the Confluence Partners, LLC., on 100 percent agreement, but we're going to do Feb. 21 doesn't state the impacts of a development our part to bring development and jobs here to on the East Rim. But a member of the negotiating Navajo."

team, Deswood Tome, said the tribal government expects 3 million visitors a year as soon as 2015 and revenue to be between \$40 million and \$70 FLAGSTAFF, Arizona (AP) - Generations million annually - up to a half of the tribe's budget not including federal funds.

No one lives at the overlook to the confluence but a handful of people live nearby, and other rivers. This is the East Rim of the majestic families have said they want to move back Grand Canyon - the last with no significant since the construction ban ended. There is no water or electricity at the site and putting in the infrastructure would cost at least \$60 million alone, which Tome said also could benefit residents. About 27 miles (43 kilometers) of dirt a resort and aerial tramway that would ferry road would have to be paved to reach the site, and water would have to be piped in from miles (kilometers) away.

> At full build-out, the project could approach \$1 billion, said Lamar Whitmer, of the Confluence Partners, LLC.

> The tram would run from the East Rim and  $parallel \, the \, Colorado \, River \, before \, coming \, to \, a \, stop \,$ at the bottom of the canyon, where a restaurant would be located. A half-mile (800-meter) river walk, also running alongside the Colorado River, would give tourists a view of the confluence but stop short of it. The resort hotel and spa, other hotels, and commercial and retail space would be located on top of the canyon.

> The proposed attractions could create a jurisdictional dispute, depending on their distance from the Colorado River. The Navajos believe the reservation extends to the high water mark of the Colorado River, while the National Park Service says its boundary is a quarter-mile (400 meters) from the river's bank along the 61-mile (98-kilometer) stretch of the Colorado before it meets the Little Colorado.

> Grand Canyon park officials also want to maintain the wilderness characteristics of the East Rim, which is popular with backcountry hikers and not easily accessible, and make sure endangered species like the humpback chub are protected, said park Superintendent Dave Uberuaga. Environmental groups say the noise and light pollution would be unwelcome.

> "It's not Disneyland," said Lynn Hamilton of the Grand Canyon River Guides, a canyon advocacy and environmental group. "It's one of the seven natural wonders of the world. To mar that somehow with such commercialism right there, in your face would just seem contrary to what the value of Grand Canyon is."

> Environmentalists applauded the Navajo government for throwing out plans for an airport, verbally at least, though it remains in the written agreement.

> Shelly has vowed to protect sacred sites, and although he initially opposed any development at the confluence, his spokesman says it is one of the premier locations on the reservation to draw tourist dollars. But the tribe still must pursue land and leases from a community that appears

> This is what Tyrone Tsosie called his backyard as a child. He recalled his grandmother taking him out to the confluence and showing him how to use corn pollen – a staple of Navajo tradition - to pray to the rivers for blessings. Yucca root, white flowers and sage that grow there also are used for traditional and medicinal purposes, he

> "The main thing right now for my generation, we don't want that kind of change, development out there because we don't want to lose that scenery and lose all those memories," said Tsosie, who no longer lives in the area.

> Said Tome, "We're not always going to have

# PREPARING FOR THE 7TH GENERATION: The Journey Continues April 17-19, 2012

KEEP ME SMOKE FREE

REED CONFERENCE CENTER • MIDWEST CITY, OKLA.

Sponsored by:

Cherokee Nation, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Osage Nation, Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board, OU School of Community Medicine, Oklahoma State Department of Health, Oklahoma Tobacco Research Center, American Legacy, American Heart Association

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:**

**Tuesday, April 17:** 

#### JONATHAN ORENS, MD

**Professor of Medicine** Chief of Division of Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine Johns Hopkins Hospital

Wednesday, April 18:

#### CYNTHIA HALLETT

Americans for Non-Smokers Rights

### TIM MILBRANDT

Mayo Clinic

Thursday, April 19:

#### DR. TERRY CLINE

Commissioner of Health Oklahoma State Department of Health

#### **KEVIN COLLINS**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

#### **CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

**Conference Location:** 

Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Rd., Midwest City, Oklahoma

#### **REGISTRATION IS FREE**

PLEASE COMPLETE ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PARTICIPANT

Please check the dates that you plan to attend:	April 17	April 18	April 19
Name:			
Please print legibly)			
Organization/Tribe			
Address:			
City, State, Zip Code:			
Telephone:			
-mail:			
Please let us know if you have any sp	pecial needs:		
To Register, please m	nail, fax or e-mail	completed form	to:

Linda Robertson Office of Tribal Liaison 1000 N.E. 10th St. Oklahoma City OK 73117 Phone: 405/271-9444 EXT 56420 Fax: 405/271-1225 Email: lindaj@health.ok.gov

To Book Lodging: Sheraton at Reed Center (405/455-1800 Or copy the following link into a web browser http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1201190271&key=6994D

and 34 historic structures in the area where the pipeline will be built in Oklahoma. The numbers were first reported by The Oklahoma Daily.

Seven of the sites met criteria to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and TransCanada agreed to bypass six of them, said Oklahoma Historical Society Director Bob Blackburn. The site that will be partially destroyed is a Works Progress Administration drainage ditch built around the 1930s, he said. Details about the other sites and whether any Indian graves were included were not immediately known.

Blackburn said the federal government identified tribes, including the Sac and Fox Nation, that may be affected by the pipeline and asked for input. None of the tribes in Oklahoma corresponded with the Historical Society or indicated there were potential problems, he said.

"Some Indian tribe could

have a site they never told anybody was important," Blackburn said. "If it is not entered into our database we may have missed it."

Thurman said he met Obama briefly near Cushing during his visit but he was not given enough time to raise the issue of unmarked graves. He said he was disappointed the pipeline was put on a fast-track without knowing whether sacred sites would lie in its way.

White House regional spokeswoman Caroline Hughes declined to comment and referred questions to the Interior Department.

In a statement, department spokesman Adam Fetcher said all permitting activity on the project will fully comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation

"If any construction is determined likely to result in the excavation of Native American human remains, the permitting agency will consult with potentially affiliated tribes and tribes recognized as having lands in

the project area and complete a plan of action that the agency will take should an encounter with a tribal grave take place," the statement read.

During a recent tour of the nation, Massey said a number of tribal ancestors are buried in marked cemeteries but there are many other unmarked sites. At times, tribal members were buried along creek beds and generations later, it's possible that there are no longer remains at a particular location.

"Even if nothing is left, it's still a sacred site," she said.

The concern over whether the pipeline route could run through sacred Indian grounds has prompted some activists to protest its construction.

"We will walk the whole route, Cushing to the Red River, to make sure they don't destroy an Indian grave," said Fannie Bates, who is of Cherokee descent and from Oklahoma City.

Associated Press writer Kelly P. Kissel in Cushing contributed to this report.

# Annual Symposium on the American Indian April 9-14

TAHLEQUAH, Okla.

– Marking four decades of celebrating indigenous cultures and addressing issues affecting tribes, the 40th Annual Symposium on the American Indian is April 9-14 on the campus of Northeastern State University.

Preliminary symposium activities begin April 9, with the full schedule running April 11-14. This year's theme is "The Journey of Sovereign Nations: Self-Determination and Human Rights." The event is organized by NSU's Center for Tribal Studies and the American Indian Heritage Committee.

"The symposium will reflect on four decades of change for American Indians from the 1970s revitalization of tribal governmentstothemorerecent United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," said Dr. Phyllis Fife, director of the Center for Tribal Studies. "The lineup of distinguished speakers represent leading scholars and professionals. Throughout the week of activities, the history, education, human experiences, the arts, social well-being and politics that impact tribal governments and indigenous peoples will be examined."

Confirmed speakers for the symposium include Walter Echo-Hawk, Quinton Roman Nose, Marcella Giles, LeAnne Howe and Sterlin Harjo.

Echo-Hawk is an author and attorney. He has worked to protect the legal, political, property, cultural and human rights of Indian tribes and Native peoples. He will deliver the opening keynote address on "Implementing the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples." He is the author of "In the Courts"



Marcella Giles

of the Conqueror: The 10 Worst Indian Law Cases Ever Decided, "which will be the topic of his Wednesday afternoon session. Echo-Hawk is a citizen of the Pawnee Nation.

Roman Nose served as the education director of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma. He helped develop the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College on the campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. He currently serves as president of the National Indian Education Association. Roman Nose will speak on the Indian Education Act and the involvement of the NIEA in the professional development of teachers and other educators, and as a voice for improvement of education delivery for Indian children and adults. He is a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho

Giles has served as attorney general for the Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole nations. Now in private practice, she is a consultant on trust reform for the Intertribal Monitoring Association on Indian trust funds. She will deliver an address on Indian land rights and trust issues. Giles, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Oklahoma native, has held positions with the



LeAnne Howe

U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of the Interior. Her legal experience included cases involving individual Indian allottees in federal and state courts and Individual Indian Money (IIM) account holders in eastern Oklahoma for oil and gas issues. She is involved with cultural resources protection, economic development and environmental compliance.

LeAnne Howe is an author, playwright and scholar at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where she teaches American Indian Studies, literature, studies, performance and Indigenous theater. An award winning author and poet, she was selected as the John and Renee Grisham writer-inresidence at the University of Mississippi at Oxford for 2006-2007. She also wrote and narrated a PBS documentary, "Indian Country Diaries: Spiral of Fire" in 2006, and co-wrote, with James Fortier the documentary "Playing Pastime: American Indian Fast-Pitch Softball," and "Survival." Her book "Miko Kings: An American Indian Baseball (2007) examines the roots of American baseball.

In 2010-2011 Howe received the Distinguished William J. Fulbright Scholarship and



Walter Echo-Hawk

lived in Amman, Jordan, during the "Arab Spring" where she taught at the University of Jordan and researched a new novel. She recently won the Tulsa Library Trust's American Indian Words Award. Howe is an enrolled citizen of the Choctaw Nation.

Harjo is an award-winning filmmaker. On April 10 he will host a seminar, "The Digital Native Voice," from 3-5 p.m. and the American Indian Film Series from 7-9 p.m. in the auditorium of the W. Roger Webb Educational Technology Center. The afternoon seminar will focus on contemporary approaches in American Indian filmmaking.

Harjo belongs to the Creek and Seminole tribes and is a writer, producer, director and documentarian for film. With roots in rural Hughes and Seminole counties, he remains immersed in the traditions and language of Creek and Seminole life. At age 23 he began writing and making films from a perspective inside the Native community. Eight years later, his roster includes two feature films, each of which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival: "Four Sheets to the Wind" (2007) and "Barking Water" (2008). His work includes a growing number of documentary films and a short narrative.



Sterlin Harjo

He was named one of the Sundance Film Institute's first five Annenberg Film Fellows in 2004 and received the Creative Promise Award from Tribeca All Access in 2006. In 2010 he was invited to be a juror at Sundance for his unique perspective and range of experience. He is currently creating documentaries for This Land Press in Tulsa and working on other creative projects.

Leading the 10th Annual Indigenous Language Documentation Revitalization Seminar, cosponsored by the Oklahoma Native Language Association, is Dr. Mary Linn of the University of Oklahoma Sam Noble Museum of Natural History. She will be assisted by Dr. Colleen Fitzgerald from the University of Texas-Arlington and Dr. Brad Montgomery-Anderson of the NSU College of Liberal Arts.

The seminar is 6-8 p.m. on April 12 and 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. on April 13 in the University Center Morgan Room. Open to everyone, the target audience will be language instructors, students, language learners, researchers, linguists and program developers. The central theme will be "pronunciation."

Linn will speak Thursday evening with a "state of the

state overview" of language happenings in Oklahoma and the growing role of second language learners in Native language revitalization efforts. On Friday, Fitzgerald will address "The Grammar of Sound: Creating Sound Memories for Language Teaching." Fitzgerald is the chair of the Department of Linguistics and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages.

Montgomery-Anderson, assistant professor English at NSU, conducts the Oklahoma Workshop on Native American Languages (OWNAL) on Saturday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. in the UC Morgan Room. OWNAL is a workshop focused on descriptive studies of indigenous languages of North America. The primary audience will be professional linguists and scholars. linguistics Α registration fee is required. Contact Montgomery-Anderson at 918-444-3610 for information.

April 13-14 is the always popular NSU Powwow which will include the Gourd Dance, Grand Entry, intertribal dancing, contests and vendors. Hours are 6-10 p.m. Friday and 2-midnight Saturday. Master of Ceremonies will be Choogie Kingfisher; Arena Director Chuck Bread; Head Man Dancer Otto Hamilton; Head Lady Dancer Geneva Hamilton; Head Gourd Dancer Chris Chanate; and Color Guard will be the United Keetoowah Band Honor Guard.

For more information about the 40th Annual Symposium on the American Indian contact the Center for Tribal Studies at 918-444-4350 or tribalstudies@nsuok.edu.

# CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



### CHEROKEE NATION $^{\circ}$

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES | WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL #4713 Inpatient RN/PRN/OR/T/PT, Closes 4/3/2012

POSITIONS CLOSE 4/13/2012 #5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT

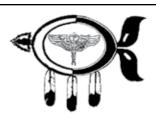
#5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT #6105 Medical Technologist II/R/FT #5745 Medical Technologist/R/FT

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Check nativetimes.com for more jobs!
-New jobs posted throughout the week-



Health Info. Mgr.

FT - Monday thru Friday
Starting Salary: \$52,000.00
Duties: Has full resp. and accountability
for planning, directing, reorganizing,
coordinating and controlling
the overall day to day aspects of
Health Information Management
Department.

#### Accountant

Kickapoo Community Childcare Center McLoud,OK, FT - Monday thru Friday Salary: Dependent on Experience Must have excellent computer skills and prevous exp. in a childcare payment program.

Send resume to: Kickapoo Tribal Health Center, POB 1360, McLoud, OK 74851 or email to cherylkto@yahoo.com

Look for Native American

# 5 tips to 'spring clean' your resumé

Career Coach and Author Ford R. Myers Offers Five Simple Ideas to Develop an Attention-Getting Resumé

HAVERFORD, Penn. – If you find that your resume isn't getting the results you want, spring is the perfect time to clean it up.

Ford R. Myers, Career Coach, Speaker and Author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring," (John Wiley & Sons, http://www.getthejobbook.com) suggests the following five tips to freshen up your resume this spring.

#### 1. BE BRIEF:

Less is always more. Of the five main sections of a resume - Header/Contact Information, Career Summary, Professional Experience, Education and Affiliations or Professional Development - the Career Summary is where brevity counts most.

"The Summary is a brief statement of who you are, where you're 'coming from,' and what skills and expertise you have to contribute to an organization. All you'll need to grab the reader's attention are five or six lines of text highlighting the benefits and contributions you offer as a professional," states Myers.

#### 2. BE SPECIFIC

Resumes that get noticed focus on specific, tangible results. Quantify everything you can, including retention rates, sales numbers, profit margins, numbers of projects, numbers of people, performance quotas, and so on. Whenever possible, use percentages, dollars and hard numbers.

"Although individuals should be as specific as possible throughout the entire resume, quantification should be used most in the 'Professional Experience' section. Here is where your past jobs, roles, responsibilities, and accomplishments are listed. This is also the section where most employers and recruiters focus 90% of their attention. The information you present here, and how you present it, can decide the fate of your candidacy within about 10 seconds of resume scanning time," explains Myers.

#### 3. BE ACTIVE.

Myers urges resume writers to use strong action verbs at the beginning of every sentence. Words such as "lead," "launch," "direct," "build," "manage" and "conduct" have a lot more impact than a passive phrase such as "responsible for."

#### 4. BE SELECTIVE

Focus on information that is truly relevant to your career goal and edit out the rest. "There is no need to focus on your high school achievements or volunteer work if they are not relevant to the career you are looking for or if they are in your distant past," says Myers.

#### 5. BE HONEST

Myers warns job seekers to never lie on a resume. "If you lie or 'stretch the truth,' you will always lose in the long run," he says.

"Your resume is a 'living document' that will be edited and updated through the course of your job search and your entire career," adds Myers. "Taking a good look at it this spring, and at the start of every season, will help you put your best foot forward."

For more information and other useful tips for achieving career success, visit http://www.getthejobbook.com

Copyright (C) 2012, Career Potential, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted by permission of Ford R. Myers, a nationally-known Career Coach and author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring." Download your free bonuses now at http://www.careerbookbonuses.com.

Ford R. Myers is President of Career Potential, LLC. His firm helps clients take charge of their careers, create the work they love, and earn what they deserve! Ford has held senior consulting positions at three of the nation's largest career service firms. His articles and interviews have appeared in many national magazines and newspapers, and he has conducted presentations at numerous companies, associations and universities. In addition, Ford has been a frequent guest on television and radio programs across the country. More information is available at: http://www.getthejobbook.com and http://www.careerpotential.com.

### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leader

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program.

Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!

### NACF announces 2013 artist fellowships

VANCOUVER, Wash. - said NACF Program Director The Native Arts and Cultures Reuben Tomás Foundation is calling for Fellowships.

six disciplines: visual arts, literature and traditional arts. June 21.

excellence, have made a the opportunity for study, significant impact in their reflection, experimentation the NACF awarded \$904,000 discipline, earned respect from their colleagues and achieved recognition in their field. Work must be evolving and current.

notion that Native artists In September, a panel will offer profound contributions review the applications and to intellectual inquiry and community sustainability,"

"Native artists are at thresholds applications for its 2013 Artist of exploration in unfolding creative terrains; they are Award money will total deepening their impact on \$20,000 and will be made in the field of contemporary arts practice and are forging new filmmaking, music, dance, recognition in national and global communities. Through The application deadline is the fellowship program, we hope to foster the creativity Artists must demonstrate of Indigenous artists, allowing and discovery."

Native artists are defined as AmericanIndianfromfederally recognized U.S. tribes, Alaska "The NACF embraces the Native or Native Hawaiian. fellows will be announced in November.

All applicants must apply Roqueñi. online at www.nacf.us/user/ register. Call Roqueñi at 360-718-7057 for questions and support or email reuben@ nativeartsandcultures.org.

The NACF is the first national 501(c)(3) charity committed to building a fund dedicated exclusively to foster the revitalization, appreciation and perpetuation of Native arts and cultures.

In two years of granting, in grants to 54 American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian artists and organizations in 20 states.

For more about the NACF, visit www.nacf.us and sign up for the free e-newsletter or become a fan of the organization on Facebook.

## Festival focuses on 7th generation

Festival, set for 1 to 5 p.m. April

The festival is free and open to the public.

This year's program is centered on family and specifically the "seventh generation," which looks at a tradition of planning forward to what may be left for seven generations down the

Onondaga Nation, has said that "one of the first mandates given us as chiefs, to make sure future - with the importance items for purchase, including and to make every decision that and responsibility we have art, beadwork, jewelry shawls we make relate to the welfare in taking care of our natural and well-being of the seventh generation to come ... What Native American Festival themed crafts and activities about the seventh generation? Chairperson. "The library in the library's children's Where are you taking them? has What will they have?"

NORMAN, Okla. - The be seen as seventh generation Public Library sustainability, which is an dancing from both local Native continues a tradition of ecological concept that urges youth, as well as a group of celebrating the area's Native the current generation of dancers from the Riverside American culture with its humans to live sustainably Indian School. The students seventh Native American and work for the benefit of the come from several different seventh generation into the tribes and bring dancing styles 15 at the library, 225 N. Webster future. It also originated with reflective of their individual the Iroquois which strives to cultures. think seven generations ahead (a couple hundred years into storyteller and another regular the future) and decide whether contributor to the festival over the decisions they make today would benefit their children this year's event. seven generations into the

of the Norman and surrounding several traditional Oren Lyons, Chief of the communities, I felt it natural to incorporate the importance shown commitments department. in both these areas and this An additional, and perhaps festival provides an excellent 405-701-2676 or visit www.

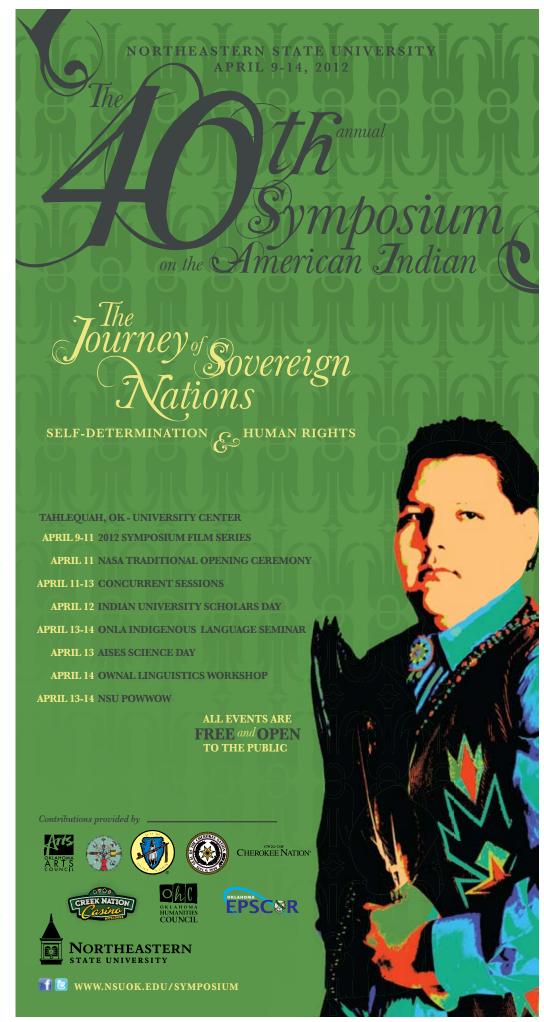
The festival will feature

Patrick Redbird, a Kiowa the years, will be the emcee for

Kricket Rhoads Connywerdy, a Kiowa and Caddo will return "The library being a vital part to the festival as well to tell Native American stories.

A Native Marketplace will be of family - past, present and set up in the main library with and ornaments, and children resources," said Julie Moring, can take part in a variety of

For more information call more contemporary view, can opportunity to showcase them." justsoyouknow.us/norman.





## EVENTS \*Email your powwow or

other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma**  Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal OSHA 10-hour class. \$10

Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

**YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MARCH 31** Tulsa Library's Festival of cherokeeartistsassociation.org Words. For events and times, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www. tulsalibrary.org.

> **THROUGH MAY** Free beginner-level **Cherokee language classes** in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

APRIL 3-5

fee - free for all TERO and 477 participants. Info and registration call Pawnee **Nation Education Division** 918-762-3227.

APRIL 6 **Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM** - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

APRIL 7 Mary Mae Hall-Zotigh Barnes Honor Dance starting at 2pm at Otoe-Missouria Cultural Center-Red Rock, OK. Info call Julia Tah: 580.723.4240 John Shotton: 580.723.4466

Indian Taco Sale 8 am to 4pm \$7.00 with drink and desert Call in orders welcome 918-752-5300. Duck Creek Community Ranch House, 10071 Ferguson Road Beggs, OK. Look for signs. Call Sue Walker 918-381-3793 or Jacqueline Rolland 918-752-5300

All You Can Eat Wild Onion Dinner 11 am -? at Springfield Church, 2 miles South on Hwy 27 from Okemah Exit , four miles East, then 2 miles South. Follow Signs. \$9 per person \$5 for children 12 & under.

**Tulsa Creek Indian Community Wild Onion Dinner from 11-3 at 8611 S** Union Ave, Tulsa OK 74132 Ph: (918) 298-2464

**Ponca Gourd Dance 9th Annual Spring Dance White Eagle Cultural Center** 5 miles south of Ponca City, OK (580) 268-3313

**APRIL 9-14** Symposium of the American Indian, Northeastern State University, University Center, Tahlequah, OK .Hosted By: NSU Center for Tribal Studies. All events are FREE and open to the public

**APRIL 13-14, NSU Powwow, University** Center, NSU Tahlequah, OK Info call the Center for Tribal Studies, 918-444-4350 or tribalstudies@nsuok.edu

APRIL 14 Azalea Powwow, 2:00pm until 11:00pm in the **Muskogee Civic Center** Arena. Info call Vinnie Hoover (918)478-9227 or Joyce Deere (918) 230-4734 **ADMISSION \$3.00 AT THE** DOOR

Wild Onion Dinner, 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, Sac & Fox Multipurpose Center, 215 N. Harrison, Shawnee, OK, **Sponsored by: Seminole** Hitchitee Methodist Church, Adults - \$10/plate / Children - \$7/plate (8 and under)

Rodeo Queen Pageant 10 am at Rockin DJ Arena, Tahlequah. Must have CDIB and ride alone. Info call Shirley Martin 918-642-5387. **APRIL 14** 

1704.

**Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference SW District Churches Benefit Powwow** at Comanche Nation Center, Apache, Okla. Gourd Dance at 2pm. More info call Aneeda Harjo 580-704-0106 or Tina Baker 580-591-1579.

**All Gourd Honor Dance** for Micheal Tsotaddle at Red Buffalo Hall, Carnegie, OK, 2p.m. - ? For more information call Darla Tsotaddle (405) 432-8377 or Mavis Tsotaddle (580) 654-

APRIL 21 Taco Sale 11-3 at Tulsa Creek Indian Community, 8611 S. Union, Tulsa. 918-298-2464. \$8 per plate. Proceeds benefit Senior trip to NICOA **Elders Conference.** 

**Victory Christian Center Native American Ministry** conference: 9:00a.m. 4:00p.m. Powwow: 7:00-11:00p.m. at Victory **Christian Activity Center.** Contact: 918.491.7830

**APRIL 24** Native American Art Festival, Tulsa Hard Rock Hotel. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. sponsored by Seminole Nation of Okla. For booth space contact [walker.s@sno-nsn.gov] or 405-257-7241 by April 16.

**APRIL 27 Kiowa Higher Education Graduates Banquet at Cross Timbers Restaurant in** 

Anadarko, OK. Info call 580-654-2300 ext. 324

**APRIL 28** 

"O-SKOO" Co-Ed Basketball Tournament (All Indun) PRE-"O-SKOO" ~ 30 YRS TO 39 YRS & "O-SKOO" ~ 40 YRS TO ??? YRS. \$50.00 Entry fee. 8 Man Roster: 4 Ole Men & 4 Ole Women. For more info, call Tonkawa Tribe Education Programs: 580-628-2561 LISA ext 125 or LEAH ext 131. Fund Raiser for end of summer WIA Youth trip!

**Church Fundraiser for New** Joy Baptist Church 11:00 to 5:00, 1103 South Main, Sapulpa. All you can eat spaghetti lunch - Cost \$8 All proceeds will go towards the church and church events. Call Jimmy Alexander 918-322-5407

**Seminole Nation Honor Guard Powwow** at Okfuskgee County Fairgrounds, Okemah, Okla. Gourd Dancing 1-5pm, Supper Break 5-6pm, Gourd Dancing 6-7pm and Grand Entry at 7pm. Info call Alex Fish 405-432-7858. Vendors call Phillip Coon 918-623-6810 or 405-432-7399.

APRIL 28 18th Annual CSUEA Youth Powwow at Frisco Center, Clinton, Oklahoma. Gourd dancing at 3 pm, supper at 5 pm, grand entry at 7 pm. Info: Charlene Wassana 580-

331-3300.

# Slam dunk success with a message

**BRETT MOSS** 

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

DURANT, Okla. - In the history of the Choctaw people, many have risen to success in their field of expertise, but one Choctaw in particular has leaped above the rest to success, a 48-inch vertical leap to be exact.

Phoenix native and slam dunk champion Kenny Dobbs spent some time in the Durant area recently to attend the Madness in March All-Indian Basketball tournament, bringing with him gravity-defying dunks and an encouraging testimony of his rise to success.

Searching "Kenny Dobbs" on youtube or google will quickly flood the screen with jaw-dropping slamdunks. Kenny is a heavily decorated slam-dunk contest champion and dunk inventor with the title of 2010 Phoenix Sprite Slam Dunk Champion, 2011 Sprite LA Slam Dunk Champion and 2011 "Ball Up/ Streetball" Slam Dunk Champion as just a few bullet points on his resumé.

As a member of the Choctaw Nation, Kenny was delighted to spend time in the Choctaw Nation. He was able to meet with Chief Gregory E. Pyle and even get his basketball signed. Kenny was brought to Durant by Ivy Bridge College as a celebrity guest for the Madness in March event to serve as a motivation for the youth to create positive goals in their lives and pursue those goals with diligence.

Kenny was chosen to speak to the participants of Madness in March because his story was not always one of success. Kenny had to overcome tremendous odds to get where he is today, and at one point he could describe his life in one word: "hopeless." His ability to find the drive to overcome a hopeless situation and his ability to dunk

a basketball while jumping over four people was a combination that sparked interest in all ages.

Kenny grew up in a gang atmosphere, becoming involved in drugs and alcohol at a young age. He spent his time with a group of friends who kept his aspirations at bay and damaged his hopes of playing professional sports, a dream he had as a little boy.

He spent his time concerned with partying, which led him to be expelled from his home at the age of 15. His education suffered and he was not able to play high school sports, which severely lowered his chances to play anything past the street court.

All of his reckless activity came to a climax at the age of 17, when he and several friends were involved in a robbery. Those with him were caught while Kenny escaped. His accomplices reported him as the main culprit and divulged his location to law enforcement. Kenny was arrested and was told he would be tried as an adult.

As he sat in jail awaiting trial he began to seriously consider the choices in his life. He began to realize he needed to make changes. "I cried out to God," said Kenny as he told how he began ask God to help him out of this situation and promised Him that he would make those changes he knew he needed. "I went from being this hardcore thug little man, to being a scared little boy that just wanted his momma to hold him," continued Kenny as he described his desperation.

When Kenny had his day in court, his prayers had been answered. Both the witness of the crime and police officer who was set to testify failed to show up in court that day, and the others involved owned up to their portion of the crime, granting Kenny only fines and no jail time.

"My attorney looked to me and he



COURTESY / NATIVE AMERICAN BASKETBALL INVITATIONAL

Kenny Dobbs has played basketball with teams overseas, performed in sold-out arenas and won the amateur slam-dunk contest at the NBA All Star Weekend. He had offers to play for big bucks internationally, sign contracts with sponsors, and offers to try out for professional basketball. He turned them all down.

said, 'It's a miracle that you aren't going to prison.' And when he said that, it was a remembrance of the month before when I was sitting in the jail cell and crying out to God, making a promise," exclaimed Kenny. From this point he knew he would have to make those changes he had promised to make.

His first goal was to finish high school. He had dropped out around the time he was kicked out of his home with only three credit hours. He had the option for a GED, but as one of the eldest in the generation of his family, he wanted to be an example and get his diploma. He now had the goal, but those influences which brought him down before were still holding him back.

One night while Kenny was out, his sister was sleeping in his bed

> and bullets began to fly through the window all around her. No one was injured, but as the next day dawned, he came home to over 30 shell casings and bullet holes covering the section of the house where he usually spent his time.

He looked over his room, seeing bullet holes in posters depicting violence and drug abuse and realized these influences and the associations with certain people were not only endangering his future and life, but his family as well. He then came to the conclusion that the first step in meeting his goal was to cleanse his life of those influences which brought him down.

Though he endured criticism for his it, he made known his decision saying, "I have a plan and a purpose for my life and I am not going to waste it." He cut out those people from his life and began to focus and work like he never had before. He needed 22 credits to graduate high school and did not want to spend three and a half years earning them, so he hit the books hard.

He enrolled in a program allowing him to attend school from 7:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. "When I got out of school, I would take home these great big books and have to read about five chapters, and then take a test online," said Kenny as he remembered his studies He would write the words "diploma" and "graduation" above his door, so when he woke up he would be reminded of his goal and keep himself motivated.

Each of his tests was worth a quarter of a credit, and after a year and a half of solid schooling without breaks or vacation, he had finished his high school education. He had completed his first major goal and tasted success. He then knew he could do anything and used this experience as the blueprint for all his future accomplishments.

His next goal was college. He attempted to get sport scholarships with several schools, but without a high school resumé and coaching, none would look at him. Eventually he got his shot while talking with Glendale Community College. It happened by chance they were doing a scrimmage while Kenny was visiting and they let him hit the court. He did not fail to impress and was signed soon after.

This was his first experience with a real team and actual coaching. It improved his knowledge of his body and abilities. He began to jump higher and gain a greater ability to dunk. He took these improvements to a local "Hoop It Up" dunk competition. He won this competition with ease.

Shaquille O'Neil's happened to be at that event and invited Kenny to compete in a dunk event in Las Angeles promoting Shaq's new shoe, Dunkman. This was Kenny's first time against major opposition.

As he stretched and readied himself for action he watched many opponents complete impressive dunks during the warmup. He began to feel nervous and unconfident, dreading his turn on the court.

Inspiration came when the match began. He noticed the others were doing the exact same dunks in the main event they were doing in practice. He realized he had seen them at their best already and there was nothing else to expect from them while he still had many tricks up his sleeve.

After slamming down an off-thebackboard windmill dunk, "the crowd went crazy and these guy's jaws dropped," explained Kenny as he told how he won the event. "After that point, I realized, never doubt in myself again, never let somebody intimidate me to take me out of my game plan," he continued.

As he emerged victorious, Kenny witnessed the excitement in the crowd, especially with the youth. He began to think about how he could impress and captivate audiences with his talents, and the potential he had with that attention. He thought of how dunking was the most attention-getting action in the game of basketball and explored the potential to intertwine his testimony with his talent.

While he was completing this high school education, he was also growing his faith in God by becoming involved in discipleship classes. This strengthened his faith, boosted his confidence and allowed him to begin spreading his words of encouragement to those who were currently in the negative situations he knew too well. At the age of 19 he became a youth pastor for Glory to the Lord Church.

He had continued working with troubled youth up to this point, steering them away from the kinds of ways he once knew and on to a path of success. He had done considerable work in the Phoenix area to forward his message, and as he won this particular completion, he realized the most effective

medium he had to deliver it.

He resolved to become "the best slam dunk artist in the world." With that title he would be able to travel many places, impress many people and most of all, spread his inspiration more than ever. With his next goal in mind, the climb to the top began.

Since that time Kenny has soared above the opposition, dedicated his body to training and his time to spreading his message of encouragement. He has sustained a considerable wrist injury that took months to heal, a leg injury from which some thought he would never completely recover, and a head injury he sustained from the rim during a competition which he went on to win; all experiences which he uses to illustrate how perseverance and hard work will overcome obstacles hindering progress.

He has played with teams overseas, performed in sold-out arenas and won the amateur slam-dunk contest at the NBA All Star Weekend. He had offers to play for big bucks internationally, sign contracts with sponsors, and offers to try out for professional basketball.

He has turned down these offers to be able to keep performing for youth so he can motivate them to stay in school and away from negative lifestyles. During the year of 2011 he devoted more time to Native American lands, attempting to help out those with a similar cultural background to his own.

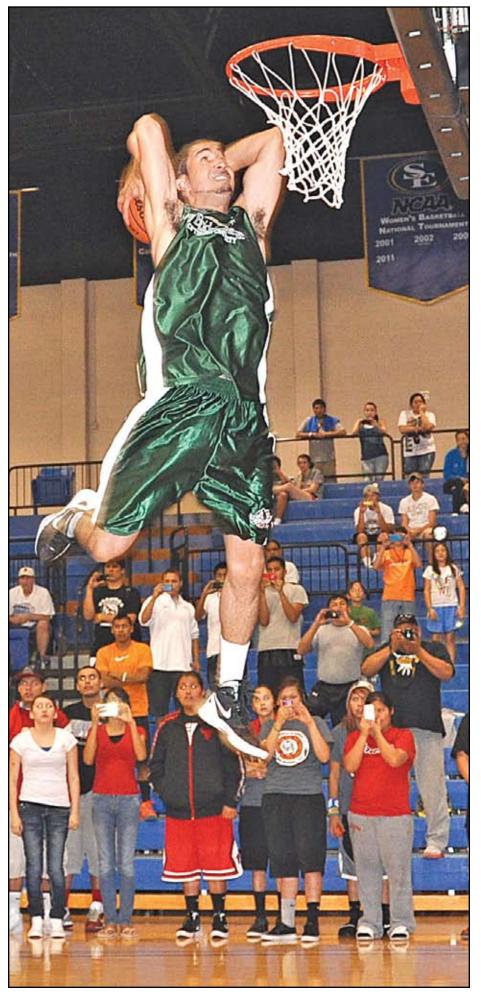
Now that he has been at this mission for some time, he is beginning to see his work pay off. The youth he has spoke to now contact him and let him know his influence helped their situation considerably.

"That is what keeps me passionate... no amount of money that I can get paid is going to be able to equal the sense of saving these young peoples' lives and encouraging them," said Dobbs "Hearing these stories is letting me know that I truly am having a huge impact in these young people's lives and I wouldn't trade that for anything," he continued.

To pursue his goal of being the best basketball dunker, he postponed his college career for a time, but has recently enrolled with Ivy Bridge College and can take classes online anywhere he travels. He shares this fact to parents in the crowd at his shows, telling them it is never too late for education.

Kenny is a parent himself. He and his wife, Danae, are the proud parents of two daughters, Uriah, 6, and Audrina, 3. He takes delight in the fact that his daughters are showing promise in basketball much like he did during his youth.

Kenny hopes to finish his degree and become well versed-in political sciences, noting that he is currently able to affect the youth by relating to them, steering them towards a positive path, but he desires to take on more responsibility in the policy aspect. He hopes with a better knowledge of the politics, he will be able to make situations like those of his youth less prominent among the youth of tomorrow.



BRETT MOSS / CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

Kenny Dobbs shows of his dunking talents at Bloomer Sullivan Arena on the campus of Southeastern Oklahoma State

#### **Inside this issue:**

- ND oil boom taking toll on Affiliated Tribes
- NYO Games show off Indigenous athleticism
- Museum opens Enoch Kelly Haney exhibit









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 16

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**APRIL 20, 2012** 

### Echo Hawk to conclude tenure at DOI

**■** Secretary Salazar commends Larry Echo Hawk for his leadership, service

WASHINGTON - Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced last week that Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk will resign his position effective April 27. Echo Hawk, a citizen of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, is leaving the Department of Interior after nearly three years to assume a leadership position in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

"Larry has done an extraordinary job at Interior, opening a new chapter in our nation-to-nation relationship with American Indian and Alaska Natives tribal governments and carrying out President Obama's vision for empowering Indian nations," Salazar said. "During his tenure, the Department accelerated the restoration of tribal homelands, improved public safety in tribal communities, resolved century-old water disputes, made

critical investments in education, and reached many more milestones that are helping Indian nations pursue the future of their choosing. We thank Larry for his exemplary leadership and wish him all the best as he begins a new chapter in his life."

"The opportunity to participate in remedying the negative perceptions of the federal government in Indian Country was a formidable challenge at first, but I am proud to say that I have served my country as an agent for change here in Indian Affairs," said Echo Hawk. "I believe at the end of this Administration, the work we accomplished will leave a lasting legacy for American Indian and Alaska Natives. I want to thank President Obama, Secretary Salazar, the American Indian and Alaska Native tribal nations and the many devoted employees at Interior who supported my leadership and allowed me the opportunity to serve Indian Country."

Donald "Del" Laverdure, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, will serve as Acting Assistant Secretary until President Obama nominates a new Assistant Secretary to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Laverdure is a member of the Crow Nation and has served in a leadership role at Interior since 2009.

"Del has played a key role in many of Interior's meaningful accomplishments over the past three years, and I am confident that he is the right person to lead Indian Affairs as we continue to fulfill President Obama's vision for reconciliation and empowerment for Indian nations," Salazar added.

Under Echo Hawk's leadership, Interior has reenergized its commitment to fulfilling this nation's trust responsibilities to Native Americans. The Department has broken the logjam on trust land applications and streamlined the process as part of the most substantial overhaul of the Department's leasing process in 50 years. Since 2009, the Department has acquired more than 158,000 acres of land in trust on behalf

See ECHO HAWK Continued on Page 2



# **Former Crow attorney** to fill in at top BIA post

HELENA, Mont. (AP) - A Laverdure has been deputy Bureau of Indian Affairs.

serve as acting assistant secretary other tribes. of the Interior for Indian affairs after Larry Echo Hawk resigned to role until President Barack Obama take a position with The Church of nominates a new assistant secretary Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

former Crow attorney has been assistant secretary since 2009. named the interim head of the U.S. He was previously the chief legal counsel for the executive branch The Interior Department said of the Crow tribe and has held Monday that Del Laverdure will judgeships with the Crow and

> Laverdure will serve in his new who is confirmed by the Senate.

# Native America's first 'Top Model' has big plans



Mariah Watchman, citizen of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, auditioned for America's Next Top Model during a nationwide casting call on June 29, 2011. DANA ATTOCKNIE Native American Tim

FORT PECK INDIAN RESERVA-TION - Mariah Watchman knows what she wants and what it takes to get it.

"I'm just going to work hard and keep this tunnel vision of being the first Native (American) super model," Watch-

Her recent adventure on the America's Next Top Model: British Invasion was another accomplishment in her career where she met fashion icon Tyra Banks and People's Revolution founder Kelly Cutrone.

"Everything was just amazing; I wouldn't trade it for anything. Ever since the time I very first auditioned, I knew that it was my goal ... my passion. It was really important to me to be the first Native American to make it on the show; first tribal enrolled member, and that was always my mission," Watchman, 20, said. "I ended up getting eliminated on the second episode and it was really hard at the time. I was kind of in a sense, not embarrassed, but because I'm such a competitive person in everything that I do, to be eliminated second, that was something I didn't expect. But I still did it to the best of my abilities; at least getting to make the top seven in the whole United States, and then on top of that being the first Native to ever make it."

Watchman is enrolled with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla near Pendleton, Ore. She was born in Missoula, Mont. and that's also where she auditioned for America's Next Top Model during the nationwide casting call on June 29, 2011.

"I had the same chances thousands of other girls did ... I had to make it through a couple of rounds, video submissions ... It was a long process, but I finally made it to the final casting call in L.A. I actually had to keep it under wraps for a long time," She said. "The whole experience all together was just amazing. I would never change it. I was happy that even though I had gotten eliminated second that I felt like I did a really good job of representing Native Americans ... Being the first Native I felt like I had this big weight on my shoulders ..."

See MODEL Continued on Page 8

# Tribes, government agree to \$1 billion settlement

SHANNON DININNY

YAKIMA, Wash. (AP) - The federal government will pay more than \$1 billion to settle a series of lawsuits brought by American Indian tribes over mismanagement of tribal money and trust lands, under a settlement announced April 11.

The agreement resolves claims brought by 41 tribes from across the country to reclaim money lost in mismanaged accounts and from royalties for oil, gas, grazing and timber rights on tribal lands.

Negotiations continue on dozens of other cases.

The settlement was announced jointly by the Justice Department and the Interior Department, which manages more than 100,000 leases on tribal trust lands and about 2,500 tribal trust accounts for more

than 250 federally recognized tribes.

"These settlements fairly and honorably resolve historical grievances over the accounting and management of tribal trust funds, trust lands, and other non-monetary trust resources that, for far too long, have been a source of conflict between Indian tribes and the United States," Attorney General Eric Holder said.

Ending the long-running dispute allows the governments involved to move beyond distrust and antagonism, and empowers Indian communities going forward, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said.

All tribes have had a dark relationship with the federal government, said Gary Hayes, chairman of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, whose reservation covers southwest Colorado, southeast Utah

See SETTLEMENT Continued on Page 4

# Judge lets Kansas join dispute over tribal land

The Wyandotte Nation filed its lawsuit last year to force the Interior Department to accept into trust a tract of Park City land the tribe bought in 1992.

**ROXANA HEGEMAN** Associated Press

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) - The state of Kansas received permission April 12 to join the legal fight over the Wyandotte Nation's efforts to build a casino in Park City, a case that pits American Indian sovereignty against the state's economic interest in controlling gambling.

U.S. Magistrate Judge David Waxse let Kansas to intervene in a federal lawsuit filed by the tribe, saying it is "abundantly clear" that Kansas has an interest in the outcome of the litigation. The judge noted Kansas now has taxing, regulatory and legal authority over the land where the tribe hopes to build.

The Wyandotte Nation filed its lawsuit last year to force the Interior Department to accept into trust a tract of Park City land the tribe bought in 1992. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act allows tribes to conduct gambling only on Indian lands, defined as land within its reservation or held in trust by the United States.

Wyandotte Nation, formerly known as the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, contends that after it received federal recognition in 1978, it needed to reacquire lands lost as a result of "failed federal policies." The Wyandotte Nation contends it bought the Park City land using money Congress set aside to buy property to put into trust for the tribe's benefit.

"We are pleased with the ruling and look forward to representing the state of Kansas in this matter," Jeff Wagaman, deputy chief of staff for the Kansas attorney general's office, said in an email.

An attorney representing the tribe did not immediately return a message left for

See KANSAS Continued on Page 4

# ND oil boom taking toll on Three Affiliated Tribes

TALLI NAUMAN
Native Sun News

WASHINGTON – Concluding an April 3 meeting with elected tribal and state leaders at the Fort Berthold Reservation, U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar unveiled accountability measures to aid oil and gas development on public and Indian trust lands in North and South Dakota, Montana and other states across the country.

Salazar's rendition followed his April 2 trip with North Dakota officials to boomtowns and man-camps in the Bakken oilfields, the fastest-growing oil and gas development area in the U.S.

It came one week after Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation Tribal Business Council Chairman Tex Hall testified to a U.S. Congress Appropriations subcommittee that the Three Affiliated Tribes need more money and streamlined processes to meet the challenges of the boom at Fort Berthold.

"(The) Interior (Department) is committed to expanding safe and responsible oil and gas development on public lands and Indian trust lands," Salazar said in a prepared statement he framed "as part of President Obama's all-of-the-above energy strategy."

President Barack Obama made a trip through Western energy-resource states in late March to promote the "all-of-the-above" strategy aimed at supporting every possible kind of domestic power production.

Salazar highlighted the implementation of new "automated tracking systems

that could reduce the review period for drilling permits by two-thirds and expedite the sale and processing of federal oil and gas leases." It responded to Hall's earlier request for a "permanent onestop shop" permitting process to simplify paperwork.

With Bureau of Indian Affairs supervision and lease management, the Three Affiliated Tribes have encouraged oil production, generating massive increases in royalties for the tribal government and individual landowners.

Royalties from individual allotments on Indian trust lands in 2008 totaled \$1.8 million, and rose to \$106.7 million in 2011. In the first three months of 2012, royalties totaling nearly \$60 million were collected, Salazar said.

The increases came after Salazar dissolved the Minerals Management Service and delegated its responsibilities to three separate branches of the new Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement.

The reorganization was largely in response to charges of industry-government collusion, the BP Deepwater Horizon drilling rig disaster in 2010, and an effort by allotment owners nationwide to reap overdue, concealed benefits from oil and gas leasing.

Compared to the last three years of the previous administration, receipts are up due to a 13-percent increase in domestic oil production during the first three years of the Obama administration, according to Salazar.

The volume of drilling applications in the Bakken shale formation has ballooned



PHOTO COURTESY/TAMI A. HEILEMANN, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS Tex G. Hall, far left, chairman of the Three Affiliated Tribes of North Dakota, discussed oil and gas leasing with, from left to right, U.S. Rep. Rick Berg (R-ND); Interior Secretary Ken Salazar; U.S. Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND), and North Dakota Gov. Jack

500 percent during the past five years, half of it on American Indian mineral estates, Salazar noted. Since 2007, applications to drill on Fort Berthold, in the heart of the Bakken, have gone from 0 to 175. More than \$3 million in drilling permit fees were collected there in fiscal 2011, Salazar said in the prepared

Dalrymple at the Fort Berthold Reservation on April 3.

Inspections by the Interior's Bureau of Land Management also continue to rise. In fiscal year 2007 the bureau conducted four inspections on Indian minerals; in fiscal year 2011, a total of 429 inspections were conducted. For the same time frame, for non-Indian federal minerals, inspections rose from 200 to 718.

As the lead agency for permitting, inspection and enforcement activities for both federal and tribal resources, the BLM is responsible for ensuring measures to maintain

environmental quality and human safety.

The impact of the oil boom has prompted Hall to prod Congress for housing to support a new health facility; funding to address the severe damage that oil and gas development has caused to roads; continued funding for permanent "one-stop shop" permits like that provided in fiscal year 2012; additional BIA and BLM personnel to process the oil and gas permits for tribes, and legislative postponement of federal funds to implement the BLM's newly proposed regulations on hydraulic fracturing.

"While the oil and gas boom on the reservation and in the region has brought with it many positive things, it has also brought us some serious problems," Hall testified on March 27 in Washington, D.C. "One of those problems is a total lack of available housing within 100 miles of our reservation," he told the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies

Related Agencies.

Hall said the tribe needs affordable housing, especially in order to provide for staff to open its new health clinic. "Since the boom, every available housing unit within 100 miles of our new clinic has already been placed under contract or lease. Even when housing does open up, which is extremely rare, two- and three-bedroom homes are now renting for in excess of \$2,500 per month."

"The bottom line is that we need a minimum of \$12 million to construct homes for the 60-plus (Indian Health Service)-funded employees that this committee has appropriated dollars to hire," he said. "The MHA Nation has already done its part by spending in excess of \$1.6 million in tribal funds

to prepare the site for these new homes and bringing in the utilities, but we simply cannot afford to construct those units."

Hall showed lawmakers pictures of "the road safety crisis that oil and gas development has created" on the 1-million-acre reservation. More than 260 miles of the 1,081 miles of road on the reservation are tribal or BIA. And just a little over 25 percent of all the reservation's roads are paved.

"None of these roads were built to handle the types of heavy equipment and heavy trucks utilized by the oil and gas industry," said Hall. "Those roads have been almost totally destroyed by oil- and gasrelated traffic."

"I fear every day that I will get a call telling me that a school bus full of children has tipped over killing a number of our students," he said. "I already receive almost daily calls telling me of serious accidents involving our members. In fact, we now have so many accidents on my reservation that my staff does not even bother to call me unless the injuries are lifethreatening. The situation has now gotten to be that bad."

"If the federal government truly wants to see oil and gas development within the boundaries of the United States, it has to take responsibility for the damage that this type of production causes to its own federal roads and small communities like MHA," Hall said.

-----

Copyright permission by Native Sun News www.nsweekly.com

# **ECHO HAWK**

Continued from Page 1



Larry Echo Hawk

of tribal nations.

Interior is also working to implement the landmark Claims Resolution Act of 2010 that included the Cobell Settlement, a \$3.4 billion settlement that honorably and responsibly addresses long-standing injustices.

Echo Hawk has worked to meet the critical water needs of NativeAmerican communities, helping to reach historic water rights settlements that offer a fair resolution to decades of conflict and litigation. For communities, like the Taos Pueblo and Aamodt case pueblos in New Mexico; the Crow Tribe of Montana and the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona, the permanent water supply will vastly improve the quality of life and offer greater economic

During his tenure, Echo Hawk worked across the federal government, including the Department of Justice, to help build safer communities and implement the Tribal Law and Order Act that President Obama signed into law in 2010. Echo Hawk strengthened law enforcement and launched an intense community policing pilot program on four reservations experiencing high crime rates. The Safe Indian Communities

initiative, a two-year program, has so far achieved a 35 percent overall decrease in violent crime across the four communities.

Echo Hawk has also led the wayindraftingacomprehensive and transparent consultation policy for the Department that will provide a strong, meaningful role for tribal governments at all stages of federal decision-making on Indian policy.

President Obama nominated Echo Hawk on April 20, 2009 and the Senate confirmed him as the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs on May 19, 2009. He was sworn into office by Secretary Salazar on May 22, 2009.

Echo Hawk was elected Attorney General of Idaho in 1990, the first American Indian in U.S. history to achieve that distinction. He also served two consecutive terms in the Idaho House of Representatives, from 1982 to 1986. A former U.S. Marine, Echo Hawk began his law career as a legal services attorney working for impoverished Indian people in California, then opened a private law office in Salt Lake City. He also served as the Chief General Legal Counsel for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho from 1977-1986.

Echo Hawk received his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Utah in 1973; and attended Stanford Graduate School of Business's MBA Program, 1974-1975. Echo Hawk, 63, and his wife Terry have six children and 24 grandchildren.

# Kialegee casino could soon open doors amid protest

JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS Associated Press

BROKEN ARROW, Okla. (AP) – A tiny Oklahoma Indian tribe of fewer than 450 members could partly open a casino in this Tulsa suburb by the end of the month despite protest from thousands of residents, a pendingstatelawsuitseeking to stop the building and permission from a national gaming organization.

The Kialegee Tribal Town, headquartered in Wetumka in southeastern Oklahoma, broke ground on the 20-acre site near the Creek Turnpike late last year and has trucked in several pre-fabricated buildings in recent weeks to temporarily house the Red Clay Casino. When it opens, the gaming center will be among several larger casinos already operating in Tulsa County – the closest is about 10 miles away from the site.

The casino quickly drew the ire of residents, pastors and school administrators, who fear the tribe is trying to force the development on the conservative bedroom community of 99,000.

Opponents say the casino will only be a few blocks from the future site of an elementary school and pre-kindergarten center and worry it could attract a flurry of criminal activity to the area. More than 10,000 people have also signed a petition to keep the casino out

The facility is located several blocks from an

80-acre parcel purchased by the district for a new elementary school and pre-kindergarten center, where nearly 1,000 students are expected to attend when the buildings open in the fall of 2013. Dozens of angered parents have lobbied the district to oppose the casino because of the proximity and safety concerns, such as inadequate roads and crosswalks to accommodate the increased traffic.

In February, Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt sued the tribe in Tulsa federal court, accusing it of moving ahead with construction without obtaining federal approval to lease the property.

to lease the property.

"No one, tribal or otherwise, is above state or federal laws," Pruitt said in a statement. "The Kialegees do not have the authority to pick and choose which steps to follow in the federal or state approval process of establishing casinos." A hearing is set for May 16.

"It's alarming to me that with so much opposition, they would continue to move forward at such a rapid pace," said resident Seth Spreiter, member of the group Broken Arrow Citizens Against Neighborhood Gaming. "To me, it honestly feels like they are trying to get the casino in operation, thinking that once they get the doors open, it will be much harder to shut them down."

The land is currently owned by two sisters who have attempted to transfer their parcel to the tribe, but a district judge has refused to approve the transaction, deferring instead to the federal government to determine whether the land can be leased. The National Indian Gaming Commission, which decides whether the land in question can be used by the tribe for a casino, did not return phone messages seeking comment.

Tribal leaders and a Washington D.C.-based attorney representing the casino development group did not return calls seeking comment.

In a statement issued days after residents discovered that construction had begun, tribal leader Tiger Hobia said the Kialegee have kept the federal government and the city up to date on the casino plans. Hobia also claimed that the casino is necessary because the tribe lacks enough resources to fund programs that serve its members. On a website promoting the casino, the tribe estimated the facility will employ up to 120 people and have a \$250 million economic impact on the city.

Like many local politicians who have expressed reservations about the project, Broken Arrow Mayor Mike Lester is growing tired of waiting on Washington.

"The general sense we received from our meetings (with the gaming commission) is it's a process," Lester said. "I really got the indication they would provide us an answer fairly soon, but we're almost a month out from that meeting."

Chris Buskirk, pastor at Abiding Harvest United Methodist Church – located a few hundred feet near the casino site – accused the tribe of pushing ahead with the project without any sense of apprehension that it might lack the credentials to do so.

"I want to be a champion of our Indian brothers and sisters, but there seems to be a swashbuckling attitude of entitlement," he said. "It seems out of step to me. It seems odd that people who have experienced so much oppression and mistreatment are so callous to ignore that when they are participating in it themselves."

Buskirk, whose church is home to a gambling addiction recovery group, said what will be a "grand, money-making opportunity for some" could result in "destruction" for others.

Resident DeEtta Hughes, who lives within a mile of the building site, said members of the opposition group are still hopeful the casino can be stopped.

"Casinos do not need to be in communities across from schools and churches and homes," she said. "There are more than 100 casinos in the state of Oklahoma – we don't need any more."

# Athleticism of indigenous cultures on display at Alaska's annual NYO Games

Open to Alaska students from 7th through 12th grades, the NYO Games provide insight into Alaska's rich cultural heritage while promoting a healthy lifestyle and good sportsmanship.

**JACK BONNEY** 

Anchorage, Alaska -For hundreds of years, Alaska's Native peoples used games to practice hunting and survival skills. These games helped develop strength, endurance and control over the body. Today, thousands of Alaska youth continue the tradition, with the best meeting in Anchorage for the NYO Games - formerly the Native Youth Olympics – April 27-29, 2012.

The action takes place at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center as 500 athletes from 50 communities will compete in such events as the wrist carry, Eskimo stick pull, and one- and two-foot high kick. Open to Alaska students from 7th through 12th grades, the NYO Games provide insight into Alaska's rich cultural heritage while promoting a healthy lifestyle and good sportsmanship. Often during the games, competitors will be seen helping each other with technique. Many schools teach Native games as part of their physical education curriculum or as an after-school culture club.

Each of the 10 events is based on skills used by Alaska's first peoples; the games include:

#### The One-Foot High Kick

Considered the headline event of the games, competitors jump off both feet and attempt to kick a ball suspended high in the air with one foot, landing back on that same foot. Anchorage's Brian Randazzo Jr. kicked 111 inches to win the event last year; on the girls' side, Wasilla's Alice Strick tied her own world record at 91 inches.

#### The One-Hand Reach

A game to test a person's control over their body. Competitors balance



COURTESY / VISIT ALASKA FLIKR PAGE

Extra balance is needed for the 'One Hand Reach.' In this event competitors balance their weight on the palm or knuckles of one hand, reach to touch a suspended ball with the free hand and then put the free hand on the floor without any other part of the body touching the floor.

the body on both hands in a squat position. Once the balance has been attained they will reach out with one hand in an attempt to touch a suspended ball. Then the free hand must return to the floor before any other part of the body.

#### The Alaskan High Kick

Perhaps one of the most acrobatic events, the athlete tries to kick a ball suspended overhead while balancing on a single hand in an event that demands the mind and body work in harmony to maintain control. The athlete who kicks the target at the highest height is the winner.

For a full schedule of events visit the NYO Games website. They are hosted by Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc., the nonprofit social service agency for Cook Inlet Region, Inc.

While the NYO Games only run three days, it's not the only opportunity to see Native games or explore Alaska Native culture in Anchorage. The Alaska Native Heritage Center does daily demonstrations of the games. The center has tools, watercraft, clothing and art from each of Alaska's Native cultures, as well as traditional dwellings set alongside a two-acre lake and walking trails. More information can be found at www.alaskanative.net.

The Anchorage Museum, featuring the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center, showcases indigenous Alaska artifacts, many of which have never been on display. They include an 1893 Tlingit war helmet and an 1866 Gwich'in Athabascan tunic with dyed quill designs, one of the Smithsonian's oldest objects. The Anchorage Museum's collection permanent displays Alaska's cultural heritage, including information on early contact with Russians and New England whalers, the Gold Rush era and a presentday reflection of Alaska's indigenous people. For more information about the Anchorage Museum, visit www. anchoragemuseum.org.

- For more information visit www. Anchorage.net.

VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

#### Native TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY Wesley Mahan MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







# Junior high drops Indians mascot name

BUFFALO GROVE, Ill. (AP) - After more than five decades being known as the Indians, Aptakisic Junior High in Buffalo Grove is bowing to changing sensibilities and renaming its mascot the Eagles.

Principal Jessica McIntyre she tells the Daily Herald in Arlington Heights the change was not driven by any particular complaint or request. McIntyre noted the school did not use the image of an Indian, but the name does appear on sports banners and gym uniforms.

She said that while the name Aptakisic still honors the former mascot, the students "didn't feel connected to the Indian."

Mascots have been an issue at the collegiate level, with schools, including the University of Illinois and Bradley University, retiring or changing their Native American themed mascots or team nicknames. Some of the efforts have sparked controversy.

# Native sports website relaunches

NDNSPORTS.COM website relaunches its website with a new design and continues providing the most up-to-date information on Native American athletes.

#### **BRENT CAHWEE**

OKMULGEE, Okla. - After a few years of being dormant, NDNSPORTS.COM relaunched its website in early 2012. Founded in 2000, the NDNSPORTS.COM website had become the largest resource for Native American sports news and profiles by providing the most up to date information on current college and professional athletes. Back under the direction of the founders, the website has relaunched with many of the same features and a new layout that is visually appealing to users on computers, tablets, and smart phones.

While the website has a new look and feel, the goal remains the same says co-founder John Harjo, "The goal has always and will always be about promoting Native American athletes." In terms of content, there will be more one-on-one interviews with athletes and more profiles of athletes that have been provided in the past. "We want ndnsports to be your one stop shop for news concerning Native American athletes on a daily basis, we know many existing Native American publications provide sports coverage but do so on month-by-month basis.", says other co-founder, Brent Cahwee. "We are looking to provide as much as we can by gathering information on a

In addition to the launch of the website, the NDNSPORTS founders have also developed social media outlets to coexist with the website. Users will be able to follow NDNSPORTS on Facebook™ and Twitter™ for the most up-to-date information and later this year there will be a smart phone App that people will be able to download.

Also, our relationships with the Native American communities over the years have allowed us to foster relationships with many sports, community and tribal leaders. We are looking to continue to build on those relationships and with our knowledge and expertise we will offer a variety of services later this year. Eventually, we want to develop as many college and professional athletes as we can but the first step is re-establishing the website. So please visit the website and we will provide information about our programs and services as soon as they are developed.

For more information visit http:// www.ndnsports.com - Sports News

# Nike, basketball star, debut new N7 shoe

**JILL ZANGER** 

OKLAHOMA CITY - Kevin Durant of the Oklahoma City Thunder wore the new Nike N7 Zoom KDIV in a home contest April 11 against the LA Clippers to support N7, a community program and fund dedicated to providing access to sport and physical activity for Native American and Aboriginal communities with a focus on youth. Playing in Oklahoma has brought Kevin close to the cause, and he collaborated with Nike's basketball and N7 teams to find a meaningful way to give back to the fans and

community who have supported him by raising awareness for N7. "Everybody Leaves a Footprint" is the N7 tagline, referencing how each of us inevitably has an impact that affects future generations. The N7 Zoom KDIV is Kevin's footprint.

The Nike N7 Zoom KDIV will be available in white and black later this spring at Nikestore.com and Nike retail locations as part of the Summer 2012 Nike N7 collection. The turquoise color highlighted on the special version of his signature shoe is deeply symbolic

of friendship and community in Native American culture, and is the foundation color of the N7 collection. A portion of profits from sales of the N7 collection help to support the N7 Fund, which awards grants to Native American and Aboriginal grassroots sport and fitness programs for youth. The fund has raised more than \$1 million for grantees since it began, including the Central Oklahoma American Indian Health Council and local program 4 The Love of the Game. Learn more at www. niken7.com.



IMAGE COURTESY NIKE

The NIKE N7 Zoom KDIV will be available at Nikestore.com

# Living a Balanced Life with Diabetes

The National Diabetes Education Program Urges Health Care Professionals to Promote Better Diabetes Self-care in Tribal Communities

The National Diabetes Education Program (NDEP) has created a new tool kit to help health care professionals reach out to their American Indian and Alaska Native patients with information to promote better diabetes self-care. The Living a Balanced Life with Diabetes tool kit features culturally appropriate resources to address the barriers to diabetes self-management that are pervasive in tribal communities.

At nearly 16.1%, American Indians and Alaska Natives have the highest ageadjusted prevalence of diabetes among all U.S. racial and ethnic groups. The diabetes death rate among American Indians and Alaska Natives is nearly three times the rate for the general U.S. population. The high prevalence of diabetes among American Indians and Alaska Natives makes the Living a Balanced Life with Diabetes tool kit a valuable new resource for health care professionals who serve these populations.

Self-care of diabetes can prevent or delay the disease's complications in any population. However, challenges such as substance use, depression, and the stigma associated with mental health issues can make good self-care difficult. Many tribal communities face these challenges. It is important to help people with diabetes address mental health issues to reduce the risk of many avoidable diabetes complications.

The Living a Balanced Life with Diabetes tool kit contains a variety of materials to address these issues, including the following:

- Barbara Mora's using Our Wit and Wisdom to Live Well With Diabetes audio CD and book, which describes her journey with diabetes.
- Indian Health Diabetes Best Practice: Depression Care booklet on how to screen for and treat depression and when to refer patients to mental health
- Health for Native Life magazine articles covering stressors such as anger
- Depression screening tools, including a patient health questionnaire and a depression checklist.
- Tip sheets on alcohol and smoking, self-esteem, and healthy food choices.
- Suicide Prevention Hotline magnet with contact information.
- Resource list with information on diabetes control, suicide prevention,

nutrition, physical activity, and telephone hotlines.

We encourage you to distribute these materials to health care professionals in your communities who serve American Indians and Alaska Natives. Order free tool kits at www.yourdiabetesinfo.org or 1-888-693-NDEP (6337). If you have any questions on how to promote the tool kit, please contact NDEP at aianpt@

The NDEP is jointly sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health, with the support of more than 200 partners.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Number of Americans with diabetes rises to nearly 26 million [press release]. Atlanta; 2011 January 26. Available from URL: http://www.cdc.gov/ media/releases/2011/p0126\_diabetes. html?s\_cid=2011\_p0126\_diabetes.

Indian Health Service. Trends in Indian health: 2002-2003 edition [brochure]. Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; 2009 October. Available from URL: http://www.ihs. gov/nonmedicalprograms/ihs\_stats/files/ *Trends\_02-03\_Brochure.pdf.* 



## KANSAS

comment.

"The practical impact of this litigation could be to decimate Kansas' sovereign interest over the Park City Tract entirely," Waxse wrote.

Waxse concluded the state's interest in having authority over people and land within its territorial boundaries was a "significant and legally protectable interest," adding the court need not consider whether the state's interest in preventing the establishment of a casino that would compete with the stateoperated casino was sufficient to justify intervention.

Kansas granted Peninsula Gaming the exclusive right to operate a casino in south-

central Kansas, where it recently opened the Kansas Star Casino just 25 miles from where the tribe wants to build its casino.

While the Wyandotte Nation argues in its lawsuit that federal law compels the Interior Department to accept the land into trust, while Kansas claims the exact opposite: that the law prohibits the trust acquisition. So while tribe is seeking a court order compelling the Interior Department to accept land into trust, the state is asking that the Interior Department be barred from accepting it.

The Interior Department did not oppose the state's request to join in the case, though it does not concede its claims. The tribe had opposed the move by the state to join

# **Gestational Diabetes threatens** health of pregnant mothers, infants

OKLAHOMA DEPT. OF HEALTH

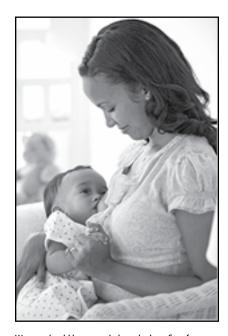
OKLAHOMA CITY - Findings from a recent survey of new Oklahoma mothers found that almost one in 10 reported Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM), or high blood sugar, during their pregnancy. GDM is associated with increased risks for lifelong poor health outcomes for mothers and infants, according to the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

For children of women with previous GDM, there is an increased risk of developing childhood obesity, prediabetes, and type 2 diabetes. Infants have increased risk of being very large at birth, which can cause problems at delivery for both mother and infant.

For mothers, GDM includes increased risk of cesarean section delivery, more days in the hospital after delivery, and developing type 2 diabetes later in life. The risks were highest for mothers 30 years or older, those obese prior to becoming pregnant, women who have had a previous birth, and those women living in lower income households of less than \$15,000 a year. Overweight or obese women with GDM had even greater risks for negative health

Data from the survey also suggest increased costs for the health care system and the state as a whole as some women experiencing GDM and their offspring have complications and longer hospitalizations.

The Oklahoma State Department of Health offers these recommendations for health care providers as opportunities to decrease the number of women who develop GDM:



Women should be counseled on the benefits of breastfeeding for obesity prevention.

- 1. At annual women's health visit, assess the family's health behaviors and counsel on weight management, nutrition, physical activity, and ways to reduce the risk of obesity and type 2
- 2. Counsel women on the importance of the postpartum health checkup; schedule the postpartum visit with delivery provider or medical home at delivery discharge.
- 3. Provide diabetes management of blood glucose and blood pressure levels to help prevent complications during pregnancy, or refer women with GDM for appropriate diabetes management. Use a diabetes management team including certified nurse, nutrition and

pharmacy educators, behavioral health specialists, and case management.

- 4. Counsel women on the benefits of breastfeeding for obesity prevention.
- 5. Adopt a Gestational Diabetes Screening Protocol for routine gestational diabetes screening at the first prenatal visit, the 24 to 28 weeks visit, postpartum visit, and women's annual health visit. Recommended protocols are from the American Congress of Obstetrics and Gynecology and the American Diabetes Association.
- 6. Adopt the Institute of Medicine's weight gain for pregnancy as protocol and assess weight gain at each prenatal visit. Women whose weight gain exceeds the medical standard should be counseled on appropriate weight gain and encouraged to sign a contract for behavioral changes including caloric balance, cardiovascular physical fitness, and stress reduction.

Survey data are part of the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System, a surveillance system administered by the Oklahoma State Department of Health to monitor behaviors of women before, during and after pregnancy. On a monthly basis, PRAMS surveys between 200 and 250 mothers in Oklahoma. To read the entire PRAMS study, visit: http://www.ok.gov/health/documents/  $PramsGram\_DIABETES\_FEB\_2012.pdf$ 

For information about having a healthy baby, visit the "Preparing for a Lifetime, It's Everyone's Responsibility" website at: http://iio.health.ok.gov.

# **SETTLEMENT**

and northern New Mexico. But the settlements will assist tribal governments in supplementing decades of inadequate funding throughout Indian Country, helping to improve public safety, infrastructure and health care, he said.

"The seeds that we plant today will profit us in the future and continue for generations to come," Hayes Nation in Oklahoma. said.

The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe will receive nearly \$42.6 million.

The government did not release the dollar amounts each tribe will receive, though some were entered into U.S. District Court record in Washington, D.C. Among those, recipients of large sums include Montana's Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes at \$150 million, Idaho's Nez Perce Tribe at nearly \$34 million, and New Mexico's Mescalero Apache Nation at nearly \$33 million.

By comparison, the tiny Nooksack Tribe in northwest Washington state will receive \$25,000. The tribe has about 2,000 members.

Washington state's Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, also part of the settlement, had announced their \$193 million settlement in February, as did Montana's Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes from the Fort Peck Reservation, which settled for \$75 million.

Last year, the government announced a \$380 million settlement with the Osage

A total of 114 tribal governments filed suit after Elouise Cobell, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe from Browning, Mont., brought a similar claim on behalf of thousands of individual Indians over the government's mismanagement of their trust

The government ultimately settled the Cobell case for \$3.4 billion, but it remains under appeal for various reasons by four people.

Congress delayed approval of that settlement for months. But unlike the Cobell case, money for the tribes' settlements already has been appropriated under a congressionally approved judgment fund, Interior spokesman Adam Fetcher

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

# COMMENTARY

# Dulaney was named 'Waonspekiye' or Teacher



TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

The first I ever heard of Professor William I. Dulaney was in 1983 when I received a letter, it was not known as snail-mail back then, saying that he had been reading my newspaper, Lakota Times, and he wanted to talk to me about a couple of things that perhaps, we could work on together.

After several phone discussions we came up with the idea of forming a Native American newspaper association of some kind. We found an ally in a Navajo gentleman named

Loren Tapahe. Loren was the publisher of the Navajo Times, a weekly newspaper that served the people of the largest Indian reservation in America.

Of course, it was not the Navajo Reservation any longer because a progressive tribal chairman by the name of Peter MacDonald had decided that his land was not a reservation, but was indeed a Nation.

Tapahe was newspaperman through and through. He loved newspapers and had transformed the Navajo Times into one of the truly great Indian newspapers in America. I also was a great admirer of the Navajo Times and when I founded my own newspaper on the Pine Ridge Reservation, I adopted the word Times and since the Navajo Times used the name of its people preceding the word Times, I chose the name Lakota Times after my people, the Lakota.

Professor Dulaney, Tapahe, my managing editor Adrian Louis, a Paiute Indian from Nevada, and I formed the core of the group that would reach out to any and all of the Indian newspaper editors in America in hopes of organizing a group of newspapers into a national organization. Professor Dulaney and I raised enough money through the Gannett Foundation (now the Freedom Forum) to hold our initial meeting on the campus of Penn State University.

At our second meeting on the Choctaw Nation in Oklahoma we named the newly formed organization the Native American Press Association, a name that was changed to Native American Journalists Association at the urging of Allen Neuharth; head of the Gannett Newspaper Group and of the Gannett Foundation. Neuharth had stepped forward and was the first to extend financial assistance to us. The only thing Neuharth and I had in common was that we were both from the state of South Dakota and we both loved the newspaper business dearly.

Standing quietly on the sidelines with advice and encouragement through all

of this was Professor Bill Dulaney. My respect and admiration for Bill grew and grew over the ensuing years. His love for the Native American press also grew the more he met with us and we shared our mutual experiences. When presented him with a star quilt at our second annual convention in Scottsdale, Arizona in 1985, a beautiful Indian designed quilt which we draped over his shoulders, he cried unashamedly.

Bill and I have stayed in touch for most of the 27 years I have known him. He came out to South Dakota and spent time with me and my family on the Pine Ridge Reservation and while he was at it, he became a professor of journalism once more and set up a classroom for my young staff of Lakota writers.

I learned a few years ago that Bill has cancer and he is now fighting for his life. I urged NAJA to honor him in some fashion and two years ago they gave him a plaque which he treasures. Nearly four years ago Bill subscribed to a newspaper I

had just started called Native Sun News. He took out a six months subscription because he did not expect to live much longer than that. He has since been proven wrong because the next year he took out a one year subscription and he has been renewing that subscription every year since 2009. He claims the paper is better than his daily newspaper in Jacksonville, Florida. He always knew how to make me feel good.

Professor Dulaney is now in his mid-eighties and the one thing he always wanted since getting to know so many Native American newspaper editors, publishers and journalists was to have an Indian name, preferably a Lakota name.

Last week he was given the name "Waonspekiye" at a ceremony held for him on the Pine Ridge Reservation. His new Lakota name means "Teacher" and that is what Professor Dulaney has been to so many Native American journalists over the past 27 years. We bonded on the Choctaw Nation in 1984 when Bill, Loren and I went jogging while Adrian Louis was out chasing armadillos.

Many years ago my daughter Marie, I think she was about 4 years old at the time, described Prof. Dulaney as "that man who wears a short coat and has no hair." Her description of the outer man was pretty accurate, but she never saw his inner beauty which consisted of a heart big enough to fill a house, a passion for newspapers and journalism, and a deep love for the Native American journalists who became his lifelong friends.

May his remaining days be spent doing the things he loves and reading the newspapers that bring him such joy.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

# Dr. King, Lewis, more: We all have heroes

Dr. King opened up doors for both Blacks and Indians. No one acknowledges it, but our later gains through the Indian Civil Rights Act, the Self-Determination Act, and a dozen and a half more pro-Indian laws would not have been possible without the groundwork being laid in the civil rights movement.

### AROUND THE CAMPFIRE DR. DEAN CHAVERS

© Copyright 2012

I have had more heroes in my life than most people, I think. They started appearing to me when I was still a boy, and are still coming forth now that I am an old man. Most but not all were Indians. I wrote two books about 87 of the Indian heroes; it was published in 2007.

I was sitting on a bus in the dark at Utapao, Thailand in 1968 when I heard about one of my heroes being killed. One of the southern boys, who predominated in our Air Force squadron, came in and said, "They got that nigger." Everyone knew who he meant; no one asked whom he meant. A small cheer went up, but I shed tears in the dark. That night was one of the hardest missions I ever flew.

Dr. Martin Luther King had been my hero for years by then. I started following him when he led the Birmingham bus boycott in 1955 that had been started by Mrs. Rosa Parks, another one of my heroes. I was mildly threatened once by one of the Mississippi boys, who told me my liberal views would get me into trouble. But they never did. That lowdown dawg J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI, who tried for years to ruin Dr. King's reputation, did it no harm. But they partly ruined theirs. Hoover was determined to prove that Dr. King was a communist, but he never did. The allegations Hoover made were

The Freedom Rides, the march out of Selma, the speech on the Mall in Washington, the fight of the garbage workers in Memphis, and a dozen other efforts marked the life of this great man. He did more for the U. S. than many of our Presidents.

Dr. King opened up doors for both Blacks and Indians. No one acknowledges it, but our later gains through the Indian Civil Rights Act, the Self-Determination Act, and a dozen and a half more pro-Indian laws would not have been possible without the groundwork being laid in the civil rights movement.

Congressman John Lewis, who also led the civil rights movement, is a strong hero to me. I watched Louis Henry Gates present him his genealogy the other week on TV. It turns out that his great-grandfather was one of the freed slaves who registered to vote in December 1867 as soon as the law permitted. So the Congressman told Dr. Gates that voting must run in his blood.

He remained bloody but unbowed from the age of 17 until today. I met him briefly on the day he was first sworn in to the House in 1987. Three of us were having breakfast with Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell when Mr. Lewis came by. What a thrill it was to me.

I remembered seeing him trampled by horses and beaten with clubs in the confrontation at the Edmund Pettis Bridge. I saw him being beaten earlier than that on the first Freedom Rides. He told Dr. Gates how he wrote a letter to Dr. King as a high school student, asking to meet him. Dr. King sent him the money for a bus ticket. He rode the bus from Troy, Alabama that Saturday morning to meet Dr. King in his office. It changed his life forever. He is still fighting the good fight.

Despite being controversial, Richard Oakes remains one of my heroes. Richard was the undisputed leader of the Alcatraz occupation; he started it all. I wrote a chapter in a forthcoming book about all the positive changes that have happened after Alcatraz. They include ICWA, 638, NAGPRA, AIRFA, and a dozen other laws and programs. Richard and LaNada Boyer from Fort Hall were the people who made Alcatraz happen.

When I was still a young whippersnapper, I met Roger Jourdain, who was Chairman at Red Lake for 36 years. He adopted me, more or less, by 1970. Roger was the first person at NCAI who started using the term "tribal sovereignty." Other tribal leaders, who had been beaten down and cowed by the BIA, used to look at him and ask what he was talking about.

He and Wendell Chino from Mescalero brought the term back into use, by their advocacy as well as their actions. They took a lot of heat. People from Red Lake burned Roger's house down. His wife Margaret and their kids got out just in time.

But Roger died not seeing his dream of an Indian Marshall Aid Plan come into being. He said the U. S. had built the nations of Europe, including Germany and Italy, back up after defeating them in the Second World War. But the U. S. had only destroyed Indian nations, and had done nothing to rebuild them. This is still true.

Wendell, who was my height, five feet and six inches, allegedly strapped a billy club on his side and dared the BIA and its goons to mix it up with him at Mescalero. When he was first elected in 1953, the tribe was on its knees. The BIA ran everything. Wendell was determined to put them back on their feet. Today, the tribe is much better off, has a large degree of self-rule, and is doing much better economically.

But Wendell died not seeing his dream of an Indian think tank come true. One morning in 1991 he showed up at my office and asked if I had time to go to breakfast. I said, "Sure, I will be glad to go with you." He and I sat at Carrows Restaurant for the next three hours as he laid out his plans for a research institute. "Everyone but Indians has a think tank," he told me. "Big Oil, manufacturers, the insurance companies, the banks—everyone but Indians has a think tank."

"And Reagan took 25% of the initiatives from the American Enterprise Institute, the Republican think tank, and made them into laws. What did Indians get during that time? Almost nothing."

"I want you to put it together," he said. But when I sent invitations to a dozen and a half tribal leaders, I got no responses. We still need that think tank. No one knows some of the leading indicators we should know about in Indian Country—the joblessness, the poor health, the poor education, the drug use, the domestic abuse, and the poor housing.

Wendell and Roger were both way ahead of their time, which is the curse of strong heroes. They can see things the rest of us cannot.

Pat Locke, who was my mentor for 35 years, was also one of my heroes. Most people will not be involved in any movement in their lifetimes. A couple of percent will be involved in one movement. The extraordinary

person will start a movement. Starting a movement, whether to improve schools or to fight breast cancer, requires an extraordinary level of determination.

Pat started eight movements in her lifetime. It still astonishes me what she did. The tribal departments of education, the tribal collegemovement, the native language preservation movement, the preservation of native religions, the repatriation of sacred objects—all owe their start to this Standing Rock woman.

Pat was the person who got the legislation written in many cases. She wrote most of the language for the Native American Languages Act (NALA). She personally helped to found 10 of the tribal colleges; she would help to put a board together, work out an agreement with a local college to help the tribal college get started, and help to raise the money to get it started.

She spent years lobbying Congress. She had the insight to do this when almost no one else was doing it. She had sore feet many times from walking the marble halls. Spend all day walking on that marble, and your feet will kill you.

The first Navajo to earn a doctorate degree, Dr. Sam Billison, was one of my heroes. Sam was one of the famous Navajo Code Talkers during World War II. But he came home to attend college, start teaching in Texas and Oklahoma, and earn his doctorate degree at Arizona in 1954. He served on the Navajo Tribal Council and ran the education department for the tribe. He was the founder of the National Indian Education Association.

All these heroes had their detractors. I have personally heard people disparage and curse every one of these heroes. Roger and Wendell were dictators, Dr. King was a communist, Cong. Lewis was a trouble maker, Pat was a Johnny-come-lately, Richard was too hotheaded, and so on. But this type of backbiting always comes from some small person who has never done anything to change the world. These people abound. You can find them under every rock you turn over.

Dr. Chavers is director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship and school improvement program in Albuquerque. His next book, to be published by Peter Lang, is titled "The American Indian Dropout."

#### LETTER

Dear Native Times Editor,

When Kevin Durant sported the new line of Nike N7's in a recent home game, it was an exciting and prideful night for Native Americans in Oklahoma and across the nation. The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) is a proud partner of Nike N7 Foundation dedicated to providing access to sport and physical activity for Native American youth - and proud fans of Kevin Durant. When a superstar of his magnitude emphasizes the importance of Native people and issues it brings an added level of awareness. "Everybody Leaves Footprint" is the N7 theme and it refers to how each of us has an impact that affects our future generations. A portion of the profits from the N7 shoe collection help support grassroots programs for Native kids, including the Central Oklahoma American Indian Health Council. Access to sport is a huge issue for tribal nations. The obesity rate in Indian Country is at an epidemic level and Native youth are twice as likely to be obese as other racial groups according to data from the CDC. AAIP's Healthy Active Native Communities program works with tribes nationally to curb obesity and the diseases and conditions that result from it, like diabetes and heart disease. We are addressing these critical issues head-on and sending a new message out to our young people and leaders, like Nike N7 and Kevin Durant, are leaving footprints that we can all take pride in. You can support Native sports by participating and supporting the Jim Thorpe Games, June 10-17 in Oklahoma City.

Margaret Knight
Executive Director,
Association of American
Indian Physicians
Oklahoma City, OK

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

### **Nashville District** wants to return Native **American remains**

**BILL PEOPLES** 

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (April 10, 2012) - The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District wants to return the remains of one Native American to their tribe after being found in Cheatham County last

The Corps is seeking comments on a plan to transfer custody of the human remains in accordance with the Native American Graves and Repatriation

Dr. Valerie McCormack, Nashville District cultural resources manager, said the remains were discovered in October 2011 on a beach in front of a bank on Cheatham Lake. "The remains may have eroded from the river bank after the May 2010 flood, or they may have been looted," she said.

After the 2010 flood there were numerous incidents of people looting Native American graves on the Cumberland River. It is illegal to remove artifacts from federal land, and punishment for illegally removing artifacts from Corps land can lead to a felony conviction and up to a \$500,000 fine under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

The Corps consulted with modern tribes whose ancestors lived in the Cumberland River Valley. The remains are suspected to date from a time period that makes it difficult to precisely pinpoint descendents. During historic time Chickasaws occupied lands in the Tennessee River Valley, but their hunting and trading area included a vast area including Cheatham

As part of the effort to return the remains to a correct Nation, the Corps is publishing public notices in the Tennessean, the Ada Evening News, home of the Chickasaw Nations, and the Tulsa World, home of many of the Nations that were removed from Tennessee.

If no other tribe or individual claims the remains before May 21, 2012, the custody of the remains will be transferred to the Chickasaw Nation.

Claims for custody can be submitted in writing to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District, (CELRN-PM-P), 801 Broadway, Nashville, TN, 37203. Call McCormack at 615-736-7847 for more information.

# 'Telling the Tales of Ft. Parker' EHP creates oral history collection

SHELLEY BLUEJAY PIERCE Native American Times Special Contributor

BILLINGS, Mont. - The Extreme History Project, based in Livingston, was on location this past week for filming and recording of oral histories for their Ft. Parker Oral History Project. The interviews, given by several elder members of the Crow tribe, detail the early reservation period during the 1868 to 1884 time frames and seek to preserve the wealth of information available from members of the community.

Filming took place at the Little Big Horn College, Crow Agency Montana, and in private residences where Marvin Stewart, Grant Bulltail, Mardell Plainfeather, Stan Stevens, and Walter Pease, all descendants of the early Indian agencies, recounted their own family history. The interviews were conducted by Marsha Fulton and Crystal Alegria of the Extreme History Project and were filmed and recorded by Adam Sings in the Timber of Sings in the Timber Photography.

The project, funded by The Montana Department of Transportation, and in partnership with **Project** Archaeology, will supply transcriptions as well as DVD's of interviews to several institutions throughout Montana and be made available to the public. They will also become a part of the digital archive which The Extreme History Project is creating on their website.

"We were so fortunate to be able to connect with some of the descendantsof people associated with both the first and second agencies," states Marsha Fulton, co-director of the Extreme History Project.

"They verv generously gave us their time and stories that have been passed down through their families. We learned so much more about these

people and this time period which will fill in the history we have previously uncovered from documents and letters," continued Fulton.

The first two Crow agencies, Fort Parker, located just outside of Livingston (a.k.a. the Mission Agency) and the second agency near Absarokee, served as the two initial locations for the tribe prior to the final move to their current location in southeast Montana near Billings. Fort Parker, the very first Crow Indian agency, was established by the Laramie Treaty of 1868. The Crowlost millions of acres of territory with the establishment of each of these agencies.

Crystal Alegria, co-director of the Extreme History Project

Grant Bulltail recounts his family history during The Extreme History Project interview.

explained, "These stories have much to tell us about the Indian perspective of this period which has long been un-documented. We believe that bringing this story to light can have real value in bringing communities together here in Montana, and across the country."

The Extreme History Project is a public history organization which seeks ways of using history to build bridges between communities. The current oral history project will bring the surviving historical stories from both Native and non-Native community members in order to honor both sides of a conflicting time in U.S. history.

Alegria also noted that, "We feel it is so important for the general public to have easy and ready access to this information for research, opportunities and education."

The Extreme History Project has been studying the history surrounding the site at Fort Parker in preparation for the oral history project, their book, documentary and community education programs. organization strives to make history relevant for community while finding new and innovative ways to experience the events that shaped the present.

For more information on The Extreme History Project, visit http://extremehistory.wordpress.

# CLASSIFIEDS







# **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

#### Auditor (Level I/II & III)

Positions are involved with program integrity efforts in an evolving health care system where public demand for economy, efficiency and accountability in government spending is ever increasing. Responsible for conducting both internal performance and productivity reviews and external financial and compliance reviews.

#### Requirements:

· Auditor I - Bachelor's in acct or in a related field including 30 hrs of acct OR Master's degree in acct or in a related

· Auditor II - Bachelor's in acct or in a related field, including 30 hrs of acct OR; Master's degree in acct or in a related field, AND; 1 yr and 6 months of exp in governmental auditing, acct or finance.

• Auditor III - Bachelor's in acct or in a related field including 30 hrs of acct OR; Master's degree in acct or in a related field, AND; 2 yrs of auditing, acct, and /or financial exp. Certification can substitute for 1 year of exp.

Reasonable accommodation may be made for individuals with disabilities.

To apply visit: www.okhca.org/jobs Submit application & questionnaire form by the deadline: April 23rd

**OK Health Care Authority Attn: Human Resources** 2401 N.W. 23rd St., Suite 1-A Oklahoma City, OK 73107 personnel@okhca.org E0E

American Indian College Fund in Denver, CO Is currently seeking to fill the following positions:

 Development Officer Program Officer

Full job description and application details visit our website at: www.collegefund.org or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to: applications@collegefund.org



The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, located South of Stillwater, is accepting applications for the following positions in the Perkins, OK area:

> **Court Administrator Realty Manager Realty Specialist** Dispatcher **Police Officer Tribal PREP Coordinator** Surveillance Officer I

View job descriptions at www.iowanation.org/jobs Great Benefits! Health, Dental, Vision, Group Life, Flex, 401(k) with 6% match,

sick, vacation, holidays, STD, LTD, Voluntary Life, Accident & Cancer plans.

Apply online at http://www.iowanation.org/hireme

**Equal Employment Opportunity Employer** Native American preference

#### **Health and Wellness Director**

The Notah Begay III Foundation (http://www.nb3foundation.org) seeks a Health and Wellness Director for our innovative, quickly growing youth services organization in the Albuquerque, NM area. This dynamic, committed person will develop and implement health and wellness programs and activities for the placebased programming at San Felipe Pueblo including interventions related to increasing access to healthy foods, nutrition education, physical fitness programming and community, and leadership development initiatives that will promote the reduction of childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes. Master's degree and 5+ years experience.

For a full job description and to apply, please visit: http://www. nb3foundation.org/health-andwellness-director.html by Friday, May

American Indian hiring preference applies.

#### **Delaware Tribe of Indians** current opportunities:

1. Executive Assistant to the Chief, position will be responsible for assisting the Chief on correspondence, scheduling, and other tasks as assigned, also responsible for Tribal **Enrollment and Human Resources, pay** will be commensurate with experience. Medical, dental benefits included.

2. Wellness Center Attendant, part time position will be responsible for maintaining the Wellness Center, exercise equipment, and assisting Tribal Members as needed, hours are 5-8 pm M-F and 8 am-1 pm Sat, closed Sun, pay will be \$10/hr.

Please email resumes to bwilliams@ delawaretribe.org or fax to 918-337-6591 or mail to 170 NE Barbara Street, Bartlesville, OK 74006, applications can be found on www.delawaretribe. org/careers, no phone calls please.

Positions close April 27th. Tribal/ Native American preference will be observed.

**Check nativetimes.com for more jobs!** 

-New jobs posted throughout the week-

Fremont County School District #38, Arapahoe, Wyoming Is accepting applications for the

> following positions: **Business Manager**

SPED Paraprofessional – Current And for the 2012-2013 school year:

K-8 Principal

**Director of Curriculum** and Instruction **Transition Coordinator** 

**Student Behavior** Interventionist/Advocate

**Federal Programs and Grant Director** 

**Documentation required:** 

District Application

Resume

• Strong Letter of Interest • Three current letters of

recommendation with at least one from a previous supervisor Copies of all college transcripts & certifications

Please apply at www.schoolspring.com

OPEN UNTIL FILLED For information, please contact: Connie Gay, HR Specialist 445 Little Wind River Bottom Road Arapahoe, WY 82510 307.856.9333

**NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION:** Applicants for employment are hereby notified that this school does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color national origin, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the school's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or Section 504 is directed to contact the district Superintendent in his capacity as Section 504/ADA Coordinator at 445 Little Wind River Bottom Road (307) 856-9333, who has been designated by the school to coordinate efforts to comply with the regulations reaardina nondiscriminatio

### RFP / RFQ

PROFESSIONAL AUDITING SERVICES

Proposal Deadline: May 11, 2012, S:00 PM

Contact: Christie Modlin (cmodlin@kiowagc.com)

The Kiowa Gaming Commission are soliciting Proposals from qualified national firms of certified public accountants to audit the Kiowa Casinos financial statements for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2012, 2013, and 2014 with the option of auditing its financial statements for each of the two subsequent fiscal years. In addition to the financial audit there shall also be a minimum internal controls (MICS) audit as required by the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC).

To be considered 5 copies of a proposal must be received by certified US Mail or Federal Express at the Kiowa Gaming Commission, 2439 Ponderosa Drive, Chickasha, OK 73018 by 5:00pm on Friday May 11,2012.

To request the full scope of work, please contact Christie Modlin (cmodlin@kiowagc. com) or Margaret Komalty (mkomalty@kiowagc.com) or call (405) 222-0072.

#### **Request for Qualifications**

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma

Re-Advertisement

is advertising for Construction Management Services for the renovation of the Tribal Ceremonial Roundhouse which is located at 900 Agency Road on the Pawnee Tribal Reserve which is located east of Pawnee, Oklahoma. The complete Request for Qualifications including the criteria that will be used to select the most qualified firm is available upon written request.

Submit your request by fax or email (mrobedeaux@pawneenation.org) and please include your email address and/or your fax number)

Qualifications documents must be received no later than 4:30 pm on Monday, April 30, 2012.

Point of Contact for Information: Muriel Robedeaux, ICDBG Coordinator

Contact: Marshall Gover, President, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, (918) 762-3621, Fax: (918) 762-6446. Attn: ICDBG Ceremonial Roundhouse Project.

#### **LEGAL**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF: M.C., a Minor Child Case No. GD-2012-05

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION** 

DANIEL CULLY OR ANY UNKNOWN FATHER

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the above-entitled matter is set for hearing on a PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP at the hour of 10:00 p.m. on the 11th day of JUNE, 2012, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Your failure to appear at the hearing on June 11th, 2012, may result in a default judgment being rendered against you.

Court Clerk\_

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!

### **AARP** seeking Indian Elder nominations

AARP Oklahoma last week announced it is accepting nominations for the 2012 AARP Indian Elder Honors.

The Fourth Annual AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors will recognize 50 outstanding tribal elders who have made a positive impact in their tribe, community, state or country. Nominations can be submitted by tribal governments or by individuals now through May 31st, said AARP State President Marjorie Lyons.

"The AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors has

become one of the highlights of the year for us," Lyons said. "It is a celebration of Indian culture and people - many of whom have never been recognized before - and a way to recognize the significant contributions of older Indians in Oklahoma."

The goal is to have at least one honoree from each of Oklahoma's 38-federally recognized Indian tribes, she said.

Nominations are being accepted online at: www. aarp.org/ok or via a letter of nomination explaining the contribution of the nominee

that can be mailed directly to: AARP Oklahoma at 126 N. Bryant, Edmond, OK 73034.

must

be

Nominees

an enrolled member of federally-recognized Oklahoma Indian Tribe and must be living. Past honorees have included linguists, artists, ministers, educators, veterans, tribal and community leaders, matriarchs and patriarchs.

For more information on the 2012 AARP Oklahoma Indian Elder Honors, e-mail AARP Oklahoma at ok@aarp. org or call 1-866-295-7277. To make an online nomination, visit: www.aarp.org/ok

### **AICCO Tulsa Chapter names officers**

TULSA, Okla. - Tulsa Chapter American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma has selected new chapter officers and has named Traci Phillips, as Chapter Chair. Phillips is President and CEO of Natural Evolution, Inc. Additional executive officers for 2012 include Tracy Copeland, TGI Enterprises, Inc., Vice

Chair; Ginette Overall, Power Ready LLC, Treasurer; Tim Watts, American Heritage Bank, Secretary; Rachel Navarro, ONE Architecture, Public Relations; George Shannon, Technical

For more information email Rachel Navarro, rachel@1architecture.com.

Applications Company, Marketing.

# SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# PAWNEE TITLE VII INDIAN EDUCATION

### 30th ANNUAL OUTH POW-WOW

PAWNEE, OK

SATURDAY MAY 5, 2012 PAWNEE HIGH SCHOOL GYM 600 CLEVELAND

NPIC PRINCESS NPIC BRAVE

Dorcas Half-Zotigh Granddaughter of Harry & Helen Pickering Justin Townsend Son of MaryFaye BlackOwl

Son of Andrea Kemble

Son of Damon & Francie Roughface

Matthew Gooday

Warren Pratt, Jr.

Damon Roughface

Head Singer Anthony Kemble

Head High School Boy Ryland Moore Son of Randy & Melissa Moore

Sommer Dawn Moore Head High School Girl Daughter of Brad Moore & the Late Bunnie Sue Moore

Head Little Boy Kamden Jones Son of Joe & Jodi Jones

Head Little Girl Taylor Grant Daughter of Nolan Grant & April Moor

Head Gourd Dancer Ed Yellowfish

Son of Ed & Sydna Yellowfish Asst. AD Alex Roughface

Son of Lisa Gooday Water Boys Aaron Carroll Son of Bobby & Alice Carroll Kyle Horn

Son of Bob & Gerri Horn Goodfox Family

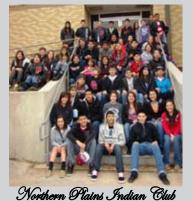
Co-Host Oklahoma City Public Schools Indian Education OKC/PS Native American Student Color Guard Gourd Dancing 2:00 pm

5:30pm Elementary Cafeteria Supper Break **Grand Entry** 7:00pm

Must be enrolled in a Primary/Secondary School to participate in contests

> Tiny Tots / 0-KG ist-5th

> > 6th-i2th



2011-2012

ARE WELCOME \$40 & DONATION ITEM BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS & DISHES

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL JUNE HAMILTON OR ALICE CARROLL @918-762-3564

# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org Cherokee language classes

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma**  Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MAY** Free beginner-level in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

APRIL 19 **UKB Illinois District Meeting** at 6:30 p.m. in the Vian Satellite Office.

APRIL 21 **Peoria Tribe Special Election** for position of Grievance **Committee. Polling at** Admin. Bldg. Conference

Room, 118 S. Eight Tribes Trail, Miami, Okla. Polls open 9am-Noon.

**UKB Tahlequah District** Meeting, 6 p.m. in the Rocky **Ford Community Building** 

Chilocco class of 1962 will meet at 11:30 a.m. on on April 21 at the Chilocco campus. The meeting will be in conjunction with the campus work day and the North Central Chapter meeting. For more information call Charmain Billy 580 762-7938 or Jack Baker 405 612-1099

Spring contest powwow at Rose State College in the **Professional Training and Education Center, Midwest** City, Okla. Free & open to the public. Dinner at 5pm. Grand Entry at 7pm. Info call Mechelle Aitson-Roessler 405-736-0203 or Alan Neitzel 405-736-0347.

Taco Sale 11-3 at Tulsa Creek Indian Community, 8611 S. Union, Tulsa. 918-298-2464. \$8 per plate. Proceeds benefit Senior trip to NICOA **Elders Conference.** 

Arts & Crafts Fair fundraiser, 12:30 – 4:30 at Okfuskee **County Fairgrounds – Hwy** #62. Booth Space available inside. For more information contact: Sandi Golden (918) 623-6437 Email: imgoldsandi@yahoo.com

**Victory Christian Center** 

**Native American Ministry** conference: 9:00a.m. 4:00p.m. Powwow: 7:00-11:00p.m. at Victory **Christian Activity Center.** Contact: 918.491.7830

**APRIL 24** Native American Art Festival, Tulsa Hard Rock Hotel. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. sponsored by Seminole Nation of Okla. For booth space contact [walker.s@sno-nsn.gov] or 405-257-7241 by April 16.

APRIL 26 **UKB Delaware District** Meeting, 6:30 p.m. in the Jay **Community Center.** 

**UKB Cooweescoowee** District Meeting, 6 p.m. in the First Christian Church in Pryor.

**APRIL 27 Kiowa Higher Education Graduates Banquet at Cross Timbers Restaurant in** Anadarko, OK. Info call 580-654-2300 ext. 324

**APRIL 28** "O-SKOO" Co-Ed Basketball Tournament (All Indun) PRE-"O-SKOO" ~ 30 YRS TO 39 YRS & "O-SKOO" ~ 40 YRS TO ??? YRS. \$50.00 Entry fee. 8 Man Roster: 4 Ole Men & 4 Ole Women. For more info, call Tonkawa Tribe Education Programs: 580-628-2561 LISA ext 125 or LEAH ext 131. Entry deadline April 20.

**Church Fundraiser for New** Joy Baptist Church 11:00

to 5:00, 1103 South Main, Sapulpa. All you can eat spaghetti lunch - Cost \$8 All proceeds will go towards the church and church events. Call Jimmy Alexander 918-322-5407

**Seminole Nation Honor Guard Powwow** at Okfuskgee County Fairgrounds, Okemah, Okla. Gourd Dancing 1-5pm, Supper Break 5-6pm, Gourd Dancing 6-7pm and Grand Entry at 7pm. Info call Alex Fish 405-432-7858. Vendors call Phillip Coon 918-623-6810 or 405-432-7399.

**APRIL 28** 18th Annual CSUEA Youth **Powwow at Frisco Center,** Clinton, Oklahoma. Gourd dancing at 3 pm, supper at 5 pm, grand entry at 7 pm. Info: Charlene Wassana 580-331-3300.

**Restoring Harmony Heroes** of Hope Contest Powwow at Westside YMCA, 5400 S. Olympia Ave., Tulsa, Okla. Info contact Tim Shadlow 918-382-2217 or tshadlow@ ihcrc.org

MAY 4 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East **Beaumont Drive, Norman,** Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405)

321-5640

MAY 5

All you can eat breakfast fundraiser sponsored by the Yuchi/Euchee Heritage Festival. 7am-1pm Covenant Harvest Chapel, 722 N Hodge St., Sapulpa, Okla. Info call Kathy, 918-695-0195

MAY 8 **Lazy Stitch Beading** Workshop, Museum of the Red River, 812 E Lincoln Rd, Idabel, Okla. Info call Jeanette Bohanan 580-286-3616

**JUNE 1** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

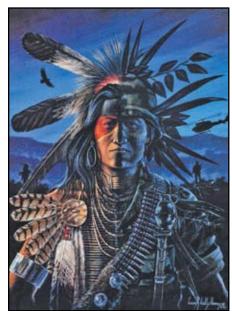
JUNE 8 Chilocco Powwow in the **Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache Fire Dance. Contact Garland Kent, Sr at 580- 352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox Convention Center, **Oklahoma City** 

## Gaylord-Pickens Museum opens 'Touching the Past' by Enoch Kelly Haney

**SHELLEY ROWAN** 

OKLAHOMA CITY - On April 26, the Gaylord-Pickens Oklahoma Heritage Museum will open Touching the Past in its Tulsa World Gallery. In keeping with the gallery's mission to showcase Oklahoma artists, the exhibit will be a retrospective internationally-recognized



"Standing Guard" by Enoch Kelly Haney

painter and sculptor Enoch Kelly Haney's 40-year career. The exhibit is sponsored by the Muscogee-Creek Nation.

Haney is a full blood Seminole-Creek Indian. From humble beginnings in rural Seminole County, Haney became the first full blood American Indian to serve in the Oklahoma Legislature and an internationally-recognized artist. When Haney was merely two years old, his mother noticed his artistic ability. He went on to professionally train at Bacone College in Muskogee and graduated from Oklahoma City University with a degree in Fine Arts. His art has been exhibited throughout the United States, England, Austria and Asia. Haney has won many awards including the title of Master Artist of the Five Civilized Tribes.

In addition to decades of

success, Haney became the highly esteemed creator of the 22-foot, bronze sculpture entitled, The Guardian, chosen to top the Oklahoma State Capitol Dome. Haney has created many commissioned sculptures including the Chickasaw Warrior at the Chickasaw Nation Headquarters in Ada, the Standing His Ground sculpture

at Seminole State College in Seminole and 7-foot replicas of The Guardian at various businesses and college campuses through the state of Oklahoma. Haney also created roundels for the Chickasaw Nation Cultural Center, the State House of Representatives and the State Senate Chambers at Oklahoma State Capitol.

Haney currently resides in Norman, Oklahoma and works full-time as a sculpture.

Touching the Past will be on display April 26 through July 28 at Gaylord-Pickens Museum and is sponsored by the Muscogee-Creek

Nation. An opening reception will be held Thursday, April. 26 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Museum located at NW 13th Street & Shartel Avenue. The reception is free to the public made possible by the Muscogee-Creek Nation. RSVP to Corie Baker at 405.523.3206 or clb@oklahomaheritage.com.

Through high-tech, interactive exhibits, the Gaylord-Pickens Museum allows visitors to experience Oklahoma's story through its people. Video-driven displays and computer touch screens provide guests a unique look into the lives of famous and everyday Oklahomans who have impacted our state, country and world.

For more information about the Museum, the Tulsa World Gallery or Touching the Past, visit www.oklahomaheritage. com or call 405-235-4458.

# NWC debuts Art Biennale, prizes for weather in art

MICHAEL BENDURE

NORMAN, OKLA. How does weather affect the artistic muse? The National Weather Center at the University of Oklahoma teams up with the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and the Norman Arts Council to explore the theme of weather in art with the National Weather Center Biennale - the first national juried exhibition featuring art about weather. The biennale officially begins Earth Day, April 22.

Prizes totaling \$25,000 will be offered to the top winners. An overall prize of \$10,000 will be awarded to one work for Best in Show, with \$5,000 given to the first-place winners in three categories: painting, works on paper and photography.

"Art reflects human relationship with the environment and particularly with weather," said Berrien Moore, director of the National Weather Center. "Lightning bolts and cloud imagery in Native American pottery, the skies and atmospheres of Georgia O'Keeffe, the Clearing Storm, Sonoma County Hills of Ansel Adams; weather vibrates through art. We are delighted to invite artists to the first National Weather Center Biennale: art's window on the impact of weather on the human experience."

Moore also is the dean of the OU College of Atmospheric Geographic Sciences and vice president of Weather and Climate Programs and Chesapeake Energy Corporation Chair in Climate Studies.

The National Weather Center Biennale is open to artists of any nationality



The National Weather Center at the University of Oklahoma announces the upcoming opening of a new national art biennale on Earth Day, 2012. The juried art competition explores the impact of weather on humanity through three forms of media: photography, works on paper and painting. The biennale is open to the public. Painting by Tony Abeyta (Navajo, b. 1965) Storm from the South, 2011.

over the age of 18.

Registration begins April 22 on the biennale's official website at www. nwcbiennale.org. Artists may enter up to three works in any combination of categories. The entry fee is \$25 for the first entry and \$10 for each subsequent entry. Registration closes Oct. 1. Works selected for an exhibition to be held in 2013 will be notified in late 2012.

The exhibition of selected works, including the prize winners', will open to the public Earth Day, April 22, 2013, at the National Weather Center and will close June 2, 2013.

"The University Oklahoma's mission education is clearly reflected both in the quality of art and programming at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and in the global integrity and technologicaladvancesofthe National Weather Center," said Ghislain d'Humières, director of the FJJMA. "The National Weather Center Biennale unites visual art

with weather in a truly unique, interdisciplinary supported collaboration by OU President David L. Boren."

Alan Atkinson, an art instructor at OU, will serve as the exhibition curator and part of the initial selection committee. Joining Atkinson as initial jurors will be Moore and Erinn Gavaghan, executive director of the Norman Arts Council. The initial judges will select 100 works from the submitted art entries for the exhibition.

Three nationally renowned guest jurors representing national meteorology, contemporary art museums and current artists will then select the winning pieces from each of the three categories, as well as the Best of Show prize, from the initial 100 selected works. These judges will be announced at a later date on the biennale's website.

"It is easy to see how the weather influences peoples' daily lives, but art often exerts a more subtle

influence," said Atkinson. "It makes sense to combine them in a venue that will underscore the ways that both art and weather shape our humanity."

Completed in 2006, 244,000-square-foot National Weather Center building is the anchor of a unique research and learning community including the nation's largest academic meteorology program. The central space for the exhibition will be the 9,600-square-foot atrium with gallery lighting and full security.

"This is an exciting institutional partnership that represents a great opportunity for artists from around the world to examine the forces of nature at the very point where they impact the human experience, through the agency of weather," said Atkinson.

Additional information about the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is available online at www.ou.edu/ fjjma.

### MODEL

Watchman's final photo shoot challenge was to pose as a toddler with another model. Kris Jenner and her youngest daughters Kendall and Kylie of "Keeping up with the Kardashians" were the celebrity guests and models for the shoot.

"I am proud that she maintained her cultural values while on a reality TV show... and most importantly, for returning to her reservation community on the Umatilla Indian Reservation to address all of her supporters – even on elimination night!" Lindsey Watchman, Mariah's father said. "That is courage, but also pride, humility, respect and gratefulness towards all those whom help raise this young Indian woman."

Watchman began modeling when she was 15, and the summer she turned 16 she fulfilled her first international modeling contract in Bangkok, Thailand. Later when she was 17 going on 18, she had a threemonth contract to model in Hong Kong. Two days before leaving to Hong Kong she graduated as the 2009 salutatorian from Nixyaawii Community School on the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR). After Hong Kong, she lived in Miami for six months then took a year off from modeling to attend Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan. She wanted to make sure she was taking the right path, and

she always wanted to play basketball at a collegiate level.

"When I was younger I wanted to go to college and be an athlete, and that is what I always thought I was going to do," Watchman said.

Her father was her first basketball coach, soon realized during her sophomore year, it was time to "back off and let others help mold her, and for me to just become a 'fan' like the rest of the community," he said. "Mariah is truly an example of the adage 'It takes a village to raise a child."

After a year at Haskell she realized modeling is her true passion, and she wants to have a "huge voice to help create change."

Watchman signed with Image Modeling Development (IMD) in Medford, Ore. when she was 15. IMD continues to be her "mother agency" although she has contracts with Wilhelmina Models, which is based in New York. She also attended the International Modeling and Talent Association, and works all aspects of modeling includingrunway, commercial, print, editorial, and fashion. She has been in magazines including Seventeen Magazine, Nordstrom, Delia's teen fashion catalog, and in the music video "On Fire" for Lil Wayne and Birdman.

"I was essentially strongarmed to take Mariah to meet Teresa Pollman, whom would end up being her "mother" agent ... and a great role model as well for her. I have always exposed Mariah to various activities, but let her gauge her own interest ... then go from there," Lindsey Watchman said. "Modeling was her dream, and I made sure she rode that interest as long as I could afford ... which is when the industry took over the expenses. To Teresa, we are both very grateful for not only seeing potential, but for becoming a 'surrogate mother' in this new territory she was about to explore - mostly on her own."

In addition to modeling and eventually acting, Watchman said there are a lot of different issues she wants to tackle including finding ways to provide economic growth to struggling reservations and becoming a business woman. She hopes to develop her own t-shirt clothing line called N8TV; with 10 percent of the proceeds going to different charities and organizations. She said her father worked for the National Congress of American Indians so tribal politics also interests her. Overall, she sees no limits.

"The possibilities endless because if you create enough opportunity, then your possibilities should be endless," she said. "I hope to make a lot of waves; be a mover and a shaker in Indian Country and I love meeting all these people along the way. I'll continue to use my heart and continue to follow my dreams."

Her mother is Cynthia Turcotte, and Watchman is the oldest of 11 kids. She has eight sisters and three brothers.

"I'm always trying to do my best for them and show them the way. That's what made me push all the time ... I want to be able to help them ...," Watchman said. "All my siblings are pretty excited; then I have all my little sisters who almost all of them want to be models too. We're a bit like the Brady Bunch ..."

Watchman said her sisters' elementary school friends autographed requested pictures; then she laughed and said her little sister asked for an autograph too. "I'm like you don't need one, I'm your sister. I'm like, that would just be weird," Watchman giggles.

Lindsey Watchman said his daughter has always been comfortable in front of a diverse group of people. They spent three years in Germany while he was in the Air Force, he said, and he realized that much of her knowledge would come from her exposure to different types of teachers.

"Thus she learned basketball from someone else, learned our female roles in the Longhouse and how to pick berries and dig roots (by several Elders), (and) learned a different language (Walla Walla) from the one I was learning and teaching (Nez Perce). In short, she had an array of interests that I merely supported her in," he said. "I can honestly say, I AM her No.1 fan and very happy to be riding along her journey with her. She has so much more to do and become ... I must merely watch ... like everyone else."

Watchman is now evolving into a teacher as well. Since her ride on America's Next Top Model ended, she's kept busy visiting people throughout Indian Country. She has been to the Crow reservation for a life story lecture and autograph signing event, in Montana for the "Runway to Congress" fashion show

fundraiser, in North Dakota making her debut as a celebrity ring girl for an MMA fight in front of George Foreman, and on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation to speak to kids at a youth ministry. She will be at the Gathering of Nations powwow on April 26-28 in Albuquerque, N.M., and she hopes to make it to Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, Okla.

She said she tells kids to find out what they really want to do in life and make it their goal. Once they have their goal they should hold on to it and do everything in their power to attain it.

"I basically let kids know not to be a victim of circumstance ... whether it be coming from a dysfunctional family, or coming from not having the finances, or coming from being a minority, (or) coming from being on a reservation. I let them know that all of those should not be factors," she said. "Whatever they decide to be, they can do it, with the right work and determination and the right resources."

She also reminds aspiring models that she started when she was 15, and location is paramount. Models have to be available, and prime locations for the high fashion industry are New York, Los Angeles and Miami, she said. Watchman is now based out of Miami again.

"When you start really young it gives you a chance to gain a lot more experience because modeling something that you can't do forever," Watchman said. "Start building your book or portfolio is one of the most important things you can do in your beginning stages."

She said young models should be aware of radio ads from modeling agencies that claim to have connections to the best agencies then they require money up front. She said if the agency believes in a model enough they will upfront the money and then it will go towards a contract.

"There are always opportunities for girls who are serious; it just takes hard work and dedication all the time, and dedication to your craft," Watchman said. "The path that I'm on and that I'm making for myself is not one that is usual. It's a path that takes a lot of hard work and I spend a lot of time away from my family and made a lot of sacrifices ... "

Watchman said she has received some negativity from people because she's a "light skinned Native."

"I'm an enrolled member, I still speak my language ... I'm Native in my heart and I'm always going to be," Watchman said. "Honestly, I want to be the best model that I can be, I want to be the first Native American super model ... my culture is everything that I stand for ... I'm trying to push myself to new limits of where I can go in the high fashion industry for Indian Country ... and kind of lead the way ... I test out my measures of where I can go and just always show that if you work hard

Watchman's website will soon be up at MariahWatchman.com and will include her photos, autobiography and her t-shirt

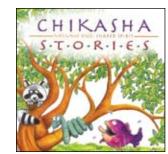
enough ... you will get there."

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation buys retail complex
- Inuit woman wins environmental award
- Chickasaw Press wins book awards









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 • ISSUE 17

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**APRIL 27, 2012** 

# FBI won't reopen reservation cases

The agency was asked to reopen investigations into more than 50 deaths from the 1970s and unsolved murders that occurred since 2000.

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – The FBI won't reopen decadesold investigations into the deaths of more than 50 people on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation unless new information emerges, an official with the bureau said Thursday.

The decision came after Oglala Sioux Vice President Tom Poor Bear and James Toby Big Boy, chairman of the tribal council's Judiciary Committee, asked U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson to reopen the investigations into the deaths in the 1970s and what they believe are additional unsolved murders that have occurred since 2000.

"Mr. Johnson, we ask that you demand the FBI and (Bureau of Indian Affairs) Division of Law Enforcement to reopen ... the unsolved and largely uninvestigated murders of the individuals whose names are enclosed with this letter as well as those whose names shall be forthcoming," Poor Bear and Big Boy wrote in their letter March 16.

The FBI in 2000 issued a report detailing their investigations into the deaths of 57 people that occurred during a violent period of the 1970s, when the murder rate on the reservation was the highest in the nation. The report said the bureau was right in closing the cases, even in situations where no one had been prosecuted for a death deemed unnatural.

"Absent new information, there's no intention to reopen any of these investigations," Kyle Loven, chief counsel for the Minneapolis Division of the FBI, told The Associated Press in an interview Thursday. Loven's statement was the government's first public response to the request.

In a statement, tribal officials said they are disappointed with the FBI's decision but are hopeful a meeting with Johnson next month will persuade federal officials to change their mind.

The tribe has said they will not publicly release the list of names because of privacy concerns but said its list does include names listed in the 2000 FBI report that they felt were insufficiently investigated and prosecuted. One person listed in the 2000 report, for instance, was killed with an axe. According to the report, a suspect was identified but was not prosecuted because of impairment caused by a mental condition. In another instance, a man was fatally stabbed through the neck and right side of the face. The autopsy report showed the death was deemed a suicide and the FBI did not investigate.

Before the FBI rejected the request to re-open its investigations, Lisa Shellenberger, an outside attorney working with the Oglala Sioux, said the work done on the cases was "just not convincing."

"The conclusions that they issued for each name, each unsolved murder, were pretty sparse and limited and without additional information or additional public knowledge besides a couple sentences, that's supposed to clear up the taking of an individual?" said Shellenberger, an attorney with Westminster, Colo.-based Smith, Shelton, Ragona & Salazar.

See FBI Continued on Page 3



COURTESY CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

(Left to right): Bill author Chuck Hoskin Jr., Councilor David Thornton, Chief Bill John Baker, Deputy Chief Joe Crittenden and Council Speaker Tina Glory-Jordan

# Cherokee Council passes shield law, names commissioners

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — The Cherokee Nation is now one of the first tribes in the country to offer journalists protection from revealing their sources, thanks to a shield law adopted unanimously by the Tribal Council at its April meeting.

"In the process of news gathering, often times a journalist has to talk to a source in order to build their information, to build their knowledge about how to cover a story, and they often have to give that source con-

fidentiality assurances," said Deputy Speaker Chuck Hoskin Jr. "For the most part, this will protect journalists and their sources from fearing they're going to be hauled into court and disclosed."

Authored by Hoskin, the bill is modeled after the shield law used by the state of Oklahoma. The new policy does not apply to defamation, libel or slander cases. It also

See CHEROKEE Continued on Page 2



COURTESY

Yannash Ushi Scott teaches a Choctaw language class inside the First United Methodist Church of Madill in southeastern Oklahoma.

# Language preservation goes grassroots in 'Chocasaw' Country

S.E. RUCKMAN
Native American Times
Special Correspondent

MADILL, Okla. – Ask the Chahta Anumpa Preservation Society about language being a living, breathing thing and they are likely to mention that they want to resuscitate Choctaw in the same breath. During a weekly

in-class session, this grassroots language organization finds itself amid an effort to lasso Indian languages back from the brink of being forgotten.

The sleepy, rural town finds itself in unofficial territory. Located in the Chickasaw jurisdiction, Madill is along the intersection of the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations. The town of 3,700 lies in what locals call "Chocasaw" Country, a hybrid Indian consciousness in southeast Oklahoma.

Inside the First United Methodist Church of Madill, the Chahta Anumpa Preservation Society gathers to study and speak Choctaw or "Chahta." They are led by Yannash Ushi Scott, a former Iraqi War veteran and, at one time, a

See LANGUAGE Continued on Page 6

# Tribal consultations on education sought

Secretaries Salazar and Duncan Seek Tribal Consultations on Proposed Framework to Spur Educational Advancement in Indian Country

WASHINGTON – As part of President Obama's commitment to empowering Indian nations, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced last week that their Departments will begin tribal consultations on a draft agreement to help expand educational opportunities and improve academic achievement for American Indian and Alaska Native students.

The draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would frame a partnership to implement the White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education which seeks to close the achievement gap between Indian students and non-Indian students; decrease the alarmingly high dropout rates of all American Indian and Alaska Native students; and help preserve and revitalize Native languages, histories and cultures. The initiative commits federal agencies to work closely with tribal governments and use the full range of their education expertise, resources and facilities to achieve the initiative's goals.

"Education is key to the fabric of healthy communities," said Secretary Salazar, who co-chairs the President's initiative. "But we need to do better when it comes to meeting the academic and cultural needs of our American Indian and Alaska Native students across the nation. These tribal consultations will be critical in developing the most effective framework to raise the bar for Indian Country education."

Education Secretary Duncan said, "The strength of tribes and our nation's future prosperity are inextricably tied, and together we can dramatically improve the lives of our Native students. These consultations will be invaluable and will continue our efforts to listen to, and learn from, the tribal leaders who know these communities best."

The President's initiative, established by Executive Order on December 2, 2011, addresses the Federal Government's trust responsibility to protect the unique rights and promote the well-being of the Nation's tribes, while respecting their sovereignty. One of the specific outcomes called for in the Initiative is the establishment of an MOU to provide a means for the Departments of the Interior and Education to work together with tribal leaders, as well as continue a framework for transferring statutory education grant funds from Education to Interior.

The Department of Education has substantial expertise and resources to help improve Indian education, specific experience with federally funded programs and a responsibility to work with Interior's Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) school system to ensure excellence in education. The Bureau of Indi-

See **EDUCATION** Continued on Page 3



JOSH SLANE / COURTESY MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION COMMUNICATIONS

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation purchased Riverwalk Crossing in Jenks for \$11.5 million Tuesday, April 17. The tribe has plans to use the area to promote economic development.

# Muscogee (Creek) Nation purchases shopping complex

JENKS, Okla. – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation purchased Riverwalk Crossing in Jenks for \$11.5 million today, and the tribe has plans to use the area to promote economic development.

"We're very excited," said Principal Chief George Tiger. "For the Nation to put together a team of elected officials and personnel shows due diligence and says a lot about the direction the tribe is taking, as well as a positive direction in economic development."

The property, which is located on the banks of the Arkansas River, was purchased at the Tulsa County Sheriff's auction.

The tribe's next step will be to locate a management group on the national level to evaluate the property for retail potential, Tiger said.

# NCAI names Graduate Health Fellowship recipient

WASHINGTON - The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) has announced Lisa Begay of Mesa, Arizona as its inaugural Native Graduate Health Fellowship recipient. Ms. Begay, a veteran of the US Navy, is a Navajo dental student at the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, where she is enhancing her knowledge of dental health to complement her substantial field experience. The Fellowship will include both a financial award of \$5,000 and professional development in tribal health policy.

"As a dedicated, positive agent for change, Ms. Begay is an exceptional example of someone serving Indian Country on the ground and making a real difference," said NCAI President Jefferson Keel, "We commend Ms. Begay for her commitment and we look forward to assisting her in her professional development and her ongoing efforts to improve Native health."

Ms. Begay is a veteran of the US Navy. She began her career as a dental hygienist for the

Indian Health Service (IHS) and has led numerous community initiatives to improve oral health among Native children and families. These initiatives include helping to implement the "Cavity Free Club" at the Albuquerque IHS Dental Clinic and coordinating a mass mailing of first-birthday cards to Native children to encourage parents to make their child's first dental appointment. Devoted to fostering the next generation of leaders in Native health, Ms. Begay has also served as an instructor for a national IHS course for dental assistants and encourages other Native students to consider dentistry fields.

In its first year, NCAI's Native Graduate Health Fellowship is a part of NCAI's commitment to equipping the next generation of Native leaders. NCAI received nearly 40 applications from students representing 26 tribes. A review committee comprised of NCAI staff and key leaders in Native health selected the inaugural Health Fellow, as well as two finalists, on the basis of demon-

strated commitment to American Indian and Alaska Native health, academic achievement, and community engagement. The program aims to build a pipeline of Native health professionals who can support tribal sovereignty and who are prepared to lead in promoting health policies and practices that address the unique needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

NCAI deeply appreciates the generous support of Robert Burnette and the Seventh Day Adventist Church in helping launch the fellowship. The Klamath Tribes, the Kiowa Tribe, the Ketchikan Indian Community, and the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe also pledged a combined \$4,000 to help sustain the Fellowship's endowment. NCAI is planning to expand this Fellowship into other high-need areas in Indian Country, such as education and economic development. For more information about supporting the fellowship, contact Peter Morris at (202) 466-7767 or pmorris@ncai.org.

# Miami chief's historic home to be dedicated

VIVIAN SADE
The Journal Gazette

FORT WAYNE, Ind. (AP) – Local history buffs are excited about the upcoming dedication of the home of a rich and famous Miami Indian chief as a national historic landmark.

The home of Miami Chief Jean Baptiste de Richardville was built in 1827 and was where numerous treaty negotiations between the U.S. government and the Miami Indians took place. In early March, the Fort Wayne site was named a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service, part of the Department of the Interior.

Mike Galbraith, executive director of ARCH, spoke Tuesday at the His-

tory Center, outlining how his organization spearheaded the movement to acquire the designation.

"The extraordinary lengthy process was like putting together a jigsaw puzzle with many pieces," Galbraith said.

There was an abundance of research that had already been done, he said, and more that had to be completed for the application.

Members of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma are hoping that a new national historic landmark in Fort Wayne will help spread their message that they are still a strong, vibrant neonle

Directors of the Myaamia (Miami) Project at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, also spoke of the significance of the Richardville home. Daryl Baldwin, director of the Myaamia Project and George Ironstrack, assistant director and education coordinator, work together to restore, preserve, and maintain Miami language, culture and history.

Both said they hope the site will be a place where members of the Miami tribe will gather and learn of the sacrifices made by their ancestors.

"My people still call Fort Wayne home," Baldwin said. "Perspectives and experiences may differ, but the story of (Chief Richardville) belongs to all of us."



Pin-iwa awiiki, or the "Wildcat's house" as named a National Historic Landmark in March.

# Audit of Oklahoma American Indian museum sought

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – Gov. Mary Fallin has requested an audit of the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum.

State Auditor and Inspector Gary Jones told the Tulsa World last week that he didn't know when his office would complete the audit. The museum will pay for the audit's costs.

In a letter to Jones last week, Fallin asked that he review the efficiency and effectiveness of current management and oversight of the museum's operations.

The audit is one of the conditions she and

some lawmakers agreed to before additional bond money would be considered to complete the museum.

Some lawmakers don't want to provide more state funding for the project, which already has received \$67.4 million in bond funding.

Native American Cultural and Education Authority CEO Blake Wade says he welcomes the audit.

# COUNCIL

Continued from Page

excludes court proceedings where no other witnesses are available to provide the same information.

In other business, the Council passed resolutions confirming the nominations of Josh King and Bobby Mayfield to the Cherokee Nation Housing Authority's board of commissioners. The nomination of Susan Chapman Plumb to the Cherokee Nation Foundation board was confirmed, as well.

Additionally, the Council passed acts increasing the

comprehensive operating budget by \$12.5 million to more than \$506 million and the comprehensive capital budget by \$8.1 million to more than \$113. The increases are to help fund the Vinita Health Center and a child care center in Stilwell.

The Council also passed an act changing the number of Tribal Councilors on the advisory board of Cherokee Nation Businesses from six to eight and affirming those appointed to the board in January.

Passed acts to update the child support code to extending a child's support orders to

age 20 if he or she is attending high school and changing the interest rate on child support orders from 10 percent to 5 percent.

Approved bills to clarify language and authorize the Cherokee Nation to give assistance to community organizations and to subsidize licensed tobacco retailers by decreasing the amount of sales tax paid on non-tobacco products.

The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14, at 6 p.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers of the W.W. Keeler Complex in Tahlequah.

## PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

INDIAN LAW
PROBATE
ADOPTIONS

RESTRICTED LAND ISSUES

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA

VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

# SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors
Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each
Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# Appeals court hears Arizona tribe's casino project

**PAUL ELIAS Associated Press** 

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - A federal appeals court on April 16 took up an Arizona Indian tribe's complicated legal fight to build a massive casino and resort near a Glendale, Ariz., neighborhood, on property the tribe owns 160 miles from the headquarters of its sprawling reservation.

The three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco gave no hint of how or when it would rule after sharply questioning lawyers on both sides for nearly an hour.

At issue is whether federal law permits the Tohono O'odham Nation to convert property it quietly purchased

Continued from Page 1

**EDUCATION** 

an Education, which directly

operates or provides grants to

tribes to operate an extensive

primary, secondary, and col-

lege level school system, has

an interest in enhancing ac-

cess to federal funding pro-

The education initiative

addresses critical issues and

unique challenges affecting

the quality of instruction,

student achievement, high

dropout rates and tribal languages on the verge of extinc-

tion. The expected educa-

tional outcomes would help

preserve and revitalize native

languages, ensuring students

the opportunity to learn their

languages, cultures and histo-

grams and expertise.

in 2003 into an Indian reservation, which would strip authority from state and local officials who argue the casino project clashes with zoning and state laws.

A high school is located a few blocks from where the casino is to be erected, which is about a mile from a retail and entertainment district where Phoenix's professional football and hockey teams play their home games. About 30,000 people live within two miles.

The suburban property is in an unincorporated island of Maricopa County and bordered on three sides by the city of Glendale, which is adjacent to Phoenix.

Local and state officials argue that the proposed 150,000-square-foot casino

demonstration projects, ef-

fective reforms, improved

accountability, partnerships

with public, private and phil-

anthropic groups, and na-

tional networks to share best

practices. The initiative would

improve educational opportu-

nities for all American Indian

and Alaska Native students,

including those attending

schools operated and funded

by BIE, those attending public

schools in cities and in rural

areas, and those attending

postsecondary institutions,

including tribal colleges and

The upcoming tribal con-

For more information on

the Department's tribal con-

cfm and www.edtribalconsul-

sultations build upon four recent roundtable discussions

universities.

tations.org.

will require them to beef up fire, police and other civic requirements in an area not equipped to accommodate a Las Vegas-style resort.

The tribe says it bought the property with congressionally allocated money it was given after a federal government dam caused extensive flooding of the original reservation.

The Department of the Interior declared the Glendale property a reservation in 2010.

The tribe had received \$30 million to replace nearly 10,000 acres of ancestral reservation land damaged by the dam. The tribe says the 135 acres purchased within the city limits of Glendale in 2003 is part of that replacement program, and the proj-

ect is located about 60 miles from the damaged land.

Glendale, the state of Arizona and another tribe filed a lawsuit to overturn the Department of the Interior decision. Several other tribes submitted so-called friendof-the-court briefs opposing the casino. A judge last year sided with the Tohono O'odham Nation, which is represented by former U.S. Solicitor General Seth Wax-

"This is an acre-for-acre replacement that was an Indian reservation even before Arizona was a state," Waxman argued to the three-judge panel Monday. He said Interior Secretary Ken Salazar correctly deemed the land a reservation.

Lawyers for Glendale and

tribes opposing the project argued that the Tohono O'odham Nation went "reservation shopping" with the government's money and shouldn't be allowed to turn just any piece of property it purchases into a reservation and then a sprawling casino the size of the Venetian Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.

Arizona Solicitor General Dave Cole said allowing the tribe to build a casino within Glendale but denying city, county and state officials any authority over the project makes the concept of local control "nothing more than an illusion."

Federal law generally bars gambling on reservations created after 1988, but there are a few exceptions.



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



918-316-5856

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling

# tahlequahrecycling.com

"Changing the culture of waste." TA

### TIMES

Incorporated... shouldn't you?

**NATIVE** 

**AMERICAN** 

TIMES

Publisher & Editor

LISA SNELL

editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers

Dana Attocknie

WESLEY MAHAN

# SC high court takes up Indian child adoption case

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) -The South Carolina Supreme Court is taking up arguments in a custody case involving a Charleston couple, an Oklahoma father and a federal law meant to protect Native American children.

Because it's an adoption case, Tuesday's arguments

The case pits the couple who nurtured a 2-year-old girl named Veronica against the child's biological father, a Cherokee Nation member who took her to Oklahoma late last year after winning custody.

The case also concerns the

federal Indian Child Welfare Act. The 1978 law was passed because many Indian children were being removed from their homes by public and private agencies.

The act gives the child's tribe and family the right to a say in decisions affecting the child.

#### AICCOK OKC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Help a deserving Native American student reach for

#### OVERVIEW

The OKC Chapter has historically provided scholarships for many years. Typically one acholarship is awarded to the top male and female entrants, as decided by the OKC Chapter Board of Directors. In 2012, we plan to notify the recipient student(s) by May 10 to allow them to list their scholarship in their graduation materials. We will present the actual scholarship award at the August luncheon.

#### SPONSORSHIPS

#### There are 2 ways that your organization can help:

- 1. Sponsor a branded, stand-alone scholarship. (Minimum award \$250). Special emphasis can be requested (e.g. math or science, healthcare, etc).
- 2. Contribute to the AICCOK-OKC Chapter General Scholarship Fund.

#### CONTACTS

To sponsor a scholarship, contact: James Lambertus, OKC Chapter Chair, aiccokc@earthlink.net, 405-650-5996 or Fran Smith, Treasurer, fran.smith@bank2online.com 405-946-2265.

To make a contribution to the Fund online, please click: http://tiny.cc/aiccokc\_scholarshipfund

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

www.nativetimes.com

KAREN SHADE Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON

LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.con

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country







#### with federal officials, tribal ries, while receiving complete and competitive educations leaders and Indian educators that prepare them for higher on best practices to improve education and fulfilling ca-Indian education. Among the strategies proposed to achieve these outsultation policies please visit: http://www.doi.gov/tribes/ comes are capacity building for tribal educational agen-Tribal-Consultation-Policy.

cies, enhanced teacher training and recruitment, pilot

U.S. Attorney Johnson cited the prosecution of John Graham and Fritz Arlo Looking Cloud in the 1975 killing of American Indian Movement activist Annie Mae Aquash as a sign that federal officials are dedicated to prosecuting cases with enough information even decades later.

Aquash's death had gone

unsolved until Looking Cloud was convicted of first-degree murder in 2004 in federal court. Graham was convicted in state court in 2010.

"Whenever we have a case that we believe we can pursue and prosecute, we're going to do it. It doesn't matter if it's 20 years, 30 years old, we're going to do that," Johnson said, adding that public safety on the Pine Ridge reservation and the state's other reservations are a high priority for him.



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork Traditional language Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristv.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

# Oregon takes second step toward banning mascots

**STEVEN DUBOIS** Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. (AP) – A draft resolution presented to the state Board of Education on Thursday would require Oregon schools to retire their Native American mascots within five years or risk losing state funding.

If approved as early as May, the rule would be one of the nation's strongest, and require 15 high schools, mostly in small towns, to erase Native American mascots from uniforms, sports fields, websites, trophy cases and even school stationery by July 1, 2017. Moreover, schools identified as the Braves, Indians and Chieftains would have to adopt a new nickname. Schools called the Warriors would be allowed to retain their nickname if they alter their mas-

The regulation would also apply to an unknown number of elementary and middle schools.

Since the 1970s, more than 600

high school and college teams have dropped Native American nicknames, including 20 in Oregon. But some small communities have resisted the trend, saying their nicknames and mascots are a source of pride and tradition.

The six-member board tackled the emotional topic last month, and Thursday was the first public release of the formal rules. The five-year transition period is intended to help districts pay for changes and give them time to pick a popular new nickname, said Cindy Hunt, government and legal affairs manager for the state Department of Education.

The Enterprise School District in Eastern Oregon changed its mascot from the Savages and Outlaws several years ago at a cost of \$15,000 to \$20,000. According to Hunt, the transition has taken a decade and is still not quite complete: "People in the community still have the old image."

Though no vote was taken, the board chaired by Brenda Frank, a member of the Nez Perce tribe, seemed in favor of the rules, with one member questioning whether they could be enforced by 2014. During the public comment period, state Rep. Sherrie Sprenger, a Republican from Scio, questioned why the issue is coming up now, when it wasn't on her radar when the legislature adjourned the first

"People are concerned about the she said. "If the goal is understanding, I don't think we're getting there."

But most of the public comment was in support of the resolution, with Native Americans saying the mascots, even if well-intentioned,

tionalized," said Neva Lenk, 24, of Portland. "It is not an honor to be taunted by opposing team or schools because of your race. It is not an honor to be used as a mas-

# week of March.

process; they don't feel it's open,"

do not reflect their traditions. "It is not an honor to be fic-

# **Tribal citizens want voice** on nickname debate

DAVE KOLPACK Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) - An attorney for an American Indian group suing the NCAA in hopes of saving the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname said Thursday that a 2007 settlement should be thrown out so namesake tribes can be heard.

Reed Soderstrom, a Minot lawyer, argued in federal court that the Spirit Lake and Standing Rock Sioux tribes were not included in the discussions when the NCAA and the state of North Dakota negotiated the agreement.

"The Sioux people have been repeatedly refused a seat at the table to discuss this issue," Soderstrom said during a hearing on a motion by the NCAA to dismiss the law-

The settlement called for UND to retire the nickname if it did not get approval from both of the state's Sioux tribes by December 2010. Only Spirit Lake passed a resolution supporting the name. The Standing Rock tribal council, which has passed several resolutions opposing the nickname, has not allowed a vote on the issue.

Jonathan Duncan, an attorney for the NCAA, said the tribes are not members of the NCAA and the complaint has no legal basis. U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson had few questions on Duncan's arguments, but interrupted the Kansas City lawyer when he complained about Soderstrom's accusations that the NCAA ignored the will of the Sioux people.

Erickson asked why approval was required from only one Seminole tribe for Florida State to keep its nickname and from only one Chippewa tribe for Central Michigan to keep its moniker, when there are several bands of both tribes. The judge indicated the requirement for UND to get written approval from two tribes discounts the Spirit Lake tribe.

"Aren't they Sioux enough?" the judge asked.

Duncan did not respond directly to Erickson's query, but repeated his earlier assertion that the NCAA did nothing to violate terms of the settlement. He said the policy does not require colleges to change their nicknames, and one school has agreed to keep its nickname under sanctions by the NCAA.

Soderstrom argued extensively about a 1969 religious ceremony on the UND campus in which Standing Rock and Spirit Lake Sioux elders reportedly granted the school perpetual use of the nickname, but Erickson said he has trouble understanding how that complies with the settlement.

"Let us move forward (with the lawsuit)," Soderstrom said.

Erickson said he would rule in the near future.

John Chaske, a Spirit Lake tribal member who is part of the lawsuit and attended Thursday's hearing, said afterward that he believes his group's arguments are valid, but they might not win the legal

"That always worries me," he said. "We're in a mainstream world here and things might go against us because of how the legal system believes."

Chaske said Erickson was thorough and appears to understand the perspective of the tribal mem-

UND is one of the last schools standing in the nickname debate that started in 2005 when the NCAA listed 19 schools with American Indian nicknames, logos and mascots it deemed to be "hostile and abusive." UND sued the NCAA, and that led to the settlement.

A law requiring the school to keep the moniker was repealed eight months after it took effect last year, after the NCAA refused to budge on sanctions. But ardent nickname supporters gained enough signatures to put the issue on the June 12 ballot, and the state Supreme Court last month refused to block that election.

If Fighting Sioux supporters lose, UND intends to drop the moniker.

# Exhibit examines portrayal of American Indians

**CHUCK HAGA** The Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) - A child's bowl decorated with Mickey

Mouse and Donald Duck as Indians. A cigarette lighter featuring the Cleveland Indians' Chief Wahoo.

An ad for Chief Oshkosh Beer. Chief Wahoo on a PEZ candy dis-

A set of "drunken Indian" salt and

pepper shakers. A photograph of a t-shirt from a

long-ago UND-North Dakota State University football weekend, with an Indian figure about to have carnal relations with a startled bison. The crude slogan on the shirt urges the Indian

The exhibit at UND's Memorial Student Union, part of the annual Time Out dedicated to Indian culture, history and traditions, is Richie Plass' way of speaking out on a long-running dispute over how Indians are portrayed.

"It's the good, the bad and the ugly of how our names and images have been used and are being used," he said Tuesday as he unpacked hundreds of photographs, posters, children's toys, paintings and other artifacts.

The "good" include a photograph of four generations of an Oneida Indian family, "just being people," and a famous poster showing Geronimo and three other defiant Apache Indians, armed with rifles. "Homeland Security," the poster is titled. "Fighting terrorism since 1492."

The "bad" include children's plastic hatchets, multi-colored "feather" bonnets and cowboys-and-Indians lunch boxes - and high school banners urging the hometown Indians to "scalp" their opponents.

Plass has taken his collection "from Long Island to California," asking people to study the images and think about what they say. He said he was eager to come to Grand Forks.

"This is the eye of the storm here," he said, "with everything that's gone back and forth with the Fighting Sioux."

Of the much-loved, much-disputed logo, he said: "I think it's very stereotypical."

Plass was invited to UND by the Indian Student Association. While some Indian students support the name or say they don't care, others have actively opposed it. Several have sued in federal court demanding that it be dropped.

The exhibit, in the union's Badlands Room, will be on display through Fri-

"Look at this," Plass says, approaching a photograph of the 1999 Kansas City Chiefs pro football team.

The players wear Indian dress and carry shields, rifles and knives. The photo is titled "The Tribe," and each player is identified by an Indian name. The late star linebacker Derrick Thomas is listed as Chief Iron Eyes.

"Not a one of them is Indian," Plass

Another poster has been part of the national movement against Indianbased nicknames for many years. It shows team banners, all but one fake: New York Fighting Jews, Chicago Blacks, San Antonio Latinos, San Francisco Orientals, St. Paul Caucasians and Washington Redskins.

"It's our 'n-word," " Plass said of the Redskins name.

Jaydecq Serich, 21, a UND junior from Grand Rapids, Minn., was one of the first visitors Tuesday. She is Ojibwe on her mother's side

and feels torn by the debate over the Fighting Sioux. "I have mixed feelings because you have the school pride but you also have your own traditions," she

"The logo is always being tossed

back and forth. I can see where both

sides are coming from, but I'm thinking it might be time to change." Plass, 60, operates www.changingwinds.org, a clearing house for people,

schools and organizations working against the use of Indian names and

The Sioux-Bison cartoon is the only Fighting Sioux item he has, "but hopefully this week I'll be able to take some more stuff home with me," he said.

Some visitors tell him they disagree with his theme, or they say some uses of Indian imagery are sincere and honoring. He will engage critics and persuade some but not others, he said. "Sometimes they'll say, 'I think I understand better now where you are coming from."

Where he started from, he said, is a school gym in Shawano, Wis., where in 1968 the Shawano High Indians basketball team stormed onto the floor led by a boy in buckskin and feathers, dancing as a representative of the local Menominee tribe. There's a picture of the mascot from an old newspaper

The mascot was Plass.

"The principal and the basketball coach asked me to dress up and lead the team out," he said. "I said, 'No, we don't do that stuff for show.' But they told me to talk to my parents about it."

His parents suggested he talk with other members of the tribe, and they told him to consult an elder.

The man said, "They want a show? Give them a show. Just don't wear anything sacred."

The first time he dressed and danced as an Indian and led his team out, the response was good, Plass said. "There were a lot of people from the reservation there. I went over and shook my dad's hand and gave my mother and grandma a kiss."

But when he went with the team to a game in another town, "the whole gym laughed at me, and I freaked out," he said. "People whooped and yelled things and threw paper cups and pop-

"I was in tears, and I said 'No more." From then on, I wanted to tell people that we are more than beads and feathers. We're doctors, teachers, entertainers, truck drivers. We are people, and there is no honor in being laughed at."

His personal mascot experience was good, bad and ugly, he said. He learned from it and took direction from it.

"I've never felt any anger about that," he said. "But over the years, I've felt tons and tons of shame."

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State: Zip:	
Phone:		
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues		
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues	☐ \$1.25 single copy	

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

# Inupiat woman one of 6 environmental prize winners

LISA DEMER Anchorage Daily News

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) - Her father was a Point Hope whaling captain. Her mother taught her how to butcher the bowhead and care for the meat. The family depended on the sea and land for so much.

Caroline Cannon's lifelong connection to the Arctic Ocean pushed her to become one of the state's most vocal opponents of offshore oil drilling.

Now, just as Shell Oil is poised to drill exploration wells off Alaska's northern coast, her advocacy has won her a coveted environmental award.

Cannon, an Inupiat mother of nine and grandmother of 26, is one of this year's winners of the Goldman Environmental Prize, described as the world's biggest for grassroots environmentalists.

Cannon and the other five winners from around the world were officially announced Monday. Each will receive \$150,000.

Cannon is the former president of the Native Village of Point Hope, the tribal council that has been involved in a number of lawsuits aimed at stopping oil exploration and drilling in the Arctic. She lost her spot on the village council in a close election last year but

expects to get back on soon. Point Hope, a village of about 700 people, is 330 miles southwest of Barrow on a gravel spit that forms the western-most extension of the northwest Alaska coast. The village is one of the oldest continuously occupied Inupiat areas in Alaska, according to the state Division of Community and Regional Affairs.

Cannon has spoken up against offshore drilling countless times. At a national tribal summit with President Barack Obama in 2009, she told him "we are not prepared for this." She has sat down with environmental leaders and with Shell. She's traded barbs with Pete Slaiby, Shell's vice president for Alaska operations, and didn't quiet down after he corrected some of her assertions in a letter to the editor.

"When you have something you feel strongly about, there's no turning that light off," Cannon said in an interview. "Meaning it's stronger than me."

She isn't convinced any oil company could clean up a spill in the Arctic.

"They can say they've got it down pat. They've got the response. They have all means. Their ships will be there. They have the people trained," Cannon said, repeating what she and other villagers have been told. But the nearest Coast Guard station is maybe 1,000 miles away. The weather can turn fierce fast and prevent help from arriving. If oil spilled, it might not be cleaned up before freezeup. The traditional ways are too dear to lose, she said.

Federal regulators have approved Shell's oil spill response plans for both the Beaufort and Chukchi seas. Shell hopes to drill exploratory wells in both locations during this summer's open water season using separate drilling rigs accompanied by more than a dozen other vessels that could respond in the event of a spill. The company says it is using the most advanced equipment and has invested billions in its Alaska offshore program. zar said in February that Shell will be operating under "the strongest oversight, safety requirements, and emergency response plans ever established."

Shell declined to comment on Cannon or the recognition she's receiving.

Court challenges by the Point Hope tribe and numerous environmental groups including Greenpeace, the Sierra Club, the Center for Biological Diversity, and the Alaska Wilderness League had stalled its efforts for

Cannon said her parents, Henry and Emma Nashookpuk, had a dog team that hunters used to get to caribou grounds and down to the sea ice for seals. Harvested seals were preserved in the snow head down -life-saving food for villagers and dogs, she said.

One rare year when Point Hope whaling crews didn't land a whale, a friend in Barrow gave her muktuk that she shared with elders. "One elderly woman literally cried because that was so precious. That is who we are. That little block of muktuk that we brought to her," Cannon said.

Villagers call the ocean "our garden and our identity," Cannon said.

Betsy Beardsley, environmental justice director for the Alaska Wilderness League, said Cannon is a powerful speaker.

"She just has a way of painting a picture of life in the Arctic and what's at stake," said Beardsley, who planned to be in San Francisco for Monday's award ceremony. "Many times people are left in tears."

Even if Shell is able to drill this summer, Cannon's advocacy has made a differ-Interior Secretary Ken Sala- ence, Beardsley said.



STEVE FISCH AP / COURTESY GOLDMAN ENVIRONMENTAL PRIZE

In this April 13, 2012 photo released by the Goldman Environmental Prize, Caroline Cannon poses with her prize in San Francisco. Cannon, an Inupiat mother of nine and grandmother of 26, is one of this year's winners of the Goldman Environmental Prize, described as the world's biggest for grassroots environmentalists.

Villagers are not united against oil drilling. Some see the prospect of jobs and want to give Shell a chance. Still many appreciate Cannon for being well informed, and willing to stand up to the oil company, said Peggy Frankson, the tribal council executive director.

"Shell tries to come here with all the answers but Caroline as well as others, they ask the tough questions they can't answer," Frankson

This is the 23rd year for the Goldman prize. An international jury picks the winners from nominees submitted by environmental groups and activists. The nomination process is confidential, and vetting the candidates takes months.

are: a woman from Kenya fighting a massive dam, a Russian trying to reroute a highway that would bisect a forest, a priest leading a movement against a nickel mine in the Philippines, a mother in Argentina whose infant died from pesticide poisoning organizing others against toxic agriculture chemicals, and an activist in China whose online database and map exposes factories that violate environmental regulations.

The late Richard Goldman and his wife, Rhoda, a Levi Strauss heiress, created the prize in 1990 to reward "ordinary individuals who take extraordinary actions to protect the earth and its inhabitants," their San Francisco-based foundation

#### **US Department of Labor** releases proposed tribal consultation policy

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Labor last week published in the Federal Register a proposed tribal consultation policy, creating a formal process through which the department will engage in consultation with federally recognized tribes on actions or policies that will have a significant impact on tribal nations. This policy would apply to any department action that affects federally recognized Indian tribes and requires that the department's government-to-government consultation involve both appropriate tribal and department officials.

"The development of the Labor Department's tribal consultation policy honors the relationship between the Native American community and the U.S. government, thanks to the president's leadership calling for ongoing engagement with tribal nations and communities," said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "This policy aims to strengthen the U.S. government's interactions with sovereign tribal nations. We look forward to receiving feedback and implementing the policy."

On Nov. 9, 2009, President Obama cited Executive Order 13175, which was issued by President Clinton, tasking executive branch departments and agencies with engaging tribal nations to formalize federal programs that impact tribal com-

Following the president's charge, the Department of Labor began devising a plan. A series of consultative listening sessions, including meetings with representatives of the Native American community, the department's Native American Employment and Training Council, and the National Congress of American Indians, preceded the finalization of the tribal consultation policy proposed today.

A public comment period will end June 18. Following the comment period, the department will evaluate comments for prospective changes to the proposed policy. To view the proposal and submit comments, visit http://www.federalregis-

# COMMENTARY









### The Book of Mormon: The whiter the skin the closer to God



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Larry Echo Hawk is leaving his position as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs after he was named to the Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints' First Quorum of the Seventy during a recent general conference of the Mormon Church in Salt Lake City, Utah.

George P. Lee, Navajo, was the first Native American called to the Seventy in 1975. He served for 14 years before he was excommunicated for "apostasy" or desertion of his religious principles and "conduct unbecoming a member of the Church." Lee died in 2010 at age 67.

The Mormon Church has a history of rocky and contradictory dealings with Native Americans or Lamanites, as they were known in the beginning.

According to Brigham Young, "There is a curse on these aborigines of our country who roam the plains and are so wild that you cannot tame them. They are of the House of Israel; they once had the Gospel delivered to them, they had oracles of truth; Jesus came and administered to them after his resurrection and they received and delighted in the Gospel until the fourth generation when they turned away and became so wicked that God cursed them with this dark and benighted and loathsome condition."

Prophet Spencer W. Kimball, the man who sent out the call to Mr. Lee to join the Seventy, said in 1960, "The day of the Lamanites is nigh. For years they have been growing delightsome and they are now becoming white and delightsome as they were promised." He described different Indian children who were "as light as Anglos. "These young members of the Church are changing to whiteness and delightsomeness. One white elder jokingly said that he and his companion were donating blood regularly to the hospital in the hope that the process might be accelerated."

The Mormon Church, as it has evolved, has been forced to rewrite the Book of Mormon in order to accommodate its efforts to convert Native Americans and African-Americans. Both races were excluded from leadership in the Mormon Church prior to the recent revisions of the Book.

In an article titled, "Is the Mormon Church stuck with an embarrassing book it cannot historically support?; Rick Ross wrote, "Mormons grow up with the belief that Native Americans are somehow related to a lost tribe from Israel. That tribe, they are told, came across the ocean about 600 B.C. to America, led by an otherwise unknown Jewish prophet named Lehi."

The Book of Mormon originally stated that when Lamanites converted they would then become "white and delightsome." In 1981 the Church decided to replace the word "white" with "pure."

Most white Americans have looked upon the stories of the Lamanites as racist. In 1971 the official Mormon publication the Ensign stated, "As we attempt to solve the complex puzzle we call life, there is a constant search for elements that will clarify the picture. For [Mormons] one of the keys to this great pattern of existence is the group of people known as Lamanites."

He continued, "Those not of the Church call these people Indians, although the term actually refers to a broader group than that. Most members of the Church know that the Lamanites, who consist of Indians of all the Americas as well as the islanders of the Pacific, are a people with a special heritage."

A study done at BYU revealed, "Ironically, the database compiled by BYU can only conclude that there is no evidence of a Native American/Israel connection. In fact, no DNA study at any university has ever demonstrated otherwise." Ross added, "However, it is doubtful that BYU would ever release any research that could potentially prove embarrassing to the Church."

So here we have the LDS Church faced with potential errors in the Book of Mormons, that started off with faulty data that proved to be an embarrassment and has been pointed out by some church members and by many Native Americans as racist: the whiter the skin the closer to God.

Many Native Americans were converted to Mormonism over the years. The Indian tribes living in the lands settled by the Mormons found they were losing their land and resources until they were forced into a state of extreme poverty. The Indian tribes living in Utah, Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico soon became dependent upon the welfare handed out by the Mormon Church in order to survive. Thousands of Navajo and other tribes saw their children taken from them and moved into the homes of Church members where they were used extensively as child labor. Along with the hard work they were converted into the faith without truly understanding their status within the church hierarchy.

Larry Echo Hawk served as an ineffective Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Will he make a difference as a member of the First Quorum of the Seventy for Native Americans? History will be the judge of that.

The question lingers: Is the Mormon Church stuck with an embarrassing book it cannot historically support? Will the Book of Mormon one day be rationalized as simply an allegory conceived and used by Joseph Smith, the founder, to inspire his followers? In the final analysis it all comes down to whether faith will triumph over fiction.

And I will continue to ask myself why any sensible Native American would belong to a Church that will not fully accept them until they become white.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

# LANGUAGE

The Chahta Anumpa (Choctaw Language) Preservation Society is independent from the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and receives no tribal funding or support.

prisoner in the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (OKDOC).

Scott served one year for concealing stolen property including assault and battery with a dangerous weapon during a domestic altercation. It was then that his father urged him to cling to his identity. He began to develop a curriculum for his language in the penitentiary. After his release in 2010, Scott began a language class that he says mirrors conversational Choctaw common in southeastern OK.

The fluent Choctaw speaker combines his in-person group with online classes via Facebook (300+ friends) and YouTube. Scott writes a Chahta curriculum and posts short videos because "it's one thing to see the written language and another to hear it spoken."

The Chahta Anumpa (Choctaw Language) Preservation Society is independent from the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and receives no tribal funding or support. The Durant-based tribe has an official language department which has been used by hundreds of students. Their separate efforts undergird the tribe's language in the hopes of boosting fluency across the

Having grown up around traditional Choctaw speaking grandparents, Scott said speaking the language was a basic necessity. His kind of upbringing (fluent speakers raising immersed ones) is fading quickly, according to language watchdogs.

The Intertribal Wordpath Society, an online group that keeps track of the state's Native language speakers, estimated in 2006 that the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma had about 4,000 speakers. In a tribe that now officially numbers more than 270,000 this is but a fraction of the Southeastern Oklahoma based nation. Roughly, 26 of the state's 38 tribes still have speakers, the organization estimates.

Using the latest mediums to reach potential students is just part of an emerging strategy for language revitalization. The Chahta Anumpa Preservation Society has also adopted new word formations in Choctaw for "cell phone" and "text message."



The students in the Chahta Anumpa Preservation Society range in age from 6 to 92.

The new words are phrased just so, combining practical aspects of old words and melding them together. Once the "new" word is formed, Scott said a committee made up of fluent tribal elders either approves or discards the phrase.

"I'm not just making up words," Scott said. "For example, cell phone is 'By way of speaking."

Members who tune in online or come to Scott to learn Choctaw from scratch do it for their own reasons. The students (ages 6 to 92) all use the same curriculum, one that differs from the traditional emphasis or approach to learning Choctaw. The standard version is modeled on

member, Roy Burst, has been taking Scott's class for several months after seeing the class posted on a buddy's Facebook page.

the Byington method, which

"I'm trying to keep it cur-

rent," Scott said. "I'm taking

baby steps with all the cours-

Scott asserts that the By-

ington Method, developed by

Presbyterian minister Cyrus

Byington, was developed as a

means to reach the Choctaws

theologically. It gave them

the Gospel in a written way

they could understand circa

Choctaw is multi-faceted

and features regional dia-

lects, said one of Scott's on-

line students. The language is

spoken in pockets through-

out Oklahoma, Louisiana

and Mississippi. Jena Band

the 1860s.

Scott finds outdated.

A speaker of "broken Choctaw" since he was a boy, Burst said dialects differ and speakers from different areas will often poke fun at the other listening for differences. Scott's version is helping him expand linguistically, Burst

"It's close to what I've already learned," he said "He goes slow on the videos and that helps me a lot."

But some say that Scott's method inverts the subjectverb order and is Anglicized rather than the traditional

version. Meanwhile, others insist letting a tribal language flex is a natural outgrowth of revitalization, said Leanne Hinton, a linguist with the University of California, Berkeley.

Hinton has extended her efforts with California's Havasupai Tribe and written a book, "How to Keep Your Language Alive: A Commonsense Approach to One-On-One Language Learning."

"In a language that is still spoken every day by its people, new words would develop naturally either through borrowing or through the mechanisms available within the language," Hinton said by e-mail. "But when a language ceases to be used, then new things and new concepts pile up without any words to describe them."

Hinton said a lingering debate in the Native language movement is whether it will change too much and "lose its original soul." Speaking a tribal language is for those who are using it in a traditional manner to express their life's experience and for those who see it as a channel to tune into their tribal identity. Both approaches have merit.

"I believe a language can grow to encompass both the old and the new," the Berkeley linguist said.

California faces a different peril than Oklahoma, linguistically. Most tribes there have fewer members making the situation double edged. Smaller means more people can learn a language but not everyone in a tribe is interested. The Golden State has about 107 recognized tribes and around 50 non-recognized bands. All the while, the clock ticks on fluency, cultural officials said.

Scott has walked a divergent path in his life; church, Army, family, jail and classroom. He hung onto his language in all weathers. Chahta, his mother language, anchored him, he said. Meanwhile, a new group is preparing to graduate from Chahta Anumpa Preservation Society in late April.

"I want someone in Bosnia to hear 'Halito (hello),' and know what that means," Scott said. "I want to hear my language spoken again."

### From prison to classroom: Language, culture helps man turn life around

**Edison Red Nest's** interest in learning and eventually teaching Lakota to others began to take shape during a period of incarceration and rehabilitation.

**DENICE ABY** Alliance Times-Herald

ALLIANCE, Neb. (AP) -Edison Red Nest is a Lakota language instructor, teaching youth, and soon adult courses, also, in Alliance.

In a series of seven lessons, Red Nest offers participants of all ages the opportunity to gain a basic knowledge of the pronunciation and meaning of the Lakota language.

"It's the same textbook – the same curriculum - as on the reservation," he said.

In guiding his students through each lesson, Red Nest is very relaxed, using flash cards and humor - making it a fun experience for the kids.

His interest in learning and eventually teaching Lakota to others began to take shape during a period of incarceration and rehabilitation, in which he learned about the language, as well as mastering the drumming technique and its meaning in traditional native culture.

"I took advantage of the programs," he said, "... and went through the treatment program."

Along with putting his effort into completing college courses, he said it became time of spiritual growth, where he began to look to the Lakota culture for guidance in his own life.

By 2008, Red Nest said he and some friends would set up drums and sing in local parks as a way to practice drumming, while entertaining and teaching others through the ancient culture of the Lakota.

Currently, Red Nest is a youth organizer at the Native American Center in Chadron

and commutes to and from Alliance.

Red Nest also has a parttime position with Supportive Systems for Rural Homeless Youth: a program that assists teens and young adults ages 16 to 22, in finding resources when seeking employment, medical care, counseling or other needs. At this time, Red Nest is working closely with two individuals within the program.

"It is very rewarding - I'm proud of myself - my girlfriend is proud of me."

"It's just a good feeling to go from selling drugs to helping kids."

Red Nest also teaches his students about the drums, and of course, being at the YMCA facility, Red Nest said he incorporates a physical fitness aspect into the program, getting his students to play basketball and other games,

For now, Red Nest points out that the program is in the early planning stages, saying, "We're just getting on our feet, getting organized - but it's growing."

The classes are offered free of charge, and Red Nest wants to keep it that way.

"We're not going to turn anybody away," he said, pointing out that if necessary, he would pay for the expense out of his own pocket or offer transportation for his students, simply to continue to offer this positive educational experience for the kids.

"It wouldn't be possible without parents," he said, and hopes that families will continue to support the program.

Red Nest said everyone is welcome to participate, and he wants the community to know, "We are real - we are legit, and all they need is a willingness to learn."

For information on the program, contact Edison Red Nest at 760-4336 or Mary Wernke at 487-6397.

# CLASSIFIEDS







# **LEGAL**

Housing Authority of the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, Miami, Okla. is seeking a

#### **Deputy Executive Director**

POSITION SUMMARY: Responsible to the Executive Director for directing and controlling the operation of low rent and housing assistance programs in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Peoria Housing Authority, NAHASDA regulations, and any pertinent federal, state, and tribal requirements.

Four (4) year degree in business, public administration or equivalent is preferred and a minimum of two years supervisory experience in Housing Management. Prefer a candidate familiar with Housing Development and management programs funded through federal, state, tribal and/or private entities and with extensive knowledge of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996.

PHA offers competitive wages, paid holidays, paid time off, 401K plan plus medical, dental, disability and life

Position will be open until 3:00 p.m. Monday, April 30, 2012. Please mail or hand deliver resume with cover letter and three references to Peoria Housing Authority, 3606 Sencay Avenue, Miami, OK. 74354, Attn: Jason Dollarhide, **Executive Director.** 

Indian Preference is Observed

#### **Health and Wellness Director** The Notah Begay III Foundation

(http://www.nb3foundation.org) seeks a Health and Wellness Director for our innovative, quickly growing youth services organization in the Albuquerque, NM area. This dynamic, committed person will develop and implement health and wellness programs and activities for the placebased programming at San Felipe Pueblo including interventions related to increasing access to healthy foods, nutrition education, physical fitness programming and community, and leadership development initiatives that will promote the reduction of childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes. Master's degree and 5+ years

For a full job description and to apply, please visit: http://www. nb3foundation.org/health-andwellness-director.html by Friday, May

American Indian hiring preference applies.

#### **Delaware Tribe of Indians** current opportunities:

**EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED** 

1. Executive Assistant to the Chief, position will be responsible for assisting the Chief on correspondence, scheduling, and other tasks as assigned, also responsible for Tribal **Enrollment and Human Resources, pay** will be commensurate with experience. Medical, dental benefits included.

2. Wellness Center Attendant, part time position will be responsible for maintaining the Wellness Center, exercise equipment, and assisting Tribal Members as needed, hours are 5-8 pm M-F and 8 am-1 pm Sat, closed Sun, pay will be \$10/hr.

Please email resumes to bwilliams@ delawaretribe.org or fax to 918-337-6591 or mail to 170 NE Barbara Street, Bartlesville, OK 74006, applications can be found on www.delawaretribe. org/careers, no phone calls please.

Positions close April 27th. Tribal/ Native American preference will be observed.

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

#### GWY9 D36 CHEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

#6124 Certified and/or Registered Respiratory Therapist/T/PT #4500 Inpatient RN/PRN/OR/T/PT #6395 Inpatient RN/PRN/ICU/T/PT #5903 Inpatient RN/PRN/ICU/T/PT WW Hastings Hospital, Tahlequah **POSITIONS CLOSE 4/24/2012** 

#6217 Cook I/R/PT **Human Services, Family and Elderly Assistance, Nowata POSITION CLOSES 4/25/2012** 

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO** Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

**Check nativetimes.com for more jobs!** -New jobs posted throughout the weekIN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION **OKMULGEE DISTRICT** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF: M.C., a Minor Child Case No. GD-2012-05

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION** 

DANIEL CULLY OR ANY UNKNOWN FATHER YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that

the above-entitled matter is set for hearing on a PETITION FOR **GUARDIANSHIP** at the hour of 10:00 p.m. on the 11th day of JUNE, 2012, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Your failure to appear at the hearing on June 11th, 2012, may result in a default judgment being rendered against you.

Court Clerk

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

# Apache twins take musical talents to Hollywood

BERNIE DOTSON The Indpendent

GALLUP, N.M. (AP) - Shawndev and Tawnva Gomez learned life lessons growing up around the church and their father's hair shop. Both places were spots where locals gathered to worship and talk about the issues of the day. They were places where Shawndey and Tawnya - nicknamed 'Dey and Nite' and identical twins born 12 minutes apart - learned to interact with the public. And also places where they became hooked on music.

"We started singing at a very young age when we went to church in Gallup," Tawnya explained.

The Gomez family, father Iav and mother Shirley, and brother, Jayson, 32, attended Gallup's First Assembly of God Church.

"For us, that and the hair shop were important. But it was church where we really, really sang and got involved in music," Tawnya said.

Shawndey Michael and Tawnya Monique have gone on to an adult life largely spent in the entertainment field. Now 30 years old and Hollywood, Calif., residents with resumes that boast performances in Brazil, Mexico, Canada, Australia and in practically every state of the United States, the Gallup High School graduates come back to 'G' town as often as possible, Tawnya said. Feature roles in the Native American-themed film, "More Than Frybread," about a cooking competition among the 22 tribes in Arizona, proved that singing and playing instruments - Shawndey the piano and Tawnya the acoustic guitar isn't their sole strong suit.

"I first saw them at a Iames and Ernie event at the El Morro Theatre a few years back," Travis Hamilton, producer of 'Frybread,' said, referring to the popular Chinle, Ariz.-based comedy duo. "I auditioned them and it turned out that they were amazing. They were always prepared, could



ADRON GARDNER / GALLUP INDEPENDENT

In this April 11, 2012 photo, twin sister singers Shawndey, left, and Tawnya Gomez, of Gallup, N.M., pose for photos

always make changes as directed on the spot. It seems to be not that big of a step for a performer to jump from the stage to the screen. I needed twins in the film and how many twins are there in the world? They also were a great attraction to keep some of our extras on the set for another day," Hamilton joked.

The twins, who are part Mexican, part Yavapai ing up in the Indian Capital was sometimes tough. With their long hair and drop-dead gorgeous looks, the two can turn on the backslapping charm at the

Apache, admit that grow-

drop of a hat. But they're also shrewd performers and have learned to be equally astute when it comes to the business side of entertain-

"We never feel completely successful because we always feel like we have to achieve more," Shawndey

> said. "We consider ourselves very down to Earth. We don't feel like we've succeeded in our own minds. We like getting to share the experiences with each other."

Growing up in a close-knit family on the north side of Gallup, it was Michael Jackson, Janet Jackson, Carole King, The Beatles, Karen Carpenter and

DeBarge who shaped their musical interests. That influence parlayed the two into engagements like singing the national anthem at a San Francisco 49ers football game, singing background vocals for songstress Alicia Keys and rapper Soulja Boy and a breakout world tour with pop star Hillary Duff, far cries from the homecoming queen, Cinderella pageants and prom court

days of Gallup.

"I am very proud of them, more than proud," Jay Gomez, 56, said. Jay owns and operates Pro Cuts in Gallup and also is an adjunct instructor of hair at the University of New Mexico-Gallup. A drummer and pianist who followed ZZ Top, Acoustic Alchemy and Stevie Wonder, Jay still remembers his time spent in Lake Tahoe and San Fran-

"You know, I was trying to get my music a little further out there," he said. About his daughters, Jay Gomez added, "More than anything else, I am very happy and proud that they're good people, too."

Mom Shirley Gomez says it was definitely Jay's side of the family where Shawndey and Tawnya got their musical and entertainment skills. A Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., hairstylist, Shirley said, "They were singers in church and believers in Christ. Yes, I'm very proud of them. Their resilience has long surpassed mine. His side (Jay) of the family for sure was where the music gene came from," Shirley

Shawndey and Tawnya debuted their self-titled CD in 2009 that was partially produced in New Mexico. On it, the two showcase their supreme writing talents, with Tawnya's focused vocals and ability to stretch notes particularly evident. A follow up CD is set to come out this fall.

# **CHC announces 41st Trail** of Tears Art Show winners

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The Cherokee Heritage Center announced the winners of the 41st Annual Trail of Tears Art Show and Sale during an awards celebration on Friday, April 20 at the Cherokee Heritage Center. The 2012 Grand Prize has been awarded to Dan Corley, Cherokee Nation, for "Reflection."

The 41st Annual Trail of Tears Art Show and Sale runs through May 20 and features authentic Native American art in Oklahoma's longest continuing Native American art show. The Cherokee Heritage Center is located at 21192 S. Keeler Drive, Park Hill, Okla.

This year's annual exhibition includes 87 Native American artists from 13 Tribal Nations featuring 145 art pieces. Native American citizens from federally recognized tribes competed in several divisions and categories including painting, sculpture, pottery, basketry, graphics, jewelry, miniatures and a special Trail of Tears themed category.

With 35 winners in eight categories and nearly \$10,000 awarded, the following summary highlights the Trail of Tears Art Show and Sale 2012 Grand Prize and First Place winners:

"The Trail of Tears Art Show and Sale draws the best Native American artists from across the country to one of Oklahoma's longest running art shows," said Karen Cooper, executive director at the Cherokee Heritage Center. "We are enjoying record participation again this year and I'm certain everyone visiting the show will be thrilled with the splendor and imagination of the Native American artwork on display."

A complete list of winners and all artwork on sale at the 41st Annual Trail of Tears Art Show and Sale are available on-



COURTESY CHEROKEE HERITAGE CENTER 2012 Grand Prize Winner, "Reflection," by Dan Corley, Cherokee

line at http://www.Cherokee-Heritage.org.

"The Cherokee Heritage Center is not only the premier cultural center for Cherokee tribal history, culture and the arts, but also home to one of the preeminent Native American art shows in the U.S.," said Bill John Baker, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. "With such broad representation of Tribal Nations, the Trail of Tears Art Show and Sale truly highlights a wide range of Native American talent, culture and diversity."

The Cherokee Heritage Center is open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week from May 6 to Sept. 3. It is closed during January and on Sundays from Feb. 1 to April 29 and Sept. 4 to Dec. 31.

Admission is \$8.50 per adult, \$7.50 per senior (55 and older) and students with proper identification, and \$5 per child. Admission price includes all attractions. Entry to the grounds and museum store are free.

For additional information contact the Cherokee Heritage Center at (888) 999-6007, email at info@cherokeeheritage.org or visit http://www.Cherokee-Heritage.org.

# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** Kiowa class beginning in February at 6:30 pm, Oliphant Hall, Room 141, Tulsa University. Info call Sarah, (918) 445-5213

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City,

Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH MAY** Free beginner-level Cherokee cherokeeartistsassociation.org language classes in communities throughout the tribe's jurisdiction. Once a week for ten weeks. For locations or to register, call Bill Andoe at 918-453-5151.

> **APRIL 24** Native American Art Festival, Tulsa Hard Rock Hotel. 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. sponsored by Seminole Nation of Okla. For booth space contact [walker.s@sno-nsn.gov] or 405-257-7241 by April 16.

APRIL 26 **UKB Delaware District Meet**ing, 6:30 p.m. in the Jay **Community Center.** 

**UKB Cooweescoowee** District Meeting, 6 p.m. in the First Christian Church in

**APRIL 27 Kiowa Higher Education Graduates Banquet at Cross Timbers Restaurant in** Anadarko, OK. Info call 580-654-2300 ext. 324

**APRIL 28** 'Honoring Victims of Crime' Celebration Powwow In Observance of 'National Crime Victims Rights Week' 2012 at Red Buffalo Hall, Carnegie. A dance to honor the lives of loved ones and the victims, survivors, and families they left behind. We have invited several guest speakers and encourage family members of any Tribe to come and speak on their experiences with the criminal justice system in Indian Country during this event. We will also have a 'Wall of Remembrance' for families that want to display photos, articles, or other memorabilia regarding their family member. We ask that you assemble these on a poster board for easy display & transport. For more information contact Ben Wolf at 405.532.2625 or www.csudh.

edu/csl/All/socialjustice.asp,

Benwolf11kiowa@yahoo.

"O-SKOO" Co-Ed Basketball Tournament (All Indun) PRE-"O-SKOO" ~ 30 YRS TO 39 YRS & "O-SKOO" ~ 40 YRS TO ??? YRS. \$50.00 Entry fee. 8 Man Roster: 4 Ole Men & 4 Ole Women. For more info, call Tonkawa Tribe Education Programs: 580-628-2561 LISA ext 125 or LEAH ext 131. Entry deadline April 20.

**Church Fundraiser for New** Joy Baptist Church 11:00 to 5:00, 1103 South Main, Sapulpa. All you can eat spaghetti lunch - Cost \$8 All proceeds will go towards the church and church events. Call Jimmy Alexander 918-322-5407

**Seminole Nation Honor Guard Powwow at Okfusk**gee County Fairgrounds, Okemah, Okla. Gourd Dancing 1-5pm, Supper Break 5-6pm, Gourd Dancing 6-7pm and Grand Entry at 7pm. Info call Alex Fish 405-432-7858. Vendors call Phillip Coon 918-623-6810 or 405-432-7399.

**18th Annual CSUEA Youth** Powwow at Frisco Center, Clinton, Oklahoma. Gourd dancing at 3 pm, supper at 5 pm, grand entry at 7 pm. Info: Charlene Wassana 580-331-3300.

**Restoring Harmony Heroes** of Hope Contest Powwow at Westside YMCA, 5400 S. Olympia Ave., Tulsa, Okla. Info contact Tim Shadlow 918-382-2217 or tshadlow@ ihcrc.org

MAY 4 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

MAY 5 All you can eat breakfast fundraiser sponsored by the Yuchi/Euchee Heritage Festival. 7am-1pm Covenant Harvest Chapel, 722 N Hodge St., Sapulpa, Okla. Info call Kathy, 918-695-0195

MAY 6 Pawnee Nation Title VI Elders Program Benefit Mother's Day Dance at Pawnee **Campgrounds. Gourd Dance** at 2pm. Supper at 5pm. For more info call 1-918-762-4042

MAY 8 **Lazy Stitch Beading** Workshop, Museum of the Red River, 812 E Lincoln Rd, Idabel, Okla. Info call Jeanette Bohanan 580-286-3616

**MAY 12 Gray Horse War Mothers Annual Soldier Dance at Gray** Horse Indian Village, east of Fairfax, Okla., turn east on Harrison off HWY 18. Supper at 5:30. Raffle tickets sold for 3 drawings. Info call Margie Burkhart 918-816-2014 or Mary Elsberry 918-396-3314.

**MAY 26** Art Class: Slate Rock Art Paintings by Bill McCulley at Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th Okmulgee, Okla. Students will learn to paint and Create artwork on slate rock found along the Illinois River in Oklahoma. Lessons in fundamentals of art will be taught to help the beginning painter. Class is limited to 20 people. Reserve your spot call 918-756-2324 or csago71@sbcglobal.net 10 a.m.-2 pm. Free.

JUNE 1 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 8 **Chilocco Powwow in the Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache Fire Dance. Contact Garland Kent, Sr at 580- 352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox **Convention Center,** Oklahoma City

# **Chickasaw Press takes home** 2 Oklahoma Book Awards

Awards for Design/Illustration and Children/Youth categories are taken home by the Chickasaw Press.

**REBECCA AYRES** 

Chickasaw Nation

OKLAHOMA CITY - Chikasha Stories, Volume One: Shared Spirit and Ilimpa'chi' (We're Gonna Eat!): A Chickasaw Cookbook were named winners of the Children/Young Adults and Design/Illustration awards, respectively. The awards were handed out on Saturday, April 14, during the 23rd annual Oklahoma Book Awards banquet at the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame and Jim Thorpe Museum in Oklahoma City.

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby said that the authors, artists and others responsible for producing the books deserve to be honored for their accomplishments.

"We expect these books to have a very positive impact in the homes of Chickasaws across the country," said Gov. Anoatubby. "These stories and recipes may very well inspire many more Chickasaws to continue including traditional food, stories and culture as part of their family life for generations to come."

Sanford Mauldin's photography and the designs of Skip McKinstry and Aaron Long were honored for Ilimpachi, while storyteller Glenda Galvan and artist Jeannie Barbour were recognized for their work on Chikasha Stories.

Division of History and Culture Administrator Dr. Amanda Cobb-Greetham said that the Chickasaw Press continues to meet its mission of preserving, perpetuating, and providing an awareness of Chickasaw history and culture.

"When Governor Anoatubby founded the Press in 2007, he had a vision for the future. From day one, the Chickasaw Press set out to provide quality publications that told the Chickasaw story," said

Dr. Cobb-Greetham. "Tonight, that vision takes another step in the right direction. I'm so proud of everyone who was involved in these projects. There are a lot of blood, sweat and tears in these books. It was truly a team ef-

About the Oklahoma Book Awards:

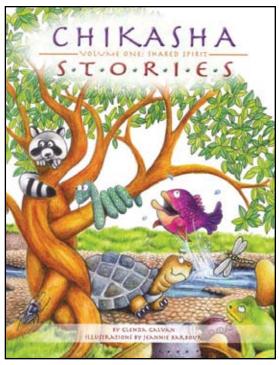
The banquet was sponsored by the Oklahoma Center for the Book, part of the state Libraries Department and a state affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. The awards recognize books written the previous year by Oklahomans or about Oklahoma. Of the 121 books entered in the competition, 35 were selected as finalists. Twenty-five of the finalists were by authors, poets, designers or illustrators who reside in Oklahoma.

About Chikasha Stories, Volume One: Shared Spirit:

In Chikasha Stories, Volume One: Shared Spirit, premier Chickasaw storyteller and tribal elder Glenda Galvan tells traditional stories drawn from the tribe's oral traditions. Illustrating the tales are original artworks by award-winning Chickasaw artist Jeannie Barbour. Presenting the stories in both English and Chickasaw, Chikasha Stories is the first of an important series of books intended to revive and maintain the storytelling tradition so vital to the roots of Chickasaw and Native culture.

About Ilimpa'chi' (We're Gonna Eat!): A Chickasaw Cookbook:

Recipes, reminiscences and lessons in Chickasaw lifeways are the main ingredients in Ilimpa'chi' (We're Gonna Eat!): A Chickasaw Cookbook. Well-known Chickasaw cooks JoAnn Ellis and Vicki Penner share more than forty recipes, accompanied by scenes from their lives spent cooking, eating and growing up



Chikasha Stories, Volume One: Shared Spirit is a collection of traditional stories drawn from the tribe's oral traditions

around foods prepared in Chickasaw kitchens and over outdoor cooking fires. Their stories reveal the organic connections between food, family and Chickasaw Nation history. Presenting traditional and traditionally inspired recipes for wild game, meat and fish, wild vegetables and fruits, garden produce and breads, they describe and celebrate the roles of these dishes in the feasts of Chickasaw culture.

The Chickasaw Press, the first tribal press of its kind, publishes books about Chickasaw history and culture. Both books are available through the Chickasaw Press at www.chickasawpress.com or 580-622-7157 and the University of Oklahoma Press, http://www.oupress.com. These and other books from the Chickasaw Press can also be purchased at the Chickasaw Cultural Center Gift Shops in Sulphur, Okla-

# **Restoring Harmony Powwow this** weekend in Tulsa

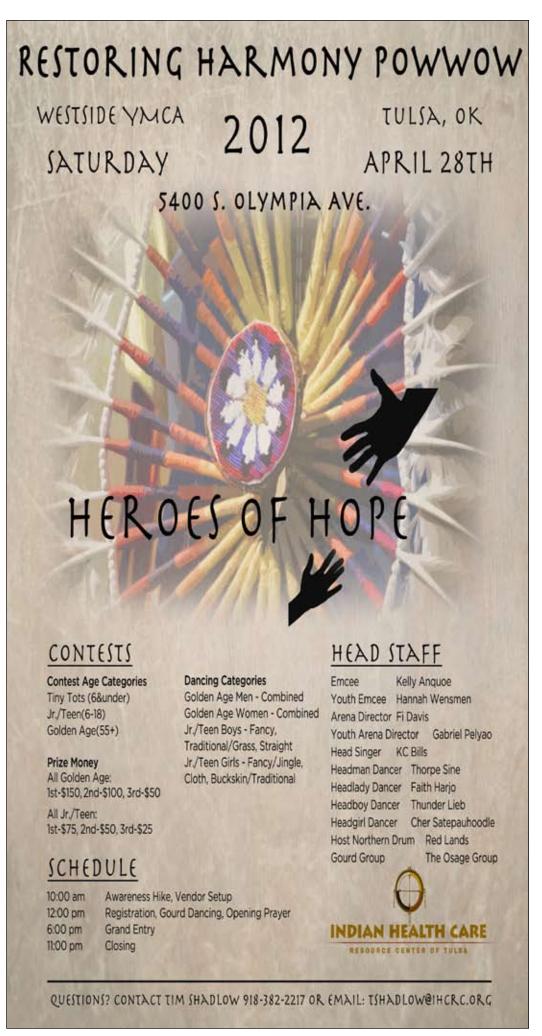
TULSA, Okla. - Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa Systems of Care will be hosting the 2012 Restoring Harmony powwow April 28th 2012 at the West Side YMCA in Tulsa. The Restoring Harmony Powwow is a community effort to raise awareness for children's mental health needs and services available in the greater Tulsa area. This year's theme will be "Heroes of Hope." A Hero of Hope is a caring adult who provides a child or youth with the kind of positive support and influence that can help the young person develop or enhance resilience. For children and youth receiving behavioral health services, data show that the effects of trauma can be reduced when there

is a connection with a supportive adult. Through this connection, children and youth are much more likely to: show improved behavioral and emotional skills, show improved academic performance, engage in less criminal behavior, and have greater ease with building attachments. Reactions to traumatic experiences vary by individual, and with help from families, friends, providers, and other Heroes of Hope, children and youth can enhance their resilience so they can be prepared for future challenges.

- For more information see a copy of the flyer below.







#### **Inside this issue:**

- Navajo community banks on solar array
- Oklahoma Indian ballerina dies
- Art as a vehicle: Expressing cultural ideals









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 18

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

MAY 04, 2012

# Despite Republican protest, **Senate OKs renewing VAWA**

■ Under an expansion of the **Violence Against Women** Act, Native American officials would be allowed to arrest, prosecute and imprison non-Indians.

LAURIE KELLMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Senate overcame election-year gender politics April 26 to pass a bill renewing the government's main domestic violence

The 68-31 vote marked the first time since the Violence Against Women Act first passed in 1994 that its renewal has drawn opposition in the Senate, reflecting the increasing polarization of the chamber and hair-trigger political sensitivities over women's issues in this presidential and congressional election

"In 2012, we should be beyond

questioning the need for the Violence Against Women Act," Vice President Joe Biden said in a statement. He urged the House to act quickly so President Barack Obama can sign the renewal into law.

But the path there could be equally tricky. Majority Republicans are writing their own version, which is likely to resemble a GOP alternative widely rejected by the Senate.

Twice renewed without opposition in the Senate, the bill of programs to prevent domestic violence and sexual abuse ran headlong into the partisan warfare that has shut or slowed legislative business since the 2010 elections. Not helping smooth the way: the broader political fight for pivotal female voters and the Democrats' election-year narrative that accuses Republicans of waging a "war

The bill would reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act for five years with funding of \$659.3 million a year, down \$136.5 million annually from the last act, which has expired.

See VAWA Continued on Page 4



COURTESY RINCON BAND OF LUISENO INDIANS & THE LA JOLLA BAND OF LUISENO INDIANS

Two hundred people from various Southern California Indian tribes came together to increase awareness of sexual assault against Native women and to show support for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) voted on by the United States Senate last week. Tribal leaders expressed shock that for the first time in more than 15 years Congress has allowed the VAWA to expire. In the past, the legislation had strong bi-partisan support and was enacted in 1994. VAWA was reauthorized in 2000 and 2005 by unanimous consent of Congress.



AP PHOTO I SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN

Hundreds of dancers pour onto the floor at University of New Mexico Arena for the grand entry during the 29th Annual Gathering of Nations in Albuquerque, N.M., on Friday, April 27, 2012. The event draws more than 3,000 dancers and singers and tens of thousands of spectators for three days of competitions and the crowning of Miss Indian World.

### Powwow draws tens of thousands

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, Mexico (AP) – The start of this year's powwow season got under dancers crowded onto the floor of University of New Mexico Arena, each one pounding their feet in rhythm to dozens of beating drums.

Donning traditional clothing of beads, bells, feathers, fringed leather and shells, they came from Canada, both coasts of the United States and everywhere in between.

"It's a wonderful spectacle to

see," said Jason Whitehouse, a master of ceremonies for the 29th Annual Gathering of Nations.

Aside from the thousands of dancers and singers who participate in competitions, way April 27 as hundreds of as many as 150,000 spectators Native American and indigenous were expected to pass through the doors during the three-day event. It wrapped up late Saturday with award ceremonies and the crowning of Miss Indian World.

> Organizers bill the Gathering of Nations as one of the world's largest powwows.

> Caleen Sisk, tribal chief of Northern California's Winnemem Wintu Tribe, bought tickets for her family last Friday. To her, the gathering is also about celebrating

the differences among Native people. More than 500 tribes are represented at this year's event.

"It's one of the things I think that's missing in the whole country. People don't realize we're still here," she said. "We're still living and we're still practicing our traditional ways."

At the bottom of the arena, better known as The Pit, the air was thin, the floor was packed and the jingling of bells was almost deafening as the dancers came together for the opening ceremony and the first of four grand entries.

The vibrations carried up the

See POWWOW Continued on Page 8

# Tense FBI, AIM exchange during Wounded Knee talk

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - American Indian Movement founder Clyde Bellecourt lashed out at the son of a former FBI agent who was in charge during the Wounded Knee takeover in 1973 on April 27 at a conference meant to foster reconciliation.

The exchange took place during a panel discussion as John Trimbach was talking about the book he and his father wrote, "American Indian Mafia." His father, Joseph, was the special FBI agent in charge of the region when protesting AIM activists took over the village of Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Reservation for 71 days.

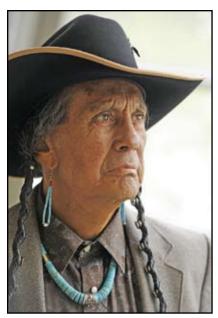
"The FBI wanted to kill us. The FBI brought in all the military branches from the United States federal government," Bellecourt said.

John Trimbach was focusing on what he called a hidden side of the uprising in which activists were beaten, raped and killed. He claimed the crimes were condoned by AIM leadership.

At various points during the speech at the annual Dakota Conference at Augustana College, Bellecourt stood up from his front-row seat and waved

an affidavit that he said proved Joseph Trimbach wanted to kill American Indians and lied about investigations.

"In this document, Mr. Trimbach was chastised many times as head of the FBI in Minneapolis for falsified affidavits," said Bellecourt, who wasn't part of the panel discussion. "This has



Russell Means, former leader of the AIM (American Indian Movement), poses for a portrait Friday, April

27, 2012 at Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S.D.

all been proven. You were sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

Trimbach responded only by saying answers to those allegations were in the

Later in the evening, former AIM activist Russell Means spoke to a crowd of about 400 people about what he said was the misrepresentation of AIM choosing violence.

"Not one time in the history of AIM can you name an offensive violent action. We just didn't turn the other cheek," he said.

Bellecourt founded AIM with Dennis Banks and others in the late 1960s to protest the U.S. government's treatment of American Indians and demand the government honor treaties with tribes. One of the group's most well-known events was the 71-day armed takeover of Wounded Knee to protest government corruption.

The exchange between Bellecourt and Trimbach was one of many emotional moments at the conference's session examining key questions from the takeover.

At one point, the widow of civil

See TALK Continued on Page 3

# **CAICH Powwow for** health in Kansas City

DANA ATTOCKNIE Native American Times

KANSAS CITY, Kan. Teaching healthy behavior has its hurdles, but understanding the community can make the leap fun and beneficial for everyone. That's why the Center for American Indian Community Health (CAICH)! In Kansas City makes health and powwow synonymous.

"Some of the challenges in helping people create a healthy lifestyle are to get them interested in learning about health or getting them to participate in health screenings. If you tell people we are having a talk about being healthier or we are doing health screenings most of the time people are not going to come out and participate," Angel Cully said. "We have to come up with events that will appeal to the Native American community to attend ... we have integrated the health screenings with our powwow."

Cully, Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, is a CAICH community outreach coordinator and is getting



**Angel Cully** 

ready for the 6th annual American Indian Health Research and Education Alliance (AIHREA) powwow on May 3 and 4, 2012 at the Johnson

County Community College in Overland Park, Kan. Along with the customary dance contests, drum contest and hand drum contest, will be health screening booths for blood cholesterol, blood glucose, blood pressure, body fat percentage, hemoglobin A1c for diabetes management, lung function test, vision test, hearing test, cancer risk assessment, heart disease risk management and foot exams. All health screenings are free to anyone who attends.

CAICH designs programs to lower the rates of cancer, cigarette smoking, diabetes and other health issues in Native

See HEALTH Continued on Page 4

# Navajo community banks on proposed solar array

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN Associated Press

TO'HAJIILEE, N.M. (AP) - This flat, dusty stretch of prairie in central New Mexico is where the leaders of a remote, sparsely populated American solar panels capable of producing and investor perceptions. enough electricity for more than reservation.

in \$6.5 million recently awarded by the money is earmarked for tribes portfolio standards." in the West, and most of that will be Mexico and Arizona off the ground.

has been doled out for nearly 160 projects from Alaska to Maine as part of the DOE's Tribal Energy Shandiin Solar, the Navajo name for Program. This year's grants come as Congress considers new measures aimed at reducing the bureaucratic U.S. on tribal land, MacCourt said. hurdles tribes face in developing their resources and as the Obama administration looks for ways to little as nine months. speed up the leasing of land for clean energy projects.

potential.

With tens of millions of acres held in trust for tribes, experts say Indian Country has the potential to supply more than four times the nation's resources blowing across tribal lands could meet another 14 percent of the

"Just huge, absolutely huge" is how Michael Utter, chief executive of the nonprofit consulting corporation Rural Community describes the potential.

Utter and Oregon attorney Doug spring winds. MacCourt are among the technical, financial and legal experts helping dust, Delores Apache, president of become engaged with energy generation and transmission.

Renewable energy development

offers some of the same glimmers than gaining a foothold in a new of economic salvation and selfdetermination as the casino boom did earlier for some tribes. However, the experts say it's much harder for sovereign tribes to break into the energy market because of capital Indian community envision a sea of limitations, government regulations

"One of the real challenges is 10,000 homes miles away from the how to you get the outside world to understand these are players just The To'Hajiilee solar project is one like anybody else in the business," of 19 energy projects that will share MacCourt said. "They're bringing some very valuable assets to bear, the U.S. Department of Energy to especially in the western U.S. where spur renewable energy development most states have statutory mandates on tribal lands. About two-thirds of they have to meet for renewable

The assets are clear at To'Hajiilee going toward getting projects in New a wide open, sunbaked expanse that sits right under buzzing power lines Over the last decade, \$36 million that lead to New Mexico's largest metropolitan area.

> The To'Hajiilee project - dubbed sunlight - would be the largest utilityscale solar photovoltaic array in the Once a power purchase agreement is inked, construction would take as

To'Hajiilee's economic development team and SunPower Corp., the At stake is a wealth of untapped company helping develop the \$124 million project, are talking with utilities, local municipalities and the federal government about purchasing the electricity from the array.

"I think if we're able to find a power electricity needs with solar. Wind buyer fairly quickly, we certainly ought to be breaking ground this fall. That's our goal," said Rob Burpo, president of First American Financial MacCourt said. Advisors, Inc., one of the consulting groups working with To'Hajiilee.

> The site has already been Innovations, transformed into desert pavement by months of drought and relentless

> > Her boots covered in fine yellow Inc., walks across the spot where the for a 4 megawatt solar farm. solar panels will be situated.

For her, the project is about more Rock Sioux Tribe will be embarking

industry. She ticks off a list of what revenue from the plant would mean for her community: a daycare center, programs for senior citizens and veterans, better roads, more efficient wells for drawing water, language preservation programs and scholarships for youngsters.

"It's going to mean a whole lot," Apache said. "We have no means of economic development. No dollars. We don't have anything at all."

The building where To'Hajiilee residents hold their community meetings has been condemned for more than 15 years. Still, Apache said they make due during winter meetings by making sure the elderly are wrapped in blankets and the fire inside the building's small wood stove is stoked.

To'Hajiilee isn't alone. Tribes across the country are plagued by poverty, high unemployment - in some cases more than 50 percent - and access to health care and education often require long, bumpy rides off the reservation.

And in many parts of Indian Country, basic services such as running water and electricity would be considered luxuries.

Without the seed money provided by the DOE funding, Utter said it would be nearly impossible for communities like To'Hajiilee to get energy projects off the ground.

Still, the sheer potential in Indian Country means the energy market will not be able to ignore tribes much longer as the country's appetite for electricity continues to skyrocket,

In northwestern New Mexico, where coal, oil and natural gas have been the economic drivers, the Navajo Nation plans to use its share of the DOE funding to explore the potential for developing up to 4,000 megawatts of solar power.

Jemez Pueblo in the mountains of tribal communities such as To'Hajiilee To'Hajiilee Economic Development north-central New Mexico has plans

In North Dakota, the Standing



In this March 13, 2012 photo, Delores Apache, president of To'Hajiilee Economic Development Inc., points to where solar panels will be installed near the Navajo community of ToʻHajiilee, N.M. Once constructed, the plant stands to be the largest photovoltaic array on tribal land.

on a feasibility study to support the development of at least 50 megawatts of wind power. In Arizona, the San Carlos Apaches, Gila River Indians and Pascua Yaqui Tribe are looking to

A massive wind project is planned by the Penobscot Indian Nation in Maine, and biomass-fueled power plants are being considered by tribes in Montana and Minnesota.

The resources might be different, but the thread connecting the projects involves an effort to craft leases and other agreements with developers to ensure Native Americans can reap more benefits than those provided by past coal and uranium deals.

"There's a strong desire in Indian Country to step out of the role of just a landlord that is collecting rents to being involved in the equity ownership," MacCourt said.

Erny Zah, spokesman for Navajo President Ben Shelly, said tribal officials are working to revamp an energy policy that dates back to the 1980s.

"Three decades later, energy production has changed immensely and so has our view of energy," Zah said. "We're looking now to become actual partners and producers rather than being dependent upon outside companies giving us lease fees and royalty fees. We're looking to be a player rather than being a dependent."

The 30-megawatt solar photovoltaic plant planned for the outlying Navajo community of To'Hajiilee would cover more than 200 acres. Financing options include tax incentives, loan guarantees and bonds that could be used by utilities to pay for the power for the next 20 years. To'Hajiilee is working with an investment bank to finalize a financing model.

The tribe signed a lease agreement in March and a limited liability company has been formed to take care of ownership, financing and other legal obligations. Federal officials have also signed off on an environmental

A couple of historical areas will be protected and grazing will be allowed to continue throughout much of the

Five years in the making, Apache has hosted meeting after meeting to keep her fellow community members abreast of the progress and has met with attorneys, energy experts and financiers around the country. Despite feeling worn out at times, she said knows she has to keep going to make the solar array a reality.

Scanning the southern horizon of her homeland, she pointed to the base of the hill where the solar panels would stop. She then spotted a hawk soaring overhead.

"Look at that," she said. "Now that's a good sign."

# WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

#### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan - Lower Monthly Payments

- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment
- Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

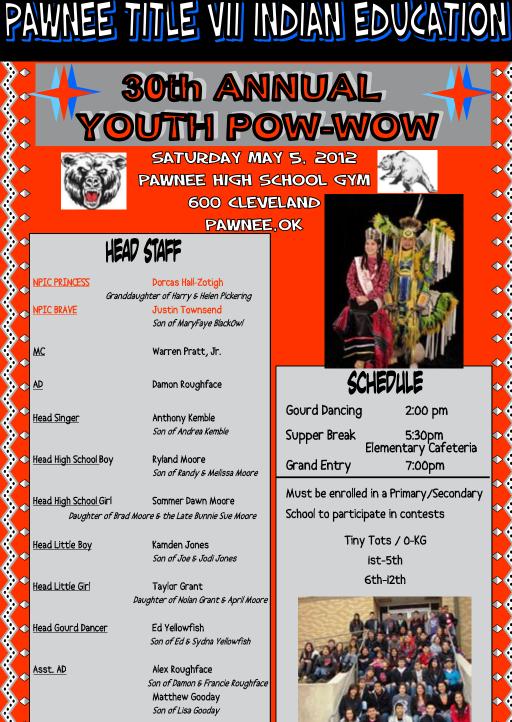
\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details. 
\*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com



Member FDIC TRANS





2:00 pm 5:30pm Elementary Cafeteria 7:00pm Must be enrolled in a Primary/Secondary School to participate in contests Tiny Tots / 0-KG ist-5th 6th-I2th Water Boys Aaron Carroll Son of Bobby & Alice Carroll Kyle Horn Son of Bob & Gerri Horn Northern Plains Indian Club Goodfox Family 2011-2012 Co-Host Oklahoma City Public Schools Indian Education ARTS & CRAFT VENDOR ARE WELCOME \$40 & DONATION ITEM OKC/PS Native American\_Student Color Guard BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS & DISHES EVERYONE WELCOME! FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL JUNE HAMILTON OR ALICE CARROLL @918-762-35 or angie echohawk@918-762-3618

# Widow of civil rights activist wants him home

**DIRK LAMMERS** Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - When civil rights activist Ray Robinson arrived at Wounded Knee in April 1973 to stand alongside Native Americans in their fight against social injustice, he excitedly called his wife back home and told her, "This could be the spark that lights the prairie fire."

"No, it's not. Come home. Please come home," his wife, Cheryl Buswell-Robinson, recalled begging of him.

The black activist and follower of Martin Luther King Jr. never made it home to Bogue Chitto, Ala. He was declared dead, but his body never was found and little is known about what happened. Not knowing has haunted Buswell-Robinson and the couple's three children for nearly 40 years.

The United States government handles investigations on reservations. Minneapolis-based FBI spokesman Kyle Loven said the Robinson case is a pending investigation, so federal prosecutors and investigators can't discuss it.

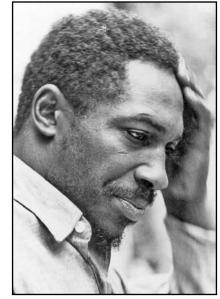
Buswell-Robinson, 67, flew into Sioux Falls from Detroit on Thursday ahead of a conference commemorating the 40th anniversary of the 1973 American Indian Movement takeover of the Pine Ridge reservation village of Wounded Knee.

She's not looking for arrests or prosecutions. She just wants to know where her husband's body is so she can give him a proper burial.

"People have information as to where his body is buried," she said.

Two Native Americans were confirmed to have died during the 1973 siege, and rumors of other deaths persist. FBI documents that now are public suggest the possibility of people buried at Wounded Knee during the occupation. There's no mention of Robinson in the FBI correspondence, but two documents reveal the presence of two black people toward the end of the standoff:

- On May 5, 1973, a transcript of an interview with a man who claimed to be at Wounded Knee the week prior



AP FILE PHOTO | ROBINSON FAMILY

An undated photo provided by the Robinson family shows civil rights activist Ray Robinson. Robinson traveled to the 1973 takeover of the Pine Ridge reservation village and he never returned and his body was never found.

stated "he heard that one black man and one black woman had recently arrived."

- A May 21, 1973, FBI memo reported an Indian woman who left the village on April 20, 1973, counted 200 Indians, 11 whites and two blacks.

Buswell-Robinson said those two were most likely Robinson and a black woman from Alabama who went with him. The woman returned after the standoff; Robinson didn't.

Buswell-Robinson filed a missing person's report with the FBI and in October 1974 traveled to Rapid City and the AIM headquarters in St. Paul, Minn., but said she learned nothing about what happened to her husband. In the years after Robinson's disappearance, she corresponded with writer and political activist Barbara

In a letter dated Dec. 29, 1974, Buswell-Robinson wrote that she had been told Robinson backpacked into Wounded Knee at night and was later shot for not following an order to immediately report to AIM co-founder Dennis Banks.

AIM member Richard Two Elk of Denver told The Associated Press in

2004 that he had seen someone shoot Robinson in the knees, but the reason was because he had refused to pick up a gun and was constantly annoying people in the bunker. Two Elk declined an email request from the AP this week to talk further about the incident.

Banks, in a telephone interview Thursday, said he can't recall ever meeting Robinson. He said the only recollection of Robinson he has is when his family visited AIM in St. Paul to ask for information.

"Over the years, the Robinson name has popped up and I'm not sure even who would have that information or where it was," Banks told the AP. "That's a complete blank to me."

Banks said there was no formal AIM investigation into the disappearance of Robinson or anyone else during Wounded Knee.

"We never conducted any, like, major search for anybody that was missing, just except by word of mouth, 'Did you guys ever see this or that?' That's as far as I know and that's as far as it went,"

Clyde Bellecourt, another AIM cofounder, said he wasn't in Wounded Knee in April 1973. He left a month or so earlier to form the Wounded Knee Legal Defense-Offense Committee and act as AIM's spokesman.

"I've heard some rumors about this Robinson thing, but supposedly that happened a long time after I was gone, if anything did happen," he said. "Nobody's ever talked to me about it implicating anybody or even said it's happened."

Perry Ray Robinson Jr. was born Sept. 12, 1937. He was in Washington in 1963 for Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech, and attended the 1964 funeral of three white civil rights workers killed in Mississippi.

In 1968, Robinson was among the protesters who set up Resurrection City, a camp at the Washington Mall. Robinson likely was at Wounded Knee for just a day, but Buswell-

Robinson is surprised so many AIM members don't remember him. The personable 6-foot-2 black man with a deep baritone voice would have stood out on a Midwest American Indian reservation, she said.

Robinson's nonviolent approach probably was not well received at what was a violent situation, and it's possible AIM members incorrectly suspected he was a federal informant, Buswell-Robinson said. It's also likely he dealt with some racism, she said.

"I'm hoping that AIM people can look in their hearts and realize this was a good man. This is a brother," Buswell-Robinson said. "This is a man that was willing to give his life for justice for what's right."

She said she traveled to the conference from her current home in Detroit because she'd like to talk to AIM leaders, anyone who was at Wounded Knee and the two women who ran the clinic where Robinson may have been taken.

At the least, she wants to get the Wounded Knee record corrected so it acknowledges her husband's presence.

"Maybe that's the best I can hope for, that in the official record Ray's name won't be excluded," Buswell-Robinson said. "Because right now, it's like he never existed."

Continued from Page 1

rights activist Ray Robinson broke down in tears as she pleaded with anyone with information about her husband to come forward. Ray Robinson disappeared during the occupation in 1973. His body has never been found, though he has been declared dead.

Buswell-Robinson said she's not looking for arrests or prosecutions. She insisted that she simply wants to know where her husband's body is located so that she could bring his remains home for a proper burial. Copies of a black-and-white photo of Robinson from 1971 were handed out to audience members.



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

# TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON

advertising@nativetimes.com Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY

WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country









# **True American Indian**

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork **Big Brothers Big Sisters** Traditional language Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristv.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

#### AICCOK OKC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Help a deserving Native American student reach for their dreams.

#### OVERVIEW

The OKC Chapter has historically provided scholarships for many years. Typically one acholarship is awarded to the top male and female entrants, as decided by the OKC Chapter Board of Directors. In 2012, we plan to notify the recipient student(s) by May 10 to allow them to list their scholarship in their graduation materials. We will present the actual scholarship award at the August luncheon.

#### SPONSORSHIPS

#### There are 2 ways that your organization can help:

- 1. Sponsor a branded, stand-alone scholarship. (Minimum award \$250). Special emphasis can be requested (e.g. math or science, healthcare, etc).
- 2. Contribute to the AICCOK-OKC Chapter General Scholarship Fund.

#### CONTACTS

To sponsor a scholarship, contact: James Lambertus, OKC Chapter Chair, aiccokc@earthlink.net, 405-650-5996 or Fran Smith, Treasurer, fran.smith@bank2online.com 405-946-2265.

To make a contribution to the Fund online, please click: http://tiny.cc/aiccokc\_scholarshipfund

# Hopi Code Talkers honored

VIDA VOLKERT Gallup Independent

high desert of Arizona thousands of miles away talkers due to the need for Talkers. They are all gone 10. - and prayed for a last secure real time actionable and most never talked time before they boarded intelligence." ships and joined their units Infantry Division, on the shores of Angaur Island, Palau.

The mission was to provide the U.S. military of casualties during World with a strategic location in War II, according to hurts now." the Pacific Ocean during historic records. But the World War II. But the U.S. forces circled the island the Hopi Veteran Affairs, Japanese intelligence had and the Japanese base and said war is against the been so good at breaking successfully gained control. Hopi tradition. This is why military codes that the This takeover contributed the Hopi men who were mission depended on the to the final victory in the drafted during World War Hopi men to use their Pacific and eventually the II might have struggled unique language to confuse successful end of World tremendously during their the enemy, U.S. Army Maj. Gen. with the 81st Regional Beck said.

how strong we were, we on the Code Talkers?" could not create a code (by the Japanese)," Beck from being successful in lost during the battle. our missions. ... If they can destroy that unit."

The 223rd Infantry No one will ever know. Regiment landed on the islandandquicklyadvanced three years ago and he burned or buried their in the Pacific campaigns through the jungle. Maj. never talked about what military outfits and medals and served with the 5th Air

The mission lasted island. Muller's ship was memorial. attacked the morning of War II, Beck said.

"Your families, they Support Command Gill P. contributed to the success with our tradition, with of this operation," Beck the Hopi, we don't like "What we found in said. "What it must have to take pride in military WWII is that no matter been to them, to depend accomplishments," he said.

that could not be decoded Travis Yaiva might have their land and families, with a pair of tweezers. wondered the same. Then, but never went beyond the When they opened it, it had told an audience that in his late 80s, quietly sitting boundaries of their sacred a diagram that included included family members in his living room in Bacavi land in search of trouble. a communication pattern of the Hopi Code Talkers Village, the Hopi man There's a reason the early used by the 5th Bomber who gathered at the first might have remembered Hopi villages were built Command, 5th Air Force. official Hopi Code Talker the takeover of the island, on top of high mesas and Memorial at the Hopi the Hopi words he and his the people lived peaceful Veterans Memorial Center comrades used to encode agricultural lives. They did in Kykotsmovi on April the operation, and the not want any trouble. 23. "That prevented us thousands of lives that were

might He have

Gen. Paul Muller, who happened during the time as part of the cleansing Force.

sent to him using code relatives of the Hopi Code about the war.

"They were not proud Hopi with the U.S. Army's 223rd for three days of brutal of it," Dolores Yaiva, 58, Infantry Regiment, 81st confrontations between said, fighting tears, during forces in and around the the Hopi Code Talker "This emotional. I never knew the 18th, and this battle had what they went through. take over the island and one of the highest number With understanding of what they went through it S. Yaiva, of Bacavi; Frank

Eugene Talas, director of service.

"You have to remember,

In the Hopi tradition, the More than 60 years later, men only fought to defend It had to be pulled apart

word 'warrior," Talas said.

When the Hopi Code destroy that code, they can questioned the motives of Talkers returned to their and Pooyouma the war and the outcome. peaceful villages they might have gone through Yaiva passed about cleansing ceremonies and communications network

was on the mother ship he served, not even during process, Talas said. That is several miles away, was his final days, at the care of another reason it has been in charge of the mission. his daughter Dolores Yaiva, difficult to identify all the GALLUP, N.M. (AP) - It Historic records from the she said. That is one of the Code Talkers. They did not was Sept. 17, 1944. Eight 81st Infantry Division reasons Beck's account keep records, perhaps in an young Hopi men thought conclude that "sensitive of the battle of Angaur attempt to forget that time about their families and information regarding the Island provided some sort of their lives. Recently, two peaceful villages in the landings would have been of closure for many of the more Hopi Code Talkers were identified, totaling

> 223rd Infantry Regiment included eight Code Talkers: Charles T. Lomakema, Shugopavi; Honani Sr., of Shungopavi; Franklin Shupla, of Tewa; Percival Navenma, of Mishungnovi; Floyd Dann Sr., of Moenkopi; Travis Chapella, of Tewa; and Warren R. Kooyaquaptewa,

> Orville Wadsworth, of Shungopavi, and Rex Pooyouma, of Hotevilla Village, both members of the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II, were recently identified.

Talas said after Wadsworth passed his family found a containing a document that was folded and so old that it was almost glued together. This and other documents were sent to the experts for review and they confirmed Wadsworth had been a "We shy away from the code talker. He became the last to be identified.

> Both Wadsworth members of a secret Native American Code Talker

even its sponsor, Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas-and McCainwere among the 15 Republicans who voted for the final Democratic bill.

The 31 Republicans who voted no said they support the spirit of the act but had problems with the Democratic rewrite up for consideration.

Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., for example, said he opposed the bill in part because he believes abused women are best served by state and local governments.

And Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., said he voted 'no' because he believes the tribal provisions in the bill would be unconstitutional. Under the measure, Native American officials would be allowed to arrest, prosecute and imprison non-Indians, who cannot vote in tribal elections or have a say in crafting laws that could

S. 1925 can be accessed at http:// thomas.loc.gov

Americans, while being respectful of cultural traditions. In 2010, CAICH was awarded a five-year grant from the National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) to establish and support their research and services.

"Community Outreach is one of the most important things we do at CAICH. We want to keep the community informed about what we do and our progress and we want input from community members about next steps," Cully said. "To help us keep the community informed, we have a website, publish a quarterly newsletter with other American Indian Health Research and Education Alliance partners (Native Health in the Heartland), and hold annual Community Research Forums."

CAICH works to advance efforts of AIHREA. AIHREA was formed in 2005 when KUMC united with seven organizations whose commitment are to improve the health of American Indians. Some AIHREA research partners include the American Indian Council, Inc., Kansas City Indian Center (formerly Heart of America Indian Center), and Johnson County Community College.

"Our goal is to train and educate the next generation of Native health researchers and health care professionals, hoping that they will return to their communities and help to address health disparities," Cully said. "We have provided over 50 students with internship opportunities for either pay or credit. We also have 12 Youth Ambassadors. Our Youth Ambassador program is for student leaders from all over the United States. It gives them the opportunity to educate and promote health and wellness in every aspect of American Indian culture, education and society. The program is designed to help develop and prepare participants for youth leadership roles, in health and wellness education, and community service."

One program initiated by public request is a quit smoking program called All Nations Breath of Life. The program, offered in-person or via telemedicine, recognizes the ceremonial use of tobacco while helping people to quit recreational smoking.

"We are excited to report that preliminary results from our program show that between 20 percent and 25 percent of participants are smokefree six months after beginning the program. This is similar to the best programs available for other ethnic groups and is significantly better than the less than 10 percent reported for American Indians in other programs," Cully said. "Through this program we have also learned that American Indians who use tobacco for traditional or ceremonial purposes are more likely to be smoke-free a year after quitting than those who do not. We are excited to learn this because our program is based on respecting traditional tobacco."

Another tailor-made program is for adult American Indians who need to lose weight. The program, led by Shelley Bointy, MSW, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux tribes of Montana, helps people who "are not yet pre-diabetic or have currently controlled diabetes. The program is group-based and teaches participants about eating right and exercising," Cully said.

CAICH is currently conducting research or providing services to the: Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas, Iowa Tribe of Kansas, Choctaw Tribe of Oklahoma, Northern Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, and Omaha Tribe of Nebraska.

Cully said they are always willing to work with tribes throughout the United States and look for new opportunities to do so. She said there are many health concerns in American Indian communities but education and understanding can lead people to a healthy life style.

"We often times find out a reason a person doesn't get screened for something such as colon cancer is they haven't been told the importance of the test and how often it needs to be performed. We have also come in contact with many people who are afraid to get screened because the word 'cancer' scares them," Cully said. "We have to work to educate them to show that you can be cured from cancer if it's caught early enough. Because people don't tend to get screened, when a American Indian person is diagnosed with cancer many times the cancer is in late stages."

Anyone who attends the AIHREA powwow can visit the "ASK a Doc" station for an individual consultation with a doctor. More than 1200 free health screenings were given at last year's powwow, and the doctor makes sure to follow up with participants who are at-risk for anything they're screened for.

"We call the participant and see if they have gotten into follow up care and if they haven't then we try to help them get into care instead of just identifying a problem and sending them on their way," Cully said.

For more information about the AIHREA "Our Nations Energies" Health and Wellness Powwow call AIHREA at (855) 552-2424 Ext. 1 or visit www.AIHREA.com. For more information about CAICH visit www.caich.org.

Since 2002, the NIMHD has established more than 85 Centers of Excellence (COE). According to the NIMHD website, the NIMHD COEs are located in 31 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S Virgin Islands. The types of institutions are broad and include majority research institutions, medical schools, HBCUs, Hispanic serving institutions, tribal colleges, and liberal arts colleges. CAICH receives additional funding from NIMHD, the National Cancer Institute, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, and Kansas University Cancer Center. Earlier projects were funded by the American Cancer Society, the American Lung association, the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City, and the Kansas University Medical Center (KUMC) Research Institute,

CAICH has three advisory boards: a Community Advisory Board, Student Leader Advisory Board and Executive Community Advisory Board.

The money pays for such programs as legal assistance for victims, enforcement of protection orders, transitional housing and youth prevention programs.

Democrats sought to expand the law by adding protections certain to draw conservative opposition. One would explicitly name gays, lesbians and transgender people to the group of those protected under the law. Another would raise the cap on visas granted to abused legal and illegal immigrants from 10,000 to 15,000. A third would expand the authority of Native American officials to handle cases of abuse of Indian women by non-Indians.

The bill drew 61 co-sponsors, more than enough to block filibusters and set up a political dare to Republicans: Vote no, and you're waging a "war against women."

The strategy raised hackles among Republicans, who insisted they had women's interests at heart, too. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said the narrative was a distraction from issues Democrats would rather not discuss, such as the economy and gas prices.

"We face an abundance of hard choices," said McCain, the GOP's 2008 presidential nominee and a leading supporter of Republican hopeful Mitt Romney this year. "Divisive slogans and declaring of phony wars are intended to avoid those hard choices and to escape paying a political price for doing so."

To prove it, Republicans offered alternatives that would delete the references to gays, lesbians and transgender people, keep the cap on visas at its current level and allow tribal authorities to go to federal court for protective orders on behalf of abused Native American women.

But the Senate rejected the options overwhelmingly. And in the end,

be used against him, Kyl said.

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:			
Address:			
City:	_ State:	_ Zip:	
·		·	
Phone:			
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues			
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues	\$ 1.2	5 single copy	

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

# COMMENTARY



### lacksquare





### Tatanka Iyotanka, Sitting Bull, was a pure Lakota traditionalist



TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

One coldwinter day Tatanka Iyotanka (Sitting Bull), the great Lakota warrior, was sitting on a bench in front of his home with his two wives on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South and North Dakota.

He looked off in the distance at an approaching buckboard and smiled to himself as he pointed with his lower lip at the dust stirred up by the wagon. I am told he was a man with a great sense of humor.

Sitting Bull knew exactly who was driving the wagon and the question he would be asked when the wagon finally reached his door. And sure enough, as the wagon got closer he and his wives could see clearly that it was the minister from the local church.

He climbed down from the buckboard and approached Sitting Bull as he shook the dust from his black hat. The minister exchanged a few pleasantries and then got down to the business of why he was making this visit. He said to the great Lakota leader, "It is un-Christian of you to have two wives. It is against the will of God. And it is barbarian and heathen."

Sitting Bull sat there with his head cocked and listened patiently to the outburst of the minister. He was being dressed down by this white man but his only emotion was the slight smile on his face. Finally he raised his hand to quiet the angry minister and waved his hand at his two wives and said to the minister, "Well, there they are: you tell them which one has to leave." And that was pure Lakota logic. Which of these Lakota women would be deprived of a loving home? Lakota logic had baffled the white man for a century or more.

It was this logic based on centuries of Lakota culture and traditions that was so foreign to the white settlers that they waved it off without ever making an effort to understand it. Lakota men had more than one wife at times because they considered it their duty based on their survival to care for, feed and clothe a woman who did not have a home, or perhaps their second wife was married to a brother who was killed in battle. Often a Lakota man took over the responsibility of caring for a fallen brother's wife and children: To the children he became atay or

Many Lakota saw Sitting Bull as a great spiritual leader. When the infamous Ghost Dance (at least infamous to the white people), Sitting Bull allowed the dance to be performed near his home at Standing Rock. Hundreds of white settlers were terribly frightened of the Ghost Dance because it announced the return of all the Lakota who had gone before and many of the male dancers donned a shirt that became known as a Ghost Dance shirt, and this shirt would protect them

even from bullets.

The local newspapers began to express concern, anger and fear of this new religion that was sweeping the Indian reservations of North and South Dakota. The dance was never intended to bring on an uprising, but was always meant to bring hope and pride back to the Lakota people. If only the white men had learned this there would have been no massacre at Wounded Knee that year of 1890.

When the tribal police came to the home of Sitting Bull to arrest him for allowing the Ghost Dance to take place on his land a scuffle ensued and the great Lakota warrior was assassinated.

Although Sitting Bull had made excursions across America and Europe as a member of the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, he had never lost his feelings for his people, culture or traditions. He refused to bend to the will of the Indian agents and continued to live in the traditional way and for this he was considered a bad influence upon the Lakota and he was feared. Sitting Bull knew that the process

of acculturation did not equate with equality. While those who acculturated and converted to Christianity prospered somewhat and hence were looked upon as "civilized," those who did not were often shunned as "uncivilized." And he was 100 percent right: The white man's interpretation of "civilized" clearly did not mean equal. Indians were not citizens of the United States and were not allowed to vote or run for

A common term applied to those non-conformists has found its way into the lexicon of today's conversation: When one does not conform they are said to be "off the reservation." And this is truly ironic because the non-conformists usually were on the reservation.

Today in America it is the traditionalists or non-conformists who are leading their people back to their culture. The traditional Lakota women are now the keepers of the traditions and culture. Like Sitting Bull, the traditionalists have remained steadfast in their spirituality and language and have set the example for those who

thought that they would be better off by abandoning their traditional beliefs.

When Sitting Bull asked the white minister which wife he should choose to leave his home he spoke volumes about the assault that was about to begin upon his people, an assault with the sole intent of destroying a culture that was thousands of years old.

Sitting Bull College on the Standing Rock Reservation is named for this great leader.

Tatanka Iyotanka could have said to the minister and for all of the Lakota people, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions."

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

## Super elders among us: Centenarians in Indian Country



S.E. RUCKMAN

Everyone's been reminded this was the year a century ago that the Titanic sunk in the North Atlantic Ocean. Another remarkable moment occurred when Elizabeth Humetewa from the Hopi lower village of Moenkopi climbed down from the clouds into the physical world. As a member of the Baa kop wungwa clan, not many ceremonials or weddings went by that she didn't have some sort of participation.

The Arizona tribe recently

announced that they had not only one but four centenarians in their ranks. The Hopis thoughtfully sent me pictures of two of their elders beaming into a camera. I peered closely into them as if I were looking for some kind of coded answer. Each Hopi elder was certainly someone's great-grandmother and great-grandfather.

Satisfaction of some sort sat on the edge of their smiles. Not much regret was visible at this point, I mused. A trace of nostalgia, perhaps, but there was no trace of the nail-biting, gut-wrenching anxiety common to those a third of their age. Getting to the age of 100 in Indian Country takes some kind of special dispensation-an inherent stamp of approval by the tribal ancestors. It seems they would be able to see the infant turn into the child into the adult into the elder in a blink of an eye.

The Hopi seniors were

lauded just for the simple miracle of being themselves. Tribal officials gave them Pendleton blankets, certificates and lapel pins. Then it was on to a hearty lunch. Something told me these are the real celebrities in Indian Country. Charismatic tribal leaders come and go but Indian elders who reach the century mark are the ones

who got it going on.

These are the kind of folks alive before cars, televisions and cell phones became words. Kind of puts it into context as we jog along in the technological race. Paradoxically, by the time humans reach 100 years old, communicating and getting around become technical exploits.

That doesn't mean that Wesley Honahnie, 103, who also comes from the Hopi Lower Moenkopi village, doesn't enjoy being outside when he can get there. He lived as a farmer and rancher, growing corn, watermelon, squash. Marsah Balenquah of the Hopi's Bacavi Village takes part in the local church events and has been a year in the centenarian's club at 101 years old. In absentia, the tribe counts Evelyn Lassor from the Oraibi Village as one of their own although she lives in Brooklyn NY.

Meanwhile, the Comanche Nation 's Josephine Myers-Wapp forged a solid reputation teaching at Santa Fe's Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) then retired in the early 1970s. Now revered for her finger weaving, Wapp lived a whole career before I got the hang of catching the bus for elementary school. These are but a few of the tribal centenarians I could find. I know there's more.

Nationally, census numbers show that over 53,000 Americans reached the century birthday. The closest I could find for Indian elders at or older than 100 were

1990 statistics that showed 264 super-elders, if you will. Since the U.S. number of centenarians for that time was just under 35,000 in 1990, I'll bet the figure for Indian Country has grown since then, too.

But I hear that it's harder to get to 100 years old these days. Access to quality health care and the perils of modern day living make the feat a bit trickier across the board. That puts a premium on the advice given by these elders on how to advance like a pro. The answers I have read vary from eating simply, not smoking or drinking and never retiring. It stands to reason some of it involves inheriting a perfect strand of genetic pearls.

Maybe environment has its say so. The lower village of Moenkopi might be the Native equivalent to the island of Amami in Japan that boasts a hefty share of centenarians. The Japanese accredit it to their natural

diet. I place my chips on diet as well. Surely, a traditional menu at Moenkopi in the early part of the last century set the curve on longevity.

Becoming a centenarian is kind of like hugging a butterfly, not necessarily impossible but a feat that takes some delicate maneuvering. I suspect that no one who reaches one hundred years ever guesses that they will leave such enduring footprints. They tread where we all aspire to

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and is currently a special contributor to the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

# Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim
Plumbing • Electrical • Solar Panels
Windmills • Winterizing
Quality Work • Free Estimates

Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties –

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

# SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# Okla. Indian ballerina Moscelyne Larkin dies

KATIE SELVIDGE Tulsa Ballet

TULSA, Okla. - It is with great sadness that Tulsa Ballet announces the death of its co-founder, Edna Moscelyne Larkin Jasinski ("Moussia.") With Miss Larkin's death a vivid era in the formation of Tulsa's arts organizations

Miss Larkin and her husband, Roman Jasinski, were the breath and soul of the early Tulsa Civic Ballet and their former students throughout the world are testaments to their talent, technique, and artistic training.

Miss Larkin (who danced under the stage name "Moussia Larkina" "Moscelyne Larkin") was admired throughout her professional career for her on-stage magnetism and her exceptional leaps and turns. She excelled in roles that required charm, speed, and

Born January 14, 1925 in Miami, Oklahoma to a Russian-born mother, Eva Matlagova, and a Shawnee Peoria / Welsh father, Ruben (Babe) Larkin, Miss Larkin remained proud of her dual cultural heritage and her Oklahoma roots throughout

At the age of 13, after training with her mother, the talented young dancer moved to New York City to study with Celli, Mordkin and Vilzak-Shollar. The legendary choreographer Michael Fokine, fascinated by her talent and exotic looks, choreographed a studio piece for her, and Mordkin stopped his class one day to say to her, "You're a little fish now, but one day you're going to grow

up and be a big fish and you're going to eat up all the other

At the age of 15 1/2 Larkin skipped school to audition for Colonel de Basil's Original Ballet Russe and was immediately accepted into the corps de ballet. Within days she met principal dancer Roman Jasinski and three years later she married him. It was a marriage that would last for forty years until he predeceased her in 1991.

A natural linguist, Larkin mastered the Russian spoken in the Company, Spanish from years of touring South America, and smatterings of French, but her husband's native Polish remained a lifelong challenge. Because the Ballet Russe spent the years of World War II in South America, those years became, for Miss Larkin, both an extended honeymoon and an educational emersion into the history and legacy of dance. She considered them the best years of her life.

Bit by bit she performed new roles, rising ever higher on the Ballet Russe ladder. Favorite roles from that period were the 'Waltz' in Les Sylphides, 'Guile' in Paganini, the dance competition in Graduation Ball and the 'Blue Bird" pas de deux from Aurora's Wedding.

In 1947, at the end of a tour to Europe where a London critic termed Larkin "...the first ray of sunshine after the war," the Jasinskis left the Original Ballet Russe and returned to America with no job, no plans. "It was time."

Filling the employment gap, Larkin danced four full performances a day (rehearsing between performances) as Prima



JOHN McCORMACK | COURTESY TULSA BALLET

Edna Moscelyne Larkin Jasinski was born Jan. 14, 1925 in Miami, Okla. to a Russian-born mother, Eva Matlagova, and a Shawnee Peoria / Welsh father, Ruben (Babe) Larkin. She remained proud of her dual cultural heritage and her Oklahoma roots throughout her

Ballerina at the Radio City Music Hall, and she was one of the first dancers to perform regularly on television, dancing for six months on the weekly Fay Emerson show to the baton of orchestra leader Skitch Henderson.

In 1948 Jasinski joined Serge Denham's Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo as a principal dancer, and Larkin joined the company at the beginning of the following season. She added new roles to her repertoire, among them the 'Cowgirl' in Rodeo (she was choregrapher Agnes de Mille's preferred dancer for that part), 'Zobeïde', in Schéhérazade,

'the Young Girl' in Massine's Beau Danube and lead roles (Cancan, 'Glove Seller') in Gaité Parisienne.

In 1952 Denham asked Jasinski to head a small Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo Concert Company with a few principals and corps members. This company made U.S. history by bringing ballet to college campuses and Small Town America. Miss Larkin was one of the ballerinas, a role she gave up a year later when she became pregnant. Their son, Roman Larkin Jasinski, was born in Tulsa February 21,

By then Miss Larkin's mother had a thriving ballet school in Tulsa, so after private tours with Russian ballerina Alexandra Danilova to the Philippines, Japan, Panama, and throughout the U.S., the Jasinskis decided to retire to Oklahoma, join Matlagova's

They were part of the professional exodus from major dance centers that enabled talented students to stay in their home towns and receive top professional training. The Jasinskis, however, carried that training further.

In 1956 they pulled together a few talented students from several Tulsa studios, and, as principal dancers, led a performance at Temple Israel. The response was so positive, that they and pianist Rosalie Talbott incorporated Tulsa Ballet Arts a few months later. This was the company that would ultimately become today's fully professional, internationally-acclaimed, Tulsa Ballet.

In 1957 the Jasinskis masterminded the first "Oklahoma Indian Ballerina Festival." Larkin, Yvonne Chouteau, Maria Tallchief and Rosella Hightower, all of Oklahoma Indian heritage, performed excerpts from Swan Lake, Giselle, and other ballets, augmented by the local corps de ballet. Only Marjorie Tallchief was absent.

By 1967 Yvonne Chouteau and her husband, Miguel Terekhov, joined the Jasinskis in producing the second festival. In this, Marjorie performed. {Maria had already retired.) Both Festivals were the subject of laudatory articles throughout the U.S. and Europe that brought artistic accolades to the young state of Oklahoma.

Soon stars from American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet and other stellar companies were flocking to Tulsa, Oklahoma to receive personal coaching from the Jasinskis in the Ballet Russe repertoire, and to perform with the local company.

Roman Jasinski began to build his choreographic talents, Miss Larkin proved herself a demanding and inspirational teacher / coach, many of their young studentdancers were accepted into the country's most prestigious companies, and the fledgling Tulsa Ballet began to be noticed throughout the nation as a worthy successor to Ballet Russe technique, artistry and

When the Jasinskis arranged for the revival of lost or littleknownworksfromBalanchine, Fokine, Massine, and other great choreographers of the past, the ballet world took immediate and appreciative

Miss Larkin was named "Outstanding Indian of the Year" by the Council of American Indians in 1976. In 1978, she was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame and later, she and the other four Oklahoma Indian Ballerinas were given the rare designation "Oklahoma Treasure" at the Governor's Arts Awards of 1997. Miss Larkin and Mr. Jasinski together were given the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Tulsa Arts and Humanities Council when inducted into the Tulsa Hall of Fame in 1988, and received honorary degrees from the University of Tulsa (1991). Beyond doubt, their highest professional accolade came in 1988 when they were presented the annual Dance Magazine Award for their "shining example" in creating a major mid-American company in the classical tradition where none had existed before.

The partnership ended in 1991 with the death of Jasinski, but Larkin carried on as Artistic Director Emerita of Tulsa Ballet, and teacher, with her son Roman, at their Jasinski Academy. Always conscious of her Native American heritage, she made a special effort to encourage and promote the education and advancement of Native American children. In 1996 Miss Larkin was named "Outstanding Oklahoman of the Year" by "Oklahoma Today."

Larkin has been a resident at a local nursing home since 2005 and is survived by her son, Roman Larkin Jasinski, and her deceased brother Lloyd's children and grandchildren.

Donations in her memory may be made to the Jasinski Endowment Fund of Tulsa

# 5 tips to creating a world-class employment reference list

DETROIT - Your references: are they really that important in the hiring process? In a word absolutely. Unfortunately, professional references are perhaps the most overlooked and underutilized tool in most people's employment arsenal.

If you're not using your references to your best advantage, you may be making an inadvertent error in your search for new employment. An excellent resume may get your foot in the door for an interview, but it's your references that will likely "seal the deal" and get you the actual job offer.

So ask yourself: Will the list of job references I have created ensure that stellar new job offer?

The professional referencechecking firm of Allison & Taylor offers these five tips on how to create a compelling reference list:

1. First, think about your list content. Will you always use the same references? Or does employment diversity require that you create more than one set, each tailored to your specific expertise in that field?

2. Who's to say you can't use a reference from your not-so-recent past? If it's relevant - and the reference is willing - go all the way back to college if appropriate. In fact, a professor may make an excellent reference if their input is germane to the job you're applying for.

3. Are your references really striving to "sell you" to employers? Are you offering up only the input of the HR department? They will generally give a canned "dates and title" response, which is not what potential employers really seek. Try to provide

references that can actually career. speak to your abilities.

aware of what your reference out their contact information will truly say about you by contacting a professional reference checking organization.

4. Is it always necessary to career use a supervisor? Certainly not. Of course, someone who has seen your day-today performance is best - but don't close off your options by assuming that person has to be your direct supervisor. You can certainly go above them perhaps your supervisor's boss can provide a more accurate (and flattering) reference. Then again, who reported to you? It's often the people who work for you that know you

format for references? Always provide the pertinent contact details. There's nothing more frustrating for an employer than trying to contact references with incorrect or outdated information. If they have to hunt down your references, you're much more likely to wind up in the discard pile - wrong information projects (your) lack of attention to detail.

References should include company name, reference title, name, email, mailing address and phone. Also, include a in your search for that new quick blurb regarding your relationship to the reference. Once you've created a great About Allison & Taylor: list of references, stay in their good graces. Always follow the "Golden Rules of Job Reference Etiquette":

and ask them if they are willing to provide favorable job references on your behalf. As an additional courtesy, offer them an update on your

2. Let your references know Better still, ensure you're each and every time you give and thank them for their efforts.

Keep your positive references informed of your and educational progress. They will be more inclined to see you in a stronger light as you progress.

4. Note that spending time communicating with your prospective employer takes valuable time from your references' workdays. If you plan to use these positive references over the years, you need to give something back. For instance, each time your reference supports you with a new prospective employer, send them a personal thank-What's the correct you letter or (at a minimum) an email. Better still, send a thank-you note with a gift card for Starbucks, or offer to take your former boss to lunch/dinner.

> 5. If you win the new position, call or email your former boss and thank them again for their support. Also, let them know your new contact information.

> Present your references in the best light and then treat them like the valuable commodities they are. They will truly be invaluable assets

Allison & Taylor and its principals have been in the business of checking references for corporations and individuals1. Call your former bosses since 1984. Allison & Taylor is headquartered in Rochester, Mich. For further details on services and procedures please visit http://www.allisontaylor.

# CLASSIFIEDS

### **EMPLOYMENT**



Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

#4500 Inpatient RN/PRN/OR/T/PT, **WW Hastings Hospital** 

#5903 Inpatient RN/PRN/T/PT/ICU, **WW Hastings Hospital** 

**POSITIONS CLOSE 5/01/2012** 

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org **Cherokee Nation** 

**Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results, Indian preference is considered.

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

#### **LEGAL**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION **OKMULGEE DISTRICT** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF: M.C., a Minor Child Case No. GD-2012-05

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION** 

DANIEL CULLY OR ANY UNKNOWN FATHER

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the above-entitled matter is set for hearing on a PETITION FOR GUARDIANSHIP at the hour of 10:00 p.m. on the 11th day of JUNE, 2012, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Your failure to appear at the hearing on June 11th, 2012, may result in a default judgment being rendered against you.

Court Clerk

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com



# **FREE**

# ONCERTS

**GATES OPEN AT 5PM RAIN OR SHINE** 

ALL AGES WELCOME. BRING YOUR OWN CHAIRS. NO OUTSIDE COOLERS, FNOD OR DRINKS ALLOWED.









### **COMING SOON!**

# **Travis Tritt**

Thursday, June 21 • 7 pm Tickets are \$40



### Ticket Info

Order your Event Center tickets at osagecasinos.com!

Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.



Fulfill your thrill.

osagecasinos.com

(918) 699-7777 | **f** Find us on Facebook!

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.



# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact 50, but a small donation is information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

**YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

MAY 4

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**Indoor Stomp Dance** hosted by Sequoyah Schools dorm council, 7pm-11:30pm in SHS old school gym, Tahlequah. Raffles for cakes, grocery baskets and other items. Bring your chairs and shells/cans. For info. contact Amanda Little at 918-453-5193 or Mary Chanate at 918-660-1209

MAY 4-5 "Our Nations Energies" **Health and Wellness Pow** wow.Over \$16,000 in prize money! GYM and Field House, Johnson County **Community College** 12345 College Blvd., Overland Park, Kansas. Call AIHREA at (855) 552-2424 Ext. 1 or www.AIHREA.

MAY 5

All you can eat breakfast fundraiser sponsored by the Yuchi/Euchee Heritage Festival. 7am-1pm Covenant Harvest Chapel, 722 N Hodge St., Sapulpa, Okla. Info call Kathy, 918-695-0195

MAY 6

Pawnee Nation Title VI Elders Program Benefit Mother's Day Dance at Pawnee **Campgrounds. Gourd Dance** at 2pm. Supper at 5pm. For more info call 1-918-762-4042

MAY 8

**Lazy Stitch Beading** Workshop, Museum of the Red River, 812 E Lincoln Rd, Idabel, Okla. Info call Jeanette Bohanan 580-286-3616

**MAY 12** Stumbling Bear's **Descendants Powwow 2pm** -11pm, Red Buffalo Hall, Kiowa Complex, Carnegie, Okla. Call Jon for more info 580-530-9117

**Gray Horse War Mothers Annual Soldier Dance at Gray** Horse Indian Village, east of Fairfax, Okla., turn east on Harrison off HWY 18. Supper

3 drawings. Info call Margie Burkhart 918-816-2014 or Mary Elsberry 918-396-3314.

**Okmulgee Indian** Community/Activies **Commitee Bingo and Food** Sale starting @ 6 PM at **Okmulgee Indian Community** Center. Info call Amber Burgess 918-752-8420 or amber.burgess@okstate.edu

**MAY 26** The Sac and Fox Nation **Veteran's Organization** 6th annual Memorial Day **Gourd Dance & Powwow. Gourd Dancing Starts at** 2pm. Traditional Dinner for all participants from 5pm until 6pm. Grand Entry at 7pm. We put a flag on every deceased vets' grave in 10

tribal cemeteries.

**Art Class: Slate Rock Art** Paintings by Bill McCulley at Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th Okmulgee, Okla. Students will learn to paint and Create artwork on slate rock found along the Illinois River in Oklahoma. Lessons in fundamentals of art will be taught to help the beginning painter. Class is limited to 20 people. Reserve your spot call 918-756-2324 or csago71@sbcglobal.net

JUNE 1

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman,

10 a.m.-2 pm. Free.

at 5:30. Raffle tickets sold for Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 2

**Tinker Intertribal Powwow in** Joe B. Barnes Regional Park in Midwest City, Okla. from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Interested vendors or participants should contact Corene Chakenatho at (405) 734-7366.

**JUNE 8** 

Chilocco Powwow in the **Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache Fire Dance. Contact Garland Kent, Sr at 580-352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox **Convention Center,** Oklahoma City

**JUNE 10-16** Jim Thorpe Native American Games at Remington Park, Oklahoma City. Proceeds benefit the Jim Thorpe **Bright Path Youth Programs** and Awakening The Spirit **Diabetes Prevention and Control program. Contact** Annetta Abbott: 405-208-9253 www.jimthorpegames.com

**JUNE 14** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 4th **Annual Golf Tournament** 

kicking off Iowa Tribal

Powwow - 8am at Cimarron Trails in Perkins, Okla. Registration begins at 7am. Info call Linda Andre 405-547-5352 Ext 23

**JUNE 16** 

The 17th Annual Oklahoma **Indian All-State Basketball** Games at the sports center on the Oklahoma Wesleyan University campus in Bartlesville. Games will start at 6:00 P.M. For more info: contact us 918-642-3162, paradox@valornet.com

**JUNE 23** 

**Creek Council House Museum's Indian Art Festival** 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918-756-2324

**JUNE 30** 47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729

HWY 9 West, Seminole, Okla. All descendants of **London Coker and wife** Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044.

**JULY 6** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

# Art as a vehicle: Expressing cultural, historical ideals

His pieces are displayed in museums, galleries, government buildings and homes in locations around the world.

LARISSA COPELAND Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

DURANT, Okla. – To represent the tribe as a presenter at Choctaw Days at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) is a huge, humbling honor, says artist D.G. Smalling of Oklahoma City, an honor that helps to affirm the skills and ideals he has dedicated his life to representing.

"Number one, to be there with the tribe is a very important thing; it validates me as an artist. It validates, too, that the nation sees value in it. That is exciting to me, that I'll be there presenting with my peers," he says.

"Second, the Smithsonian is a big thing, huge," he adds. "To be there, to just be present for this, it means a lot. I grew up as a kid going to the Smithsonian and I always get excited about it."

Creating art has been a lifelong venture for Smalling, though he's only been at it professionally for nine years. Though his Choctaw roots are prevalent in his work, his methods are varied and his influences vast. Smalling is quick to point out that his style is such that he can't be boxed into any particular category.

"I'm an artist," he asserts, "not just a 'Native artist.' I'm Native, yes, but I am adamant about not being pigeonholed with who I am as an artist. I need the flexibility."

It was this diversity that has made different cultures seek out and appreciate his work. His first piece exhibited to the public was in a Cuban gallery in Miami, Fla., something that helped affirm to himself that he was being taken seriously in the field.

"The fact that it was a non-Native gallery that exhibited my art authenticated to me that I am an artist," he says. "It showed me that subject matter wasn't what was important. It was the skill of my technique that attracted them to my

Today, his pieces are displayed in museums, galleries, government buildings and homes in locations around the world. Smalling creates in many formats, from painting and drawing, to sculptures of steel and glass. "My art is proportionate, fluid."

Working with Choctaw hieroglyphs, one technique he often uses is a contemporary "one line" format, the drawing of a single, constant line without interruption to create intricately detailed sketches. "I use the old ways but keep it modern," he says. "That's exciting to me."

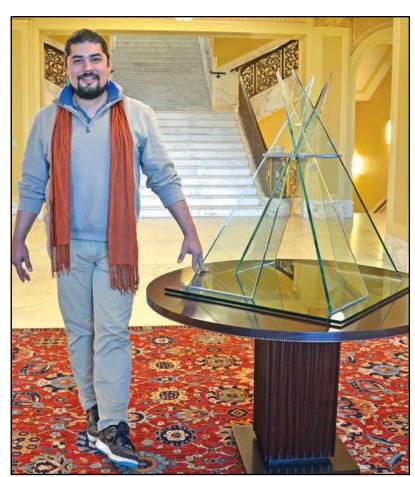
His methods are also simple and done with commonly used tools, such as Sharpie® markers and pens. "I want kids to be able to see what I do and what I use so they'll realize, 'hey, I can do that,' when they see that my tools are readily available," he says, crediting the diversity of exposure to other artists and situations throughout his life.

Smalling grew up in Idabel and Haworth, but then at age 8, he and his family packed up and left southeastern Oklahoma to do missionary work overseas. Together, they lived in Switzerland, Cameroon, and South Africa, where he was continually influenced both politically and artistically by his travels and exposure to other cultures

After graduating high school in South Africa, while his parents continued their missionary work in numerous countries around the world, Smalling returned to the United States to attend the University of Oklahoma where he earned his degree in political science. Today, while creating art feeds one passion, his full-time job in Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Yvonne Kauger's Sovereignty Symposium office, fuels another passion for him – educating tribal members.

"I owe a debt to my tribe," he explains. "My great-grandmother, it would have been so easy for her to forget, to not carry on the language, the culture. We could have disappeared so easily. But she refused. My faith and my debt is so much that I have to continue it. It's a beautiful obligation.

"It is important for us to remember that someone far back in our families felt strongly enough that we need to be Choctaw, that in the face of everything that tried to submit it, to beat it out of them,



LARISSA COPELAND | COURTESY CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

Choctaw artist D.G. Smalling poses with a sculpture he created using glass and steel. The four-sided tipi, which he says represents tribal, state, and federal judicial systems working together in unison and with necessary transparency, is prominently displayed in the Oklahoma Judicial Center's Supreme Court Reception Room in Oklahoma City.

they refused," he continued. "That's why I refuse. I celebrate it that we survived. That's why I say there is a debt. This is who I am and I'm proud of that."

Along with the responsibility of educating and empowering of tribal members, he believes strongly for tribes to encourage the output of quality art and Native-created items. "We fought long and hard to control our art," he says, referring to the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990. "It's important that we understand and respect that."

He says tribes can ensure that idea by developing an artist registry with quality artists who accurately reflect its history and views. "Outside people go to the registry when seeking out art from a particular tribe and registries are often their starting point. The registry reflects back on the tribe and is why the artists need to be vetted – to ensure the tribe is represented in the right way. The quality is just as important as who is making it."

Smalling plans to take that to heart when he presents at Choctaw Days at the NMAI in Washington,

D.C. There, he will display his work and do demonstrations, along with lectures and presentations on the Choctaw Code Talkers. Smalling is a great-grandson of World War I Code Talker Calvin Wilson.

Choctaw Days will take place at the NMAI from June 20-23. The public is encouraged to visit the event and experience Smalling's artwork and knowledge, along with additional artists, dancers and others representing the tribe, and take part in a memorable, rich Choctaw cultural experience.

Additionally, Smalling can be heard every Saturday morning hosting a radio program on Oklahoma City station, The Spy FM. His hour-long show is dedicated to discussing pertinent topics and trends with leaders and friends in Indian country, and also showcasing the music of Native artists, giving them a platform to show their diversity and talent. Podcasts and apps to remotely listen to his show are available for download on www.TheSpyFM.com/shows/ndn-country/.

# Sequoyah prepares for alumni weekend

TAHLEQUAH, Okla.— The first weekend in May has become known to the Sequoyah Schools' alumni and staff as the annual "alumni weekend." The event is a homecoming of sorts for graduates of the past, and a time for anyone who has ever been a part of Sequoyah Schools to come home and see their friends, classmates and former teachers.

The Sequoyah Alumni Association has put together a host of events to give alums ample opportunities to come home, celebrate and share their memories of Sequoyah.

"Anyone with a connection to Sequoyah is invited to attend," said Wauneta Sanders, event coordinator and Sequoyah alumnus.

The weekend will kick off with a taco sale and auction in the Tsa La Gi community meeting room at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 4.

Saturday will be filled with an alumni golf tournament at the Cherokee Trails Golf Course at 8 a.m., a family picnic and annual business meeting at 12:30 p.m. in the lower level of Sequoyah Schools' The Place Where They Play, and a banquet at 5 p.m. in the Sequoyah Schools' cafeteria followed by a social, dance and gospel singing at locations to be announced. Banquet tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased at the door

Events will wrap up on Sunday, May 6, with a breakfast at 8:30 a.m. in the Sequoyah Schools' cafeteria. Breakfast is \$3 per person.

For more information on the alumni golf tournament, please contact Jefferson Adair at 918-458-0878. For more information on all of the alumni events, visit the Sequoyah Alumni Association website at www. sequoyahalumni.net.

# **POWWOW**

Continued from Page 1

bleachers as spectators lifted up their cameras and smartphones to catch some of the action.

Whitehouse said Gathering of Nations is still much like it was when it first started more than two decades ago – a chance for younger generations to meet with elders, hear their stories and talk about how things have changed and the progress made by Native people.

"It's the perfect example of how we pass down our history," he said.



#### **Inside this issue:**

- Weaving Native culture into corporate culture
- Immersion school using garding to teach
- Comanche Museum wins national award









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 19

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

MAY 11, 2012

# U.N. investigator visits Tulsa, hears Indian Country concerns

■ S. James Anaya will provide a public report documenting the situation Indigenous people face in the United States in an upcoming session of the UN Human Rights Council.

DANA ATTOCKNIE Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - After six weeks in the first grade, Beverly Patchell's grandson decides, "I

don't want to be Indian anymore; they're bad."

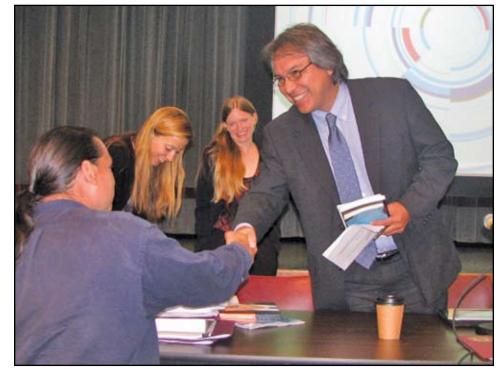
Patchell provided personal testimony as an example of how the inaccurate portrayal of Indigenous people in history books, prejudice and overall education barriers affect Indigenous people. She was one of more than 30 Indigenous leaders who took turns voicing concerns to United Nations Special Rapporteur S. James Anaya on May 3 at the University of Tulsa (TU).

Anaya spent 12 days in the U.S. listening to Indigenous leaders in the District of Columbia, Arizona, Alaska,

Washington State, South Dakota, and Oklahoma. He is beginning an investigation, the first of its kind, which will measure how state and federal laws, policies and programs in the United States mirror the principles of the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The declaration was passed by the U.N. General Assembly in September 2007. The United States initially voted against the declaration in 2007, but later endorsed it in December 2010.

Patchell, who represented the Alaska Natives Nursing Association, said Indigenous

See CONCERNS Continued on Page 4



NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES PHOTO | DANA ATTOCKNIE

United Nations Special Rapporteur S. James Anaya greets an attendee May 3 at the University of Tulsa. Anaya spent 12 days in the U.S. listening to Indigenous leaders in the District of Columbia, Arizona, Alaska, Oregon, Washington State, South Dakota and Oklahoma.

# **Bank freezes C&A** tribes' accounts

**RANDY ELLIS** The Oklahoman

CONCHO, Okla. (AP) A Clinton bank issued an administrative freeze on bank accounts of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma - prompting tribal leaders to declare a state of emergency Friday and announce that tribal assistance to the elderly, poor, children and medically needy could be drastically cut.

Tribal employees will be trimmed to a 32-hour workweek starting next week, said Lisa Liebl, a tribal spokeswoman. The tribe has several hundred employees, she said.

The tribes' Lucky Star casinos at Concho, Clinton, Canton, Watonga and Hammon are expected to continue normal operations, although that could change as tribal officials continue to evaluate the crisis, she said.

"We are presently looking at all our options and will not take our eyes off the goal of getting the funds restored and the essential governmental services provided," disputed tribal Gov. Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell said in a prepared statement.



Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell

The First Bank and Trust Co. of Clinton took action to freeze the accounts Tuesday amid a billowing conflict over tribal leadership.

Boswell and Leslie Wandrie-Harjo have been quarreling for more than a year over which of the two is the tribes' lawful

The dispute has polarized tribal members and sparked protests and fist fights.

Caught in the middle is the First Bank and Trust Co. of Clinton, which maintains the majority of the tribes' major bank accounts, said Scott Meacham, the bank's attorney.

The governor of the tribes is

See BANK Continued on Page 2

# Ariz. Apache Tribe in turmoil over ballot flap

■ There also have been power struggles within New York's Seneca Nation of Indians, Arizona's Hopi Nation and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in Oklahoma.

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) -An arrest warrant has been issued for the chairman of Arizona's White Mountain Apache Tribe, as four candidates who were denied a spot on the ballot question the outcome of a

recent tribal council election. David Jordan, a New Mexico attorney who represents the candidates, said May 3 he plans to take the case to federal court. He contends his clients' rights to participate in the electoral

process were violated. "I've never seen anything like this," Jordan told The Associated Press. "The government is simply refusing to follow tribal court orders. The tribal police department refuses to follow court orders. Democracy is 100 percent broken down."

Four council seats were up for grabs

in April's general election. Jordan said his clients qualified but that longtime Tribal Chairman Ronnie Lupe directed the council to keep them off the ballot.

The arrest warrant naming Lupe stems from a tribal judge finding him in contempt last week for not appearing in court to address the election issues.

The judge had also ordered that last Wednesday's inauguration ceremony be put off, and that a "proper election" be scheduled. But the inauguration of new council members went on as

Lupe and White Mountain Apache legal officials did not immediately return calls seeking comment.

Lupe has led the White Mountain Apache for more than 30 years. His administration is accused of ignoring the court's orders.

Previous orders by the tribal court that called for suspending Lupe and ordering the tribal election postponed also went ignored, prompting Chief Judge Reagan Armstrong Sr. to ask the Bureau of Indian Affairs to intervene. The call for Lupe's suspension came in December amid allegations of misconduct.

The Arizona tribe is not alone when it comes to tribal government being upended by internal politics.

New Mexico's Isleta Pueblo is wading through a similar dispute as the governor and council of that American Indian community push for restraining orders against two outspoken councilwomen questioned how tribal business was being conducted. The women also were criticized for starting a Facebook page and blog to voice their concerns.

In North Dakota, the Standing Rock Sioux Council voted at the end of March to keep Chairman Charles Murphy in his leadership post after hearing allegations that he acted improperly in making various personnel moves.

There also have been power struggles within New York's Seneca Nation of Indians, Arizona's Hopi Nation and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

There are more than 560 recognized tribal governments across the United States. Each one has its own system of government, but it's rare for them to have a true separation of powers with distinct judicial, legislative and executive branches. The Navajo Nation is one of the few, if not only, examples, Jordan said.

"Most were set up as systems where

See APACHE Continued on Page 2



MOAPA BAND OF PAIUTE INDIANS PHOTO | HTTP://WWW.MOAPAPAIUTES.COM/ABOUT US.HTM

When coal is burned, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and mercury compounds are released into the air, according to the EPA. Research has shown those fine particles can be linked to serious health problems, including premature death.

# Nevada tribe fights coal plant in pollution battle

CRISTINA SILVA Associated Press

MOAPA, Nev. (AP) - Kami Miller's heart flutters irregularly, she needs an inhaler to breathe and she's been diagnosed with thyroid problems. Even more troubling, her 12-year-old son already has the same health

For the Miller family, there is little doubt why they and their fellow tribal citizens living on the tiny Moapa Band of Paiutes reservation outside Las Vegas are struggling with a litany of medical problems. Steps away

from their front doors, a 50-yearold, coal-burning power plant churns out a blanket of white and yellow smoke that hangs over their reservation and obscures the mountain views their people have long admired.

"We just want some clean air to breathe," Miller, 37, said.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is on a decades-long mission to decrease air pollution from coal-fired power plants because of the thick haze they create that obscures the iconic views and stunning vistas

See POLLUTION Continued on Page 3

listed as the authorized signatory on tribal accounts, Meacham said. Since Boswell and Harjo each claim to be governor, the bank finds itself in a quandary over whose signature it should recognize as legitimate in authorizing withdrawals or transfers of funds, he said.

The bank has asked Custer County District Judge Floyd Douglas Haught to resolve the banking issue. A hearing is set for June 8.

The specific bank accounts that were frozen were established to provide essential tribal governmental services, Liebl said.

Liebl said she didn't know the exact amount of frozen funds, but said she was told it was "millions of dollars."

"It's definitely a jolt," Liebl said. "These are funds used for federal programs and

"It's going to affect food vouchers to our elders," she said. "We are immediately halting all travel."

Liebl issued a news release Friday that contained a lengthy list of services the frozen accounts were set up to provide. The list included such things as shelter to homeless children, money to investigate child abuse and neglect, food and clothing assistance, head start education assistance, foster care programs, firefighter services and emergency medical assistance.

Freezing the tribes' bank accounts will not totally block tribal leaders' access to funds, since they have some smaller accounts in other banks and continue to receive cash flow from casinos, Meacham said.

"If they are motivated to pay employees, they have access to money to pay employees,"

Still, Meacham said banking officials know that freezing accounts could create hardships.

"It's certainly not something the bank took lightly," Meacham said. "It was done only as a last resort."

Meacham said the bank tried to come up with creative ways to keep the accounts open, including negotiating with Boswell and Harjo to try to work out an arrangement where both signatures would be required on checks until the leadership dispute is resolved.

That effort failed because of the bitterness of the dispute, he said. Banking officials eventually decided they had to take action, he

Strange as it now seems, Boswell and Harjo ran on the same ticket and took office in January 2010, with Boswell serving as governor and Harjo as lieutenant governor.

They soon parted ways, however, with Boswell suspending Harjo for insubordination and Harjo turning to the tribal legislature and courts for assistance in ousting Boswell.

The dispute has escalated, with each setting up competing administrations. Boswell continues to operate out of the tribal headquarters in Concho, while Harjo and her allies have set up an office in El Reno. Each side recognizes different tribal court judges, who have issued conflicting rulings.

Harjo and Boswell factions issued competing news releases Thursday and Friday -each blaming the other for the current crisis.

"Ms. Harjo's continuous, greedy quest for control and power has certainly gone too far this time, jeopardizing essential governmental services to both Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal members and nonmembers alike," states the news release by Boswell's faction.

Harjo responded: "If Boswell upheld the Cheyenne and Arapaho Constitution with an honest and transparent government, there would be absolutely no reason for the bank to immediately 'administratively' freeze our

The tribe claims 12,185 enrolled tribal citizens, 8,664 of whom live in Oklahoma, according to Wikipedia.

companies.

### Judge throws out tribes' Sioux nickname lawsuit

DAVE KOLPACK Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) - A judge has thrown out a federal lawsuit by a committee of tribal citizens trying to save the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname, an issue that has been debated on several fronts since the NCAA in 2005 declared the moniker hostile and abusive.

The suit was filed against the NCAA by several members of the Spirit Lake Sioux tribe and one member of the Standing Rock Sioux. It asked for at least \$10 million and a reversal of the NCAA policy banning the use of American Indian imagery in post-season competition.

The NCAA filed a motion in December to dismiss the lawsuit, saying the tribes lacked standing to bring it and their claims that the tribes' civil and religious rights were violated are not supported by facts. A federal judge ruled late Tuesday in favor of the governing body of college athletics.

Reed Soderstrom, the tribal committee's lawyer, said he planned to meet with other attorneys to see if there's a "crack in the door" for an appeal.

"It has been a rough day,

but there were no guarantees," Soderstrom said.

**NCAA** spokesman Christianson said in a statement that the court made the right decision and "agreed that the plaintiffs had no viable claims, their rights were not violated and the NCAA's championships policies are lawful."

U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson, a graduate of the UND law school, began his written explanation by summarizing the firestorm that has divided supporters of the Grand Forks university.

"Spanning a spectrum of protests for and against the name, tribal resolutions, state laws and fierce public debate, the NCAA's championship policy has created significant turmoil with the state of North Dakota over the propriety and continued use of the Fighting Sioux nickname," Erickson wrote.

The fight began when the NCAA told 19 schools to get rid of American Indian nicknames or risk sanctions. Some of the schools got permission from namesake tribes and were allowed to keep the nickname. UND received approval from Spirit Lake, but Standing Rock refused to hold a vote on the issue.

The North Dakota Legislature opted to take on the NCAA, passing a bill in early 2011 requiring UND to use the nickname and Indian head logo. The law was repealed eight months later after NCAA officials told state representatives it would not budge on penalties.

A citizen's group then gathered signatures to put the issue to a statewide vote in June. The state Supreme Court refused to block that election when asked to rule on whether the law is constitutional.

Legal bills obtained earlier by The Associated Press show the legal fight over the nickname vote has cost taxpayers more than \$46,000 in lawyers' fees.

"I still think there are some more peaks and valleys ahead between the ballot measures and everything that is going on," Soderstrom said. "The people get to decide, and that's the beauty of this whole thing."

In his ruling on the Spirit Lake and Standing Rock committee's lawsuit, Erickson noted the NCAA is a private association free to govern its members as it sees fit. Many of the committee's arguments, he said, were "entirely without merit, and the ones that could potentially have been

meritorious could only have properly been brought by UND."

Even if the school brought action, Erickson said, it would be an iffy proposition.

The Spirit Lake reservation is located entirely within the state of North Dakota, whereas the Standing Rock reservation straddles the border between North Dakota and South Dakota, with its tribal headquarters in Fort Yates, N.D. Some nickname supporters have argued Standing Rock's interest in the issue is tempered because many members live in South Dakota.

Soderstrom acknowledged his group "hung our hats" on a 1969 pipe ceremony held on the UND campus when a delegation from Standing Rock and at least one representative from Spirit Lake reportedly bestowed to the university permanent rights to use the nickname.

Erickson rejected the committee's argument that the NCAA was violating that contract.

"While the court respects the sanctity and solemnity that tribal traditions richly deserve, the 1969 pipe ceremony has no legal significance on the facts as pled by the committee," Erickson said.

## Beer companies seek dismissal of suit

**GRANT SCHULTE** 

Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Beer vendors in a tiny Nebraska town would be forced to discriminate against residents of a neighboring South Dakota American Indian reservation if a judge agrees with a lawsuit accusing the retailers and others of knowingly contributing to the reservation's alcohol-related problems, attorneys said in asking for the lawsuit to be dismissed.

The argument is among several made in motions filed April 27 asking a judge to dismiss the \$500 million lawsuit filed by the Oglala Sioux Tribe against some of the world's largest beer makers, as well as their distributors and the four beer stores in the reservation border town of Whiteclay.

The lawsuit asks that breweries, retailers and distributors pay damages for health care and law enforcement costs, developmental problems in children and other alcohol-related problems on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Thetribe also wants a judge to restrict alcohol sales in Whiteclay.

Lawyers for the beer companies said in court papers that such an order would force Whiteclay's beer stores to discriminate against American Indians from Pine Ridge.

"The absurdity of this request cannot be understated," said Jerald Rauterkus, an attorney for State Line Liquor in Whiteclay. The tribe "is seeking an order from this court that would actually

command retail defendants to refuse the sale of their otherwise publicly available goods to members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe who live on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation based solely on their race and ethnicity."

Alcohol officially is banned on Pine Ridge, a reservation with an estimated 40,000 residents that spans an area about the size of Connecticut. Roughly 5,700 residents live in Pine Ridge village, the reservation's largest town, which sits 2 miles north of Whiteclay.

Whiteclay has a population of 11 people and sold the equivalent of 4.3 million, 12-ounce cans of beer last year. Tribal leaders and activists blame the Whiteclay businesses for chronic alcohol abuse and bootlegging on Pine

One in four children born on the reservation suffer from fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, and the average life expectancy is estimated between 45 and 52 years - the shortest in the Northern Hemisphere except for Haiti, according to the lawsuit. The average American life expectancy is 77.5 years.

The tribe's attorney, Tom White, has said if the lawsuit is allowed to go forward, he also will argue Nebraska officials have failed to enforce their own laws by allowing beer sales that far surpass the amount that can be legally consumed.

Robert Keith, an attorney for

the Arrowhead Inn store in Whiteclay, said the lawsuit's claims are "speculative, at best," and argued a ruling in the tribe's favor wouldn't solve its problems.

"How can the plaintiff's alleged injuries be traced specifically to Arrowhead Inn's actions, as opposed to other alcoholic beverage retailers around the Midwest, United States, or members of plaintiff's tribe who potentially produce alcoholic beverages in the privacy of their home?" Keith wrote in court

Randall Goyette, an attorney for the Jumping Eagle Inn store in Whiteclay, said the alcohol problems on Pine Ridge "can only be due to personal conduct.

"The alleged harm cannot occur without several intervening acts of independent individuals: leaving the reservation; purchasing beer; illegally smuggling beer onto the reservation; illegally consuming the beer on the reservation or illegally reselling the beer to others on the reservation for consumption," he said.

Goyette said a ruling in the tribe's favor would create a "paradigm shift" in the way alcohol is sold nationwide.

"Manufacturers would be forced to analyze the sales data of each and every one of its distributors and retailers to ensure that it was not selling too much of a product such that it was exposing itself to possible liability for public nuisance," he said.

# **APACHE**

effectively the chairman runs everything," he said. "Everything flows through the chairman's office so it gives the chairman an enormous amount of power. If he starts abusing that power, there's not really a check to stop it."

In the case of the White Mountain Apache council candidates, they all qualified to be on the ballot. They're all over 18, are all tribal members, all filed nominating petitions, and all either live in the district they want to represent or have cattle grazing in that district, Jordan said.

Jordan acknowledged it's not easy to get the federal government involved in deciding such an issue for a sovereign tribe. However, he said at stake are rights granted through the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968.

"The liberty rights of my clients have been so horribly abused in this situation that I think I can get the federal court to pay attention to what's going on," he said.

White Mountain Apache Tribe has nine council members who are elected to four-year terms.

The tribe has about 15,000 citizens, and its reservation is larger than Delaware and Rhode Island combined, according to its website.



A great looking website provides 24 hour advertising and is a key component to a good first impression! Sites starting at \$999.95

Email: gadmin@ganica.net for more info.

www.ganica.net

## PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

> **INDIAN LAW PROBATE ADOPTIONS**

RESTRICTED LAND **ISSUES** 

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY** 



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

# Northern Arapaho push federal appeal of taxation

**BEN NEARY** Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - The Northern Arapaho Tribe continues to press its legal claim that tribal members shouldn't be subject to taxation by the state of Wyoming or Fremont County on privately owned lands around Riverton that lie within the historic boundaries of the Wind River Indian Reservation.

A federal appeals court panel in Denver is set to hear arguments from the Northern Arapaho next week. The tribe is appealing a federal judge's 2009 ruling that dismissed its legal challenge to the state and county's taxation authority.

The Arapahos' claim has implications beyond taxation issues and could affect environmental regulations and the state's authority to prosecute Native Americans for crimes committed in the area. And whatever the outcome, the case also underscores the difficulties that can arise when separate tribes share a common reservation.

"The tribe's immunity from state taxation in Indian Country is a critical part of tribal sovereignty," said Andy Baldwin, attorney for the Northern Arapaho. "The tribe is committed to protecting its sovereignty when the state overreaches."

U.S. District Judge Clarence Brimmer in Cheyenne ruled in 2009

that the Northern Arapaho Tribe's lawsuit couldn't proceed without the involvement of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe and the federal government.

Neither the Shoshone Tribe nor the federal government agreed to participate in the lawsuit. Brimmer ruled that because both have "sovereign immunity," meaning they generally have to consent to being sued, the Northern Arapaho couldn't force them to participate in the case.

The Northern Arapaho and the Eastern Shoshone share the Wind River Indian Reservation. Congress in 1905 opened more than 1.4 million acres there to possible settlement by

Ultimately about 245,000 acres in the Riverton area went into private ownership, held by both Indians and non-Indians. The Northern Arapaho maintain that although the land went into private hands, it didn't end the land's legal status as Indian Country. The state disagrees.

Legal disputes over the status of the private lands, and the status of tribal members on those lands, have persisted for years.

For example, the U.S. Supreme Court last year declined to hear a Northern Arapaho man's claim that the state of Wyoming lacked authority to prosecute him for murder in his daughter's death.

Andrew John Yellowbear Jr. is

serving a life sentence in state prison in the 2004 beating death of his infant daughter. Both the Wyoming Supreme Court and Brimmer previously rejected his argument that the area of Riverton where the girl was killed was legally still part of the reservation. Yellowbear unsuccessfully argued that he should have been tried in federal court because the state lacked jurisdiction in the case.

The status of the land also is an issue as the tribes seek to take over implementation of federal environmental laws.

The Northern Arapaho claim in their lawsuit that a Wyoming Supreme Court decision on water rights in the 1980s established that the contested area was still legally Indian Country.

If the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals agrees with the Northern Arapaho, the case still must go back to federal district court for a trial on the taxation question. But, as Brimmer noted in dismissing the suit, the implications of the Northern Arapaho's case go far beyond whether the state can collect sales tax and car registration fees.

"(T)he 1905 Act area encompasses a vast area of nearly 1.5 million acres, and the state has long assumed jurisdiction over the area," Brimmer wrote. "To conclude that this area is in fact Indian country would effect a dramatic shift in jurisdiction. A judgment in the absence of the United States undoubtedly would prejudice its jurisdictional interests."

Martin L. Hardsocg, lawyer with the Wyoming Attorney General's Office, said he agreed the case's effects could be far-reaching.

"That's obviously the concern, is that whatever happens here, the question is whether there's jurisdiction on any count," Hardsocg said. "That's really what hangs in the balance on all of these, is that it could be argued that even though it's a tax case, it's a decision that would affect everything else."

Kimberly Varilek, attorney general of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, said her office will continue to argue that the Northern Arapaho Tribe's lawsuit cannot proceed without the Eastern Shoshone's involvement. She said the Eastern Shoshone declined to waive its sovereign immunity because it didn't feel it was in the tribe's best interests to subject itself to federal litigation and be bound by a decision on the boundary

"That is the gateway question: Should we be forced to waive our tribal immunity to protect the entire reservation, tribal members on both sides, when the interest of filing federal litigation was primarily started with one tribe?" Varilek said. "That's a question has yet really to be addressed."



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

**LANGLEY** 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

ΓIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

# Judge rejects Kialegee's motion to dismiss suit

TULSA, Okla. (AP) – A tribe seeking to build a casino in Broken Arrow can't use sovereign immunity as an nullified "tribal immunity from suits argument to dismiss a lawsuit filed involving gaming activities," the Tulsa by the Oklahoma Attorney General's office, a federal judge has ruled.

sovereign immunity is not a defense because the lawsuit was brought against the tribe's officers and committee members in their official capacities, and also because Kialegee Tribal Town's be sued."

said in his order that Congress had World reported.

Attorneys for Town King Tiger Hobia The state successfully argued that had argued that the tribe was organized separately from its incorporation and that the "sue and be sued" corporate the property to the casino developers. charter clause had failed in other

'We are disappointed in the judge's corporate charter allows it "to sue and ruling on the motions but are confident that we will prevail on the merits,"

U.S. District Judge Gregory Frizzell said Dennis Whittlesey, an attorney suburb oppose the casino. They say it's representing the tribe.

> The state has argued in its lawsuit that the tribe doesn't have needed approvals from federal agencies to open a casino. The proposed facility sits on land allotted to two Muscogee Creek Nation members, who are subleasing Neighborhood Gaming said of Frizzell's

Kialegee Tribal Town members also are members of the Creek Nation, but their headquarters are located in Wetumka in southeastern Oklahoma. A group of residents in the Tulsa May 16.

too close to schools and churches.

"It upholds everything we've been arguing so far about whether or not the defendants can legally do what they're doing," Jared Cawley, spokesman for Broken Arrow Citizens Against

The state is seeking a preliminary injunction to halt construction of the facility, which is ongoing. A hearing for the state's injunction request is set for

# **CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS**

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

# **POLLUTION**

associated with the nation's federal parks and wilderness areas. In southern Nevada, the Reid Gardner Generation Station bordering the Paiutes' reservation limits visibility at multiple parks and wilderness areas, including the Grand Canyon in Arizona, Zion in Utah and Joshua Tree National Monument in California.

But for the Paiute tribe, who have long lived off the land their ancestors settled hundreds of years ago, the campaign to make national parks more beautiful for tourists is a personal battle. If the coal plant is forced to limit its emissions, perhaps their health woes will also decrease, tribe elders sav.

"My people are dying from that thing," said Eric Lee, a tribe leader who has suffered from regular nose bleeds that he blames on the power plant's toxic emissions. "Especially on cloudy days, it smells, it stinks like rotten eggs."

The Moapa Paiute tribe has 300 members, roughly half of whom live under the shadow of Reid Gardner's four smokestacks. For years, tribe members have complained of skin irritation, lung disease, thyroid problems, aggravated asthma and heart disease. Their insistence that these medical problems can be linked to the foul air pouring from the plant has long been ignored, largely because there is no direct medical evidence to back up their claims.

The tribe pleaded for the EPA's intervention on Thursday, when the federal agency held its first public hearing at the reservation as part of the ongoing visibility campaign. For nearly four hours, dozens of reservation and southern Nevada residents described living with the

coal plant: parents no longer letting their children play outside because of health fears, teenagers interrupting school sports games to reach for their inhalers and neighbors dying of heart trouble.

"It's so frustrating to see so many people have this type of illness and nothing is being done about it," William Anderson, the tribe council chairman, said.

The EPA has ordered coal plants to embrace new technologies designed to reduce pollutants that obscure visibility under the 1977 Clean Air Act. In the West, average visibility has dropped from 140 miles to between 35 to 90 miles. The goal is to protect what visibility remains, said Colleen McKaughan, an associate director in the EPA's air division.

"That haze obscures the scenery, especially out here in the West where a lot of people come to see the vistas," she

McKaughan said the hearing at the reservation was not intended to address anecdotal health complaints. Still, she said the EPA is interested in valid medical problems caused

"We understand why they would prefer not to breathe this stuff. We totally get it," she

When coal is burned, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and mercury compounds are released into the air, according to the EPA. Research has shown those fine particles can be linked to serious health problems,

including premature death. But the Moapa Paiute tribe can only rely on general data to back up their claims. Despite their health concerns, the tribe has been unsuccessful

in persuading local, state and federal health officials to investigate their complaints.

The lack of direct evidence has stroked accusations that the tribe's medical problems have been exaggerated by environmental activists who want to see the coal plant shuttered.

ClarkCountyCommissioner Tom Collins, who represents Moapa, said the plant creates much needed jobs and tax dollars for the area.

"They are using those Indians as a vehicle to shut down the plant," Collins said of the environmental groups who want the facility closed. "As long as they are complying with the laws, (the plant) benefits the entire community."

The Reid Gardner facility provides enough electricity to power 335,000 Nevada households, according to NV Energy, the utility company that operates the plant. Under the EPA proposal, NV Energy would have five years to install nitrogen oxide burners, instead of more expensive selective catalytic emissions scrubbers that environmentalists claim do a better job of reducing emissions.

"We will continue our commitment to operate the Reid Gardner station in an environmentally responsible manner, in compliance with all federal and state laws, and in the best interests of its customers," spokesman Mark Severts said.

The Muddy River near the plant feeds into Lake Mead, the massive reservoir that serves Mexico, California, Nevada and Arizona.

"Second-rate pollution control is not good enough here," said Dan Galpern, a lawyer representing the tribe and the Sierra Club in Nevada.

### **RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES** FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES

**Gracie Cox** 

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork** Big Brothers Big Sisters Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON

> Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

advertising@nativetimes.con

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country







# UN fact finder on Indigenous rights wraps up visit

SUZANNE GAMBOA Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP)

- A United Nations fact finder surveying the lives of Native Americans and Alaska Natives said May 4 he'll recommend in an upcoming report that some of the tribes' lands be restored, including the Black Hills of South Dakota.

James Anaya, a U.N. special rapporteur, has been meeting with tribal leaders, the administration and Senate members over 12 days to assess U.S. implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He plans several suggestions in his report, which he said he likely will deliver to the U.N.'s Human Rights Council in September.

Anaya said land restoration would help bring about reconciliation. He named the Black Hills as an example. He said restoring to indigenous people what they have a legitimate claim to can be done in a way that is not divisive "so that the Black Hills, for example, isn't just a reminder of the subordination and domination of indigenous peoples in that country."

The Black Hills, home to Mount Rushmore, are public land but are considered sacred by the Sioux tribes. The Sioux have refused to accept money awarded in a 1980 U.S. Supreme Court decision and have sought return of the land. The Black Hills and other lands were set aside for the Sioux in an 1868 treaty. But Congress passed a law in 1877 taking the land.

President Barack Obama endorsed the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2010, reversing a previous U.S. vote against it. It is intended to protect the rights of 370 million native peoples worldwide. Anaya is the first U.N. special rapporteur on rights of the indigenous to visit the U.S.

He met with several members of the executive branch and had the chance to brief members of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. He lamented he was unable to get individual meetings with members of Congress, noting that he usually meets with members of legislative bodies of countries he is visiting.

Anaya said he heard universal cries from the Native Americans and Alaska Natives for the federal government to protect their tribal sovereignty and for more ability to control their own affairs.

He added provisions in the Violence Against Women Act, recently approved in the Senate, give tribes the ability to prosecute people who commit violent crimes against Native American or Alaska Native women, even if they are not native peoples. That provision has been opposed by some Republicans in Congress. The House is expected to move on the act as soon as next week, with Republicans possibly drafting and pushing their own version.

Anaya said he met with tribes in Arizona, Alaska, Oregon, Washington State, South Dakota and Oklahoma both on reservations and in urban areas.

"In all my consultations with indigenous peoples in the places I visited it was impressed upon me that the sense of loss, alienation and indignity is pervasive throughout Indian Country," Anaya said.

"It is evident that there have still not been adequate measures of reconciliation to overcome the persistent legacies of the history of oppression and that there is still much healing that needs to be done," he said.

Online: USNR James Anaya: http://www.unsr. jamesanaya.org

# Native American hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

# **CONCERNS**

Continued from Page

people need a safe environment for learning and mentioned the low numbers of Alaska Natives and American Indians in the nursing field and the obstacles they face getting into school. She also used her grandson's experience in school to demonstrate how an unhealthy learning environment can cause low self-esteem and feelings of inferiority in Indigenous people.

"My commitment is to help shed light on stories and perspectives," Anaya said. "My commitment is to convey an expression of hope."

Anaya first heard from a tribal judicial panel made up of the Hon. Charles Tripp, the Hon. Greg Bigler, and the Hon. Walter Echo-Hawk.

The justices spoke about tribal courts not being viewed as adequate by non-Native Americans, state and federal governments refusing to help tribes when asked, and injustices in federal Indian law.

Echo-Hawk examined the potential impact of the declaration on the future of federal Indian law and compared standards in the declaration against current U.S. federal law and policy to identify areas that need improvement or could benefit from reform.

"I think the potential impact of this declaration ... would result in eradicating the dark side, the bad side of federal Indian law and provide a stronger foundation for Indigenous rights in the United States ... (and) build equality and not discrimination, and democracy and good faith," Echo-Hawk said. "It becomes clear that U.S. law and policy does fail to comport or meet the U.N. standards in many important areas."

He identified nine key areas where U.S. policy fails Indigenous peoples including self-determination. He said the declaration views selfdetermination as an inherent right whereas U.S. law views it under the Plenary Power Doctrine where Congress can terminate that right at will. Echo-Hawk touched on a wide-range of injustices including the failure to making public mainstream media accountable. "We are invisible and ignored by the press," he

Anaya then heard statements from leaders representing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Sac and Fox Nation, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokees, Kaw Nation, Euchee (Yuchi) Kickapoo Tribe, Tribe, Chickasaw Nation, Isle de Jean Charles Tribe, Pointe au Chien Tribe, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Osage Headright Accounting, Alabama Ceremonial Grounds, Hickory Ceremonial Grounds, National Indian Youth Council, Wetlands Preservation Organization, Haskell Indian Nations University, Prairie Band of Potawatomi Veterans, American Indian Services in Detroit, Sand Creek Massacre Descendants, International Treaty Council, American Indian Movement (AIM), and Indigenous Environmental Network.

Concerns that have plagued Indigenous people for decades such as broken treaty promises, abuses suffered at boarding schools, veterans illegally taxed, stolen land, lingering litigation, and racial profiling were shown to still be unsettled, ignored and/or still prevalent.

"The oppressed got so used to being oppressed," David Hill, of AIM, said. "They target us because we have long hair, brown skin, and our car is 20 years old."

Hill, Choctaw, and Rodney Factor, Seminole, of the International Treaty Council both spoke about a duel system of justice and how jail and prison sentences are longer for Indigenous people versus other races. They also spoke about tactics used against Indigenous people to make them confess to crimes they didn't commit and not being provided the right to a free attorney.

Tewanna Edwards, spokesperson for Fellowship of American Indians Church in Chickasha, didn't provide oral testimony, but prepared a document for Anaya stating, "The dominant society has viewed us as less than human, both intellectually and other areas, from the days of the 'Doctrine of Discovery' to the present." She asked in the document, "How do you unlearn this mental attitude after generations of reinforcement? ... Does it start with recognizing the minorities being forced by the dominant society to exist with stereotyped, biased attitudes as just a way of life and not realizing to this day it is a violation of the minorities' human rights? As stated by some of our Indian people, 'That's just the way it is?"

Dr. Kay McGowen, Mississippi Choctaw, of the National Indian Youth Council spoke about the Civilization Fund Act of 1819 and the long lasting damage generations have suffered because their identity was lost at boarding schools. She said the US government should now fund extensive language programs since children lost their native language at boarding schools, and she also wants a full disclosure of what happened

in boarding schools.
"I want names named," she proclaimed. "How many

children died, (how many) pregnant girls were killed ... rectify the wrongs ... it's our declaration, let's make it work."

New challenges were also mentioned such as the Keystone Pipeline slated to barrel right through some tribal lands, tribes being asked to waive their sovereign immunity in order to receive grants, human trafficking, and coastal erosion. Some tribes continue to feel the damage caused by the BP oil spill and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita as well. Coastal tribes maintain their livelihood by fishing and those prospects are declining because of the erosion.

Recurring issues were federal recognition and protection of natural land and resources, improvements with Indian Child Welfare, domestic violence against women, arresting and prosecuting non-Native Americans on tribal land, and self-governance.

"We continue to struggle with self-determination," Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger said. "We still are under dictation of how our tribal resources are utilized."

Tiger spoke about being forced to sign a tobacco compact with the State of Oklahoma, and also questioned "Why should businesses that operate in Indian Country not follow our laws?"

Other concerns were specific to tribes, such as the Sac and Fox Nation attempting to have the remains of tribal member Jim Thorpe repatriated, Osage headrights transferred to non-Native Americans with no accounting, Kickapoo tribal citizens who live in Mexico have difficulty returning to the states to participate in cultural ceremonies plus their burial practices being disrespected by the State Medical Examiner's Office when autopsies are performed on some of their citizens, and the IRS making an inquiry to the Chickasaw Nation about taxing citizens who receive general welfare assistance; where no cash is received from them, such as education and health care aid.

Also on the minds of leaders was how to protect the culture and heritage of their people. Bobby Yargee of the Alabama Ceremonial Grounds said they only have a handful of their elders left and some of their young citizens don't bother to ask what some of their ceremonial songs mean.

"We want to continue to exist," he said. "We want to continue to teach our young ones the way of our ancestors."

Millicent Pepion, a Blackfeet student from Haskell Indian Nations University, began speaking to Anaya in her Native tongue as other leaders did throughout the session. She spoke about the importance of teaching the next generation, "how to build positive relationships with the environment through language

revitalization, traditional storytelling, and ceremonial and traditional cultural practices ... "

She spoke about the Trail of Broken Promises, a journey that will take Haskell students from the Wakarusa Wetlands in Lawrence, Kan. on May 13 to Washington DC on July 9. The journey aims to bring awareness to the protection of sacred places.

"In Kansas, most of the wetlands have been drained or lost at a rate that parallels the decline of population of Native peoples indigenous to Kansas," Pepion said. "The Trail of Broken Promises is asking for help from local, state, tribal, and federal agencies in the hope that they will endorse policies that protect our land and cultures. Our children are counting on us."

In a statement at the conclusion of his US visit, Anaya mentioned how sacred sites like the San Francisco Peaks in Arizona and the Black Hills in South Dakota have a "profound religious and cultural significance to tribes."

"It is important to note, in this regard, that securing the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands is of central importance to indigenous peoples' socioeconomic development, self-determination, and cultural integrity," Anaya stated. "Continued efforts to resolve, clarify, and strengthen the protection of indigenous lands, resources, and sacred sites should be made."

Anaya said Indigenous people can still submit a report of their concerns to Anaya by sending them via e-mail to: indigenous@ohchr.org, or fax to: +41 – 22 917 90 06, or mail to: Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, c/o OHCHR-UNOG, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Palais Wilson, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland. Specific information on how to submit information can be found at unsr.jamesanaya. org/.

Anaya will provide a public report documenting situation Indigenous people face in the United States in an upcoming session of the UN Human Rights Council. He will note the "good practices and needed reforms" the U.S. has or needs in regard to complying with the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. His concluding statement about his U.S. visit mentions he also met with state and executive federal branch officials: however his attempts to meet with U.S. Congress members were unsuccessful.

Anaya is a Regents professor and the James J. Lenoir professor of Human Rights Law and Policy at the University of Arizona. He was appointed as the special rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous peoples in March 2008 by the UN Human Rights Council.

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		
Address:		
City:	_ State: Zip:	
Phone:		
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>		

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

#### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

# COMMENTARY

### lacksquare

### lacktriangle





# "Drill baby drill" is coming to Indian country



TIM GIAGO
(Nanwica Kciji)
Notes from Indian Country
© 2012 Unity South Dakota

The oil boom is coming to South Dakota, "Not if, but when," according to those in the know, including Governor Dennis Daugaard.

The apprehension for the coming explosion is ambivalent. South Dakotans, including those Native Americans living on the Indian reservations that may be caught in the middle of the oil development companies and the protestors that are sure to come, are looking at what is happening in the Bakken oil boom in North Dakota.

According to an article by Talli Nauman, the Health and Environment Editor for Native Sun News, a Native American weekly newspaper based in Rapid City, "The volume of drilling applications in the Bakken shale formation ballooned 500percent during the past five years, half of it on American Indian mineral estates. Since 2007 applications to drill on Fort Berthold, the home of the Three Affiliated Tribes, in the heart of the Bakken, have gone from 0 to 175. More than \$3 million in drilling permit fees were collected in fiscal 2011."

Tribal Chairman Tex Hall made a recent trip to Washington, D. C. in order to point out to the Congress the good and the bad of this sudden boom. The oil impact promptedHalltoaskCongress for housing to support a new health facility, funds to address the severe damage that oil and gas development has caused to the roads on the reservation. Hall said, "One of the problems is a total lack of available housing within 100 miles of our reservation.

Even when housing does open up, two and three bedroom homes are now renting for in excess of \$2,500 per month."

Hall said that none of the roads on the reservation were built to handle the types of heavy equipment and heavy trucks used by the oil and gas companies. "Those roads have been almost totally destroyed by the oil and gas related traffic," he said.

Several traffic accidents, including one that took the lives of five family members, were caused by the damage to the roads and to the heavy equipment using the roads. "I feel every day that I will get a call telling me that a school bus full of children had tipped over killing a number of students," Hall said.

These are the things now under study by the State of South Dakota and the Indian reservations.

There was speculation that the area around the Badlands on the Pine Ridge Reservation would be a rich source of crude oil because it was a part of an inland sea millions of years ago and was the home to thousands of dinosaurs. But oil doesn't come from dead dinosaurs, but from the remains of single celled creatures known as diatoms.

The USA uses 17 million barrels of oil every day. Petroleum accounts for nearly 40 percent of this Nation's energy. It takes the equivalent of 7 gallons of gasoline per day for every man, woman and child to keep this country running at its current pace. And finally, according to the Department of Energy, the United States is home to 5 percent of the world's population, yet consumes 26 percent of the world's energy.

These are all frightening and appalling statistics. Oil is not a renewable resource and it is being used up faster than anyone could have foreseen 50 years ago.

South Dakota can expect to see many scientists and engineers conducting explorations for oil in the coming years. According to the DOE, "Crude oil is a smelly, yellow-to-black liquid and is usually found in underground areas called reservoirs. Scientists and engineers explore a chosen

area by studying rock samples from the earth. Measurements are taken and if the site seems promising, drilling begins."

There have been reports of drilling near one of the most sacred sites of the Lakota and other Indian tribes at Bear Butte. So far there have only been cursory protests from the Lakota.

"Drill baby drill" may be the mantra of both political parties as we draw closer to the 2012 presidential elections.

Department of the Interior Secretary Ken Salazar unveiled accountability measures to aid oil and gas development on public and Indian trust lands in North and South Dakota and in other states. He said, "Interior is committed to expanding safe and responsible oil and gas development on public and Indian trust lands."

Those Native Americans with long memories will recall the debacle brought to the Indians of Oklahoma when oil was king in that state. There is sure to be a battle between the traditionalists and the progressives when it comes to

drilling for oil and natural gas on Indian reservation lands because there are still those Native Americans who value Mother Earth more than the almighty dollar.

A final warning from Chairman Hall, "If the federal government truly wants to see oil and gas development within the boundaries of the Unites States, it has to take responsibility for the damage that this type of production causes to its own federal roads and small communities like Mandan/Hidatsa/Arikara."

Greed is a mighty motivator so Indian nations with oil beneath the surface of their lands: Beware, because "drill baby drill" is coming your way.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1990. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology.net

# A solid record of achievements for Indian Country



KIMBERLY TEEHEE

Some people may be surprised to learn that this blog is my last from the White House. Earlier this year, I decided to move on to new endeavors, but I am heartened that I leave my position in good hands as my successor will continue to fulfill President Obama's commitment to address the many important issues facing Indian Country.

Words cannot fully capture the joy and privilege of working for President Obama and his administration as the first Senior Policy Advisor for Native American Affairs in the White House Domestic Policy Council. There are actually several firsts in this administration. Hilary Tompkins (Navajo Nation) is the first Native American solicitor of the Department of the Interior. Brad Carson (Cherokee Nation) is the first Native American general counsel of the Department of Army. Dr. Yvette Roubideaux (Rosebud Sioux Tribe) is the first woman director of the Indian Health Service. Tracie Stevens (Tulalip Tribes) is the first chairwoman of the National Indian Gaming President Commission. Obama's commitment to addressing the many issues facing Indian Country put in

motion a widespread standard of action that is reflected in his administration's record of Native American accomplishments, and these appointments ensuring greater representation of Native Americans in his administration provide just one example. I've had the great honor of working with every Cabinet agency to develop and implement our policy initiatives and legislative proposals. And working together, we have achieved much, though we know more remains to be

Having held this position since 2009, I will cherish my memories pertaining to the three White House Tribal Nations Conferences, the administration's consultation with Indian Country on education, health, economic growth and public safety

policies, and its support for legislation that promotes tribal self-determination. In my time here I was also able to witness the resolution of several significant and longstanding disputes that had for too long clouded the shared history of the United States and Indian tribes. And I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work towards the administration's support of proposed legislation that will bring justice to Native American victims of domestic violence. I was pleased to witness the Senate passage of the bipartisan Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, which included tribal-jurisdiction provisions supported by the administration. These are important items indeed and are examples of the Obama administration's efforts to strengthen the relationship

with tribal governments. However, my most precious moments involve the policy discussions between my dedicated and talented colleagues and wise tribal leaders. Through these important interactions improved emerged an relationship and better policies.

President Obama's deep and abiding belief that tribal leaders should and must have a voice in the development of a policy agenda for Indian Country is truly extraordinary. Since my first day of service in the White House, I have been a part of a team much larger than the constituency I serve. This White House honors and respects its relationship with Indian tribes and includes Indian Country in its broader policy initiatives. administration is informed

about Indian Country's needs and because of that, we can make informed decisions. I am excited for the future of Indian Country. I could not feel more blessed than I do right now knowing that I played a small part in improving the lives of Native Americans.

I look forward to my life post service spending more time with my family. I hope our paths cross again. As we say in Cherokee, wa-do, doda-da-go-hv-i. Thank you. Until we meet again.

Kimberly Teehee is a former senior policy advisor for Native American Affairs in the White House Domestic Policy Council and a Cherokee Nation citizen.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

# Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim
Plumbing • Electrical • Solar Panels
Windmills • Winterizing
Quality Work • Free Estimates

Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties –

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

# SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

# CLASSIFIEDS









#### GWY9 D8P HEROKEE $\mathbf{N}$ ATION $^\circ$

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

#6217 RPT Cook I (Family Assistance), Nowata - Close 5/07/12 #5868 RFT Inpatient Registered Nurse (Hastings Hospital), Tahlequah - Close 5/08/12

#4713 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (Hastings Hospital), Tahlequah - Close 5/08/12 #6184 RFT Para-Professional Case Aide (Indian Child Welfare), Catoosa - Close 5/10/12 Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

> **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, **MORE EVENTS** EVERY DAY. VISIT ONLINE AT



The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, located South of Stillwater, is accepting applications for the following positions in the Perkins, OK area:

> **HR Director Tribal PREP Educator Family Practice Physician** Realty Manager • Realty Specialist Surveillance Officer I **CHS Coordinator**

**Nurse Practitioner • Patient Registration** 

View job descriptions under Government/Human Resources/Job Postings at www.iowanation.org

Great Benefits! Health, Dental, Vision, Group Life, Flex, 401(k) with 6% match, sick, vacation, holidays, STD, LTD, Voluntary Life, Accident & Cancer plans.

Apply online at http://www.iowanation.org/hireme

**Equal Employment Opportunity Employer** Native American preference

Tule River Indian Tribe of CA

**Chief Financial Officer Tribal Administrator Education Director Public Works Director Assistant Controller Store Manager** 

Closing Date: Until Filled

Applicants must submit to a preemployment drug screen and background investigation.

Applications are available at 340 N. Reservation Rd, for more info contact Eilene, HR Recruiter at hrclerk@ tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

#### **OKLAHOMA INDIGENT DEFENSE SYSTEM INVESTIGATOR**

OIDS has an Investigator opening in the **Capital Post Conviction Division of its** Norman office.

Applicants should be highly motivated; well-organized; willing to travel; able to write clearly and concisely; trustworthy with confidential information and have excellent peopleskills. Experience in law enforcement, criminal investigation, and/or social work is preferred.

Send résumé and writing sample no later than May 14, 2012, to Angie L. Cole, AA-EEO Officer, OIDS, P.O. Box 926, Norman, OK 73070-0926 EOE

# **Okla. Native Caucus** supports Indian center

**OKLAHOMA** CITY -The 18-member House Native American Caucus has announced support of a planned American Indian Cultural Center along the banks of the Oklahoma River near downtown.

Rep. Seneca Scott, of Tulsa and a member of the caucus, said on April 26 that it's the first time in recent years that the caucus, which includes Republicans Democrats, unanimously endorsed a project.

The state agency overseeing the center said it has secured \$40 million in private funds to complete the project and is looking for an additional \$40 million from the state. However, some legislators have criticized the museum's estimated \$171 million costs and House Speaker Kris Steele said there is little support for a state bond issue to help fund its completion.

J. Blake Wade, executive director of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority, which is developing the cultural center, said the center's economic impact for the state is projected to be \$3.8 billion during the first 20 years. It is also projected that the center will provide \$150 million in

state tax revenues.

Tourism is the thirdindustry largest Oklahoma with a \$6.1 billion economic impact.

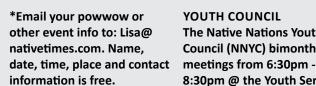
"We have learned through years of studies that Oklahoma's cultural tourism industry has great potential for economic development and job creation," Wade said. "Those studies revealed that in order to be successful in cultural tourism, we have to focus on two of the things that make Oklahoma unique: the prevailing presence of cowboy and Western heritage and American Indian cultures."

Wade added that the caucus' message to the Oklahoma Legislature is to work on capturing more of the tourist market and begin realizing the state's investment.

"It's more than just another tourist attraction. This will position Oklahoma as an epicenter for cultural tourism," he said. "European and Asian travelers are fascinated with Western heritage American Indian cultures. Now is the time to invest in the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum, Oklahoma's newest international attraction."

# NATIVETIMES.COM

# EVENTS



**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahleguah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead 580-530-9117 of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly

8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**MAY 12** 

**Pawnee Nation College** Graduation Exercises 10 a.m. in the Roam Chief Event **Center located at 810 Morris** Road in Pawnee, Okla.

**Boots and BBQ at Will** Rogers Downs, Claremore. **Competitors compete for** \$12,000 in cash prizes. Taster kits cost \$6. Proceeds will cherokeeartistsassociation.org go to the Claremore Reveille Rotary Club. For more information, visit www. claremorereveille.com.

> Stumbling Bear's **Descendants Powwow 2pm** -11pm, Red Buffalo Hall, Kiowa Complex, Carnegie, Okla. Call Jon for more info

**Gray Horse War Mothers Annual Soldier Dance at Gray** Horse Indian Village, east of Fairfax, Okla., turn east on Harrison off HWY 18. Supper at 5:30. Raffle tickets sold for 3 drawings. Info call Margie Burkhart 918-816-2014 or Mary Elsberry 918-396-3314.

**Okmulgee Indian** Community/Activies **Commitee Bingo and Food** Sale starting @ 6 PM at **Okmulgee Indian Community** Center. Info call Amber Burgess 918-752-8420 or amber.burgess@okstate.edu

**MAY 17 Pawnee Community** Gathering 6pm at Albin **Leading Fox Hall located** at 861 Little Dee Road in Pawnee, Okla. Info call PNC 918-762-3343.

**MAY 18** 

Walk MS Team Hope For **A Cure Silent Auction** fundraiser. A great night filled with tons of great services and products from local businesses. All auction proceeds will go toward the **National MS Society toward** finding a cure for MS. Silent auction at 6:00 PM at the **Ardmore Santa Fe Depot** located at 251 E. Main St Ardmore, OK.

**MAY 18 & 19 Indian Taco Sale 11am to** 4pm at Tulsa Indian UMC, 1901 N College. Info call 918-834-1956 or 918-798-2845.

**MAY 20** We Are The Aboriginal Pioneers rally at Okla. State Capitol, 1pm - 6pm. All Drum Groups, Singers, Stompers, Dancers, Speakers, Storytellers are invited as time permits. Contact spiritwomenrawk@yahoo.

com or 405-471-7610 for

more information.

**MAY 25** 

**Native American Student** Association at OSUIT/ CMN Indian Taco Sale, 11am-2pm at Okmulgee **Indian Community Center.** \$6 including drink and a dessert. Free delivery for orders of three or more otherwise a \$.50 delivery fee per taco. Accepting pre-orders. Contact rsourjohn21@ymail.com or (918) 304-7802

**MAY 26** 

The Sac and Fox Nation **Veteran's Organization** 6th annual Memorial Day Gourd Dance & Powwow. **Gourd Dancing Starts at** 2pm. Traditional Dinner for all participants from 5pm until 6pm. Grand Entry at 7pm. We put a flag on every deceased vets' grave in 10 tribal cemeteries.

**Art Class: Slate Rock Art** Paintings by Bill McCulley at Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th Okmulgee, Okla. Class is limited to 20 people. Reserve your spot call 918-756-2324 or csago71@ sbcglobal.net 10 a.m.-2 pm. Free.

**JUNE 1** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 2 **Tinker Intertribal Powwow in** Joe B. Barnes Regional Park in Midwest City, Okla. from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Interested vendors or participants should contact Corene Chakenatho at (405) 734-7366.

**JUNE 8** 

Chilocco Powwow in the **Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache **Fire Dance. Contact Garland** Kent, Sr at 580- 352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10 Red Earth Festival, Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

**JUNE 10-16 Jim Thorpe Native American** Games at Remington Park, **Oklahoma City. Proceeds** 

benefit the Jim Thorpe **Bright Path Youth Programs** and Awakening The Spirit **Diabetes Prevention and Control program. Contact** Annetta Abbott: 405-208-

www.jimthorpegames.com

IUNF 14 Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 4th **Annual Golf Tournament** kicking off Iowa Tribal Powwow - 8am at Cimarron Trails in Perkins, Okla. Registration begins at 7am. Info call Linda Andre 405-547-5352 Ext 23

**JUNE 16** 

The 17th Annual Oklahoma **Indian All-State Basketball** Games at the sports center on the Oklahoma Wesleyan University campus in Bartlesville. Games will start at 6:00 P.M. For more info: contact us 918-642-3162, paradox@valornet.com

**JUNE 23 Creek Council House Museum's Indian Art Festival** 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** 

**JUNE 28 - JULY 1 Pawnee Indian veterans** Powwow held at the Memorial Stadium. For more info call Toni Hill (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25

csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918-

756-2324

**JUNE 30** 47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729 HWY 9 West, Seminole, Okla. All descendants of **London Coker and wife** Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044. Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive,

**JULY 6** 

Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**AUGUST 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or

More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 7** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 15 Timothy LittleVoice Honor** Dance at WhiteEagle, OK. Gourd Dancing @ 2:00pm **Hosted by Ponca Gourd** dance society. Supper @ 5:30pm. War Dance Hosted by Osage clan. Info tlittlevoice@rocketmail.com

**OCTOBER 5** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

# BCBSOK weaves Okla. state history, Native culture into corporate culture

■ In the group, Native employees come together in a professional environment to share activities and discussion of identity within the company.

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - Today's continually changing corporate culture can sometimes seem worlds away from Native American culture, focused on the preservation of traditions and

tongues of distant ancestors. But as more Native Americans secure their place in a corporate atmosphere while maintaining their tribes' values, a meeting between the worlds was inevitable.

Companies like BlueCross BlueShield of Oklahoma are stepping forward to meet those changes and add to the company's sense of Native American identity for all employees and clients.

"This is the Oklahoma head quarters (of BCBSOK) so we really wanted it to have an Oklahoma personality, and that meant capturing elements from all the histories," said Mercedes Millberry, communications consultant for BCBSOK.

Throughout the building, pieces of the state's and region's past are exhibited in displays on par with those you might find in museums. There's the Route 66 display in the break room. There's also art reflecting Oklahoma's oil story on display throughout their downtown Tulsa headquarters located at 1400 S. Boston Avenue. In the ground floor lobby, where visitors wait to be met by a representative and employees must pass to enter the company credit union office, a multi-panel display joins the stories of three important aspects of Native culture: the Creek Nation Council Oak Tree in Tulsa, the Comanche code talkers of World War II and Oklahoma City's annual Red Earth Native American Festival.

Images surround the informational panels sharing a piece of history and the present with everyone who stops to view them.

The overall art planning for the headquarters building was coordinated by the company's facilities planning division, which worked with Art Dallas to acquire the art. But the planning had input by a

local renovation team.

"We wanted people to be able to walk into the building and get a sense of who Oklahoma is based on what they saw," Millberry said.

BCBSOK is a division of Health Care Service Company (which covers Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and Illinois) and an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. The company has operated in the state for 72 years, making it Oklahoma's oldest and largest private health care insurance provider. Today more than 600,000 residents are insured through the company. Across the state, BCBSOK employs about 1,000 people. Among that population are employees who identify themselves as part of an American Indian tribe. Other employees also claim to have some Native heritage in their background. For this reason, the Oklahoma office of the insurance conglomerate created a Native American resource group. It's but one of the employee resource groups across BCBS, but it is the first to be Oklahomabased and the first with a Native association.

In the group, Native employees together in a professional environment to share activities and discussion of identity within the company, said Haley **BCBSOK** Downing, also a communications consultant.

Bert Marshall, president of BCBSOK, is Cherokee and the executive sponsor of the group, Downing said. He has helped to drive initiatives expressing cultural identities.

One of those initiatives is an art contest recently held for employees, who submitted original pieces of art inspired by their heritage or something personal to them.

Danielle Ward, an outcomes reporting analyst for the company for five years, won with a portrait she drew in colored pencil of Sitting Bull,



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

BlueCross BlueShield of Oklahoma communications consultants Haley Downing, left, and Mercedes Millberry stand before the multi-panel display of native culture in the company's state headquarters building in Tulsa. The exhibit is part of an overall initiative to include Native American identity into corporate culture.

the Lakota Sioux chief who resisted the U.S. Indian removal policies and defeated troops at the Battle of Little Big Horn. Ward and her family began piecing together their history after discovering her late grandmother was adopted and a full-blood Creek.

To Ward, the image of Sitting Bull has always been a powerful and influential image in her life. Her portrait will be framed and displayed in the building for visitors to ponder along with the main display on the ground floor. She says she is beyond pleased of the display and her company.

"It says so much," Ward added. "I

mean, we have such a huge support group for Native Americans."

Why do Native employees or any other group of employees need to have the ear of their company? Happy workers, as the saying goes, are productive workers.

"I think anytime a workplace really is a true reflection of its employees, that comes across. Employees really feel included as part of the overall company, and know that 'It's not just a place I go every day from 8 to 5. It's a place that cares for me and my history," Millberry said.

Of course, it's also good for the clients and visitors.

"We are a local company and we want people to know that and remember we're not some faceless corporation coming in from out of state. These are your neighbors and we're working for your health and for ours." Millberry.

BCBSOK continues with such programs as the Care Van program, in which it partners with recognized tribal governments to send vans into communities to immunize children at no cost to patients, but it's also looking within the company to reach out to the Native American population.

# Immersion school incorporates gardening into lessons

■ Although there is no gardening curriculum, the garden provides cultural and educational experiences.

**JAMI CUSTER** Cherokee Phoenix

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - In years past, Cherokee Language Immersion School officials have wanted to create a garden to teach students how their Cherokee ancestors grew food. In April, that lesson began.

Cultural curriculum specialist Ryan Mackey, who is also a parent of an immersion school student, helped create a community garden on April 18 for students, parents and officials to tend.

He said he wanted students involved because elders believe younger generations should know "that the world was different when" they were young.

"And that these kids that we have today don't have the same understanding of the way that our elders grew up. And part of what it means to be Cherokee is to carry on those traditions that our elders did," Mackey said. "And one of the things that the elders thought was very important for the kids to understand, if possible, would be the concept of gardening and being able to provide your own food."

Cherokee Nation's Natural Resources department tilled the ground and provided heirloom seeds for planting, Mackey said.

"It's white eagle seed corn, and we're going

to do beans and pumpkins as the month goes by, but we're starting with corn," he said.

Mackey said he's trying to get the entire school involved with the garden's planting, maintenance and harvesting. He added that students are not old enough to hunt, but they can gather wild foods such as polk and wild onions as well as garden.

Although there is no gardening curriculum, Mackey said the garden provides cultural and educational experiences.

"I'm trying to work with the teachers and incorporate this into their lessons as well...and when I have time with the kids, I'm responsible for teaching them what I can, too," he said.



JAMI CUSTER | COURTESY CHEROKEE PHOENIX

Cultural curriculum specialist Ryan Mackey hands white eagle seed corn to students on April 18 at the Cherokee Language Immersion

Mackey said he would teach gardening until school lets out for summer on May 18. If children are not present during the summer, he would maintain the garden and by fall the students could help harvest.

School in Tahlequah, Okla. The seeds were planted in the school's community garden.

"So they'll hopefully be able to participate in all aspects of the growing cycle," he said. "I would like to use this as an experiment this year and see how it works out and take what I've learned this year and do something again next year.

"Hopefully, as long as I'm here at the school we'll have a garden, and if I move on and go somewhere else then someone else can do it," Mackey added. "I've been trying to gather information about different planting practices and how our ancestors used to do it, so that our kids can try to carry on those traditions."

Mackey said he would appreciate help from interested parents and that they call him at 918-207-8543.

"Yeah I would like for them to...I know that parents are busy and I don't want to ask too much of them, but if they have the interest and desire then I would love for them to be out here

Reprinted with permission of the Cherokee Phoenix, www.cherokeephoenix.org



JAMI CUSTER | COURTESY CHEROKEE PHOENIX

Emilee Chavez, left, plants white eagle seed corn on April 18 with cultural curriculum specialist Ryan Mackey at the Cherokee Language Immersion School in Tahlequah, Okla. The seeds were planted in the school's community garden.

# Comanche National Museum wins prestigious MUSE museum award

International Media Technology Standing Professional Committee of the American Association of Museums (AAM) has presented a 2012 MUSE Honorable Mention Award to the Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center (CNMCC) for its innovated video interactive exhibit, Buffalo Kill Using a Weapon. This esteemed, national award was presented to CNMCC this week at AAM's 2012 Annual Phyllis Meeting and Museum Expo in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Award Muse competition, now in its 23rd year, recognizes excellence in media produced for or by museums. This year's competition consisted of submissions from museums all over the world. With 14 different categories, the array projects demonstrated creativity and innovation using a variety of media platforms, including audio and video tours, games, interactive kiosks, interpretive and multimedia installations, podcasts, websites and video. museum media professionals integrating from around the globe. "This language,



CNMCC Wahahrockah-Tasi, **Executive Director** 

from around the world, such as Denmark's Copenhagen Museum, Taiwan's National Palace Museum and several metropolitan museums in the United States, including the Field Museum in Chicago and the Smithsonian in Washington DC, were also recognized," said CNMCC Executive Director, Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi. says a lot about our work. We are on par with some of the largest and finest museums in the world," Wahahrockah-Tasi said.

CNMCC developed A total of 47 winning projects Buffalo Kill Using a Weapon effects had to be authentic were chosen by a group of as a touchscreen interactive to our Comanche culture," history and is a major milestone for the culture. The video game effects include stampeding Comanche National Museum provides a unique experience buffalo hooves and "war

Comanche band through the winter. "Throughout the interactive, players are immersed in our tribal culture as they hear and see Max Tahahwah provided the language," Wahahrockah-Tasi explains. "We've also included historical references to educate players as to why the buffalo was so important to our people. We believe there isn't another interactive of this kind anywhere in the world." The game is currently on display in the CNMCC gallery. It's free to play and educational for both children and adults.

The game took nine months to develop, and it was not an easy task. CMNCC staff conceptualized the entire project before turning to Bean Creative, an interactive design and development firm based in Alexandria, Virginia, to take the game concept from idea to reality. "It was a bit of a challenge to reproduce historic images in a graphic and realistic format. Everything from the landscape visuals to the native language and sound Comanche Wahahrockah-Tasi said. The youth museums, as well as game's background sound and Cultural Center. Museums by simulating a Comanche cries," a unique sound of technology centers.

buffalo hunt. Players have five encouragement made by arrows to help sustain their Comanche warriors while they were in the midst of a hunt. Tribal members Anthony Monoessy, Glen Heminokeky, Charles Pocowatchit and the sound for this effect. "Their audio was recorded at KSWO's studio. The station employees thought they were under attack," Wahahrockah-Tasi said.

> CNMCC is no stranger to awards. The museum has won ten local, regional and state awards since it opened in 2007. "We are extremely honored each time we receive recognition for our work, but this award is truly humbling. Our museum, the one our Comanches dreamed about for well over 20 years, is now nationally renowned. That's something all our people can be proud of," Wahahrockah-

> The American Association of Museums represents more than 18,000 individual museum professionals and volunteers, almost 3,000 institutions, and 250 corporate members. Every type of museum is represented including art, history, science, military and maritime, and aquariums, zoos, botanical gardens, arboretums, historic and science sites,

# **Quapaw Tribe helping** Picher, Cardin cleanup

JERRY J. HERRMANN Miami News-Record

PICHER, Okla. (AP) -The Quapaw Tribe's pilot garbage collection program and Ottawa County's Reward Fund appear to be helping reduce the amount of garbage and trash dumped in the Picher and Cardin area.

James Luedecke, environmental engineer for the Quapaw Tribe, said the tribe's pilot garbage collection program is going great.

"We've had the dumpsters out for eight weeks. Allied Waste is collecting the garbage left in our dumpsters every week. I estimate we've collected 10 tons of illegal dumping so far," he said.

He said the pilot program is funded through Oct. 1 by an Environmental Protection Agency Clean Water Grant.

The Quapaw Tribe dumpsters are located at the old Cardin Post Office site, old Picher Fire Station and on South 592 Road, north of A Street. There are two 4-cubic-yard containers at each location.

The containers on South 592 Road are at a spot where there has been a lot of illegal dumping in the past. "Now, the garbage is going into our dumpsters instead of all over the road," he said.

Luedecke said the tribe and county crews are still cleaning up trash illegally dumped along roads to get a cleaner looking community.

Also, the tribe has barricaded off access to tribal lands in Picher, which has deprived illegal dumpers of many of their favorite sites, Luedecke said.

If the program continues to be as successful as it has been for the first two months, Luedecke said, they will look for other grants or funding sources to keep it going.

John Clarke, Ottawa County Board of Commission chairman, said with the Reward Fund the commission approved people know others are looking for illegal dumpers.

He said the illegal dumping problem increased as the Picher-Cardin area became less inhabited. "It became a prime target for dumpers," he said.

Clarke said the Quapaw Tribe has helped cut down on household garbage being dumped in the area. He would like to see the tribe's program expanded to include trash and other items.

Tires, old mattresses and household items are still being dumped in the area.

He said anyone seeing anyone illegally dumping any items in the Picher-Cardin area should contact the reward program to help alleviate the problem.

## Chickasaw Nation inducts 4 into Hall of Fame

■ More than 650 people were on-hand for the 2012 induction ceremonies of a Native American preservationist, an honorable state and tribal judge, a tribal peacemaker and historic governor into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame.

DANA LANCE Chickasaw Nation

NORMAN, Okla. - Oklahoma House of Representatives Speaker Designate T.W. Shannon, a Chickasaw, served as master of ceremonies for the May 3 banquet conducted at Riverwind Showcase Theatre in Norman, Okla.

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby took part in the induction of Towana Spivey, Charles Tate, Levi Colbert and Cyrus Harris. Mr. Colbert and Mr. Harris were inducted posthumously.

"Each inductee, past and present, is an inspiration to future generations of Chickasaws. It is our privilege to honor these individuals for their amazing accomplishment and significant contributions toward developing greater understanding and unity between the people of the Chickasaw Nation, other tribal nations and the United States," said Gov. Anoatubby.

"Their commitment to preserving peace, protecting sovereignty, safeguarding our heritage and history and serving others epitomizes the spirit and dedication of the Chickasaw people. They are an inspiration to all of us."

Bill Duckwork, a descendant of Levi Colbert, accepted on behalf of the early tribal leader known as Itawambe Miko (Bench Chief).

Mr. Duckworth said that Levi Colbert was a "patient, thoughtful and planning man" who met with the U.S. president and government officials regarding treaties and removal.

"It is indeed my honor to accept such a prestigious honor for a man who is so well deserving of this award. Thank you for all who gave a vote of confidence to elect this man to the Hall of Fame."

Born in 1759 east of the Tennessee River, Mr. Colbert was a prominent Chickasaw negotiator and bargained

shrewdly for as much compensation as possible for the Chickasaw homelands.

Throughout his life, Mr. Colbert strived to maintain peace with the U.S. government while also maintaining the integrity of the Chickasaw people and culture.

Mr. Duckworth expressed his gratitude to the Chickasaw Nation for establishing the Chickasaw Hall

"What a great thing that Gov. Anoatubby and the Chickasaw Nation have done to provide a place to honor these great men and women who have given a portion of their lives helping the Chickasaw people overcome horrendous hardships and obstacles. We should be thankful for men like Gov. Anoatubby for providing great leadership for the success of the Chickasaw people."

Mr. Colbert died June 2, 1834 at Buzzard Roost, Colbert County, Ala. at the age of 74.

Mrs. Janey Polk-Dutnell, greatgreat granddaughter of Cyrus Harris, accepted the honor on his behalf.

"My family always took great pride in Cyrus Harris being the first elected governor of the Chickasaw Nation. He left such a wonderful legacy of being an honorable and trustworthy governor."

The first elected governor of the Chickasaw Nation after the 1856 adoption of the Chickasaw constitution, Mr. Harris was subsequently elected Governor for five different two-year terms.

During his time as governor, Mr. Harris was a strong advocate for education and signed numerous pieces of legislation leading to the establishment and maintenance of boarding schools in the Nation.

"Even as a young man he always had shown an interest in the political affairs of his people. He had the desire make the Chickasaw a strong selfsufficient tribe," said Mrs. Dutnell.

Fluent in both Chickasaw and English, a young Mr. Harris served as an interpreter at councils conducted to arrange the Chickasaw's removal to the West.

He died in 1888 in Mill Creek, Indian Territory. He is buried in Drake Cemetery in Murray County,

After receiving a standing ovation, historian Towana Spivey, Madill, reminded the crowd to remember and learn from the past.

"Our past is always there, our past is broader and more in-depth than we



LARISSA COPELAND | COURTESY CHICKASAW NATION

Native American preservationist Towana Spivey, state and tribal judge Charles Tate, tribal peacemaker Levi Colbert and historic governor Cyrus Harris were inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame Thursday, May 3 by Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. Mr. Spivey and Charles Tate attended the ceremony while Levi Colbert and Cyrus Harris were inducted posthumously. Bill Duckworth accepted the honor on behalf of Levi Colert, while Janey Polk-Dutnell accepted on behalf of Cyrus Harris. Left to right are Gov. Anoatubby, Mr. Duckworth, Mr. Spivey, Mrs. Polk-Dutnell, Judge Tate and Chickasaw Nation Lt. Gov. Jefferson Keel. Photo by Mike McKee and Marcy Gray.

realize. We have only to seek it, look at it and think about it in ways we are not used to thinking about it."

Throughout his life and career,Mr. Spivey has been involved in preserving the history, language and culture of many Oklahoma tribes, including his own.

He said his pride in his Chickasaw heritage led him to his life-long mission of preserving tribal history.

"The Chickasaw people lost almost everything, but the Chickasaw spirit and tenacity was never conquered."

"I have always been proud of my Chickasaw ancestry; it has had a major impact on my life, from my earliest childhood until the present

Mr. Spivey served ascurator for the Chickasaw White House, Emet, working to restore the home and the preservation consultant for the 1855 Chickasaw Council House, Tishomingo. He has also conducted archaeological investigations at military posts and historic sites.

He served as director/curator of Fort Sill National Historic Landmark and Museum in Lawton, Okla. and as senior curator for the U.S. Army Museum System.

A foremost authority on frontier history, Mr. Spivey has served on numerous boards and has authored several books about the subject. He has been featured in many documentaries and worked as a historical consultant to movie productions, such as "Windtalkers" and "Dances with Wolves".

Mr. Spivey is a graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He earned his Master's degree from the University of Oklahoma in Anthropology/ Archeology and Museum Studies.

He was born in Madill, Okla., and still lives on the original 140acre Chickasaw allotment of his grandparents.

He said he was honored to be inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of

"To say I am greatly honored seems like understatement."

Hall of Fame inductee Charles Tate, Ardmore, reminded the crowd of the importance of family, something his late mother Juanita Keel-Tate, also stressed when she was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2008.

"Family is the core, it is the thing that is central, we should hold on to

A life-long protector of Native American rights and a prominent defender of Indian law, Tate said he was grateful to be inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame.

"I accept this award based on the fact it implies I am worthy and I will cherish it from now until the day I

He reflected on the past 100 years and how the Chickasaw Nation had thrived.

In the early 1970s, Mr. Tate, began

his service to tribal nations soon after he earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Oklahoma. He worked for the Legal Aid Society and the All Indian Pueblo Council. He later worked as a staff attorney for Oklahomans in Indian Opportunity, a nonprofit organization.

He joined his father, Ernest, in a law partnership in Ardmore in 1974.

Mr. Tate was elected as a tribal judge for the Chickasaw Nation and contracted with the Chickasaw Legislature to provide legal counsel.

Mr. Tate also served on the Court of Indian Offenses and in various positions in the tribal court for several Oklahoma tribes. He was appointed as a visiting judge to cases in the Winnebago Tribe in Nebraska and in 2011, he was appointed as Supreme Court Justice for the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma.

He was appointed in 1995 as Special District Judge for Carter County, Okla., and served in that position until his 2009.

Mr. Tate now works with the Chickasaw Nation to locate, identify and retrieve historical materials that will be archived at the Holisso Research Center, at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur.

Born February 9, 1940 in Ardmore, Okla., Mr. Tate is a descendant of Edmund Pickens, first elected Chickasaw chief in Indian Territory, and Cyrus Harris.

### **Inside this issue:**

- Seminole chief seeks to build a modern tribe
- Ponca Princess turns state contender
- Howe earns Lifetime Achievement Award









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 20

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

MAY 18, 2012

## Nonfederally recognized tribes net millions in federal funds

ANDREW KNITTLE

The Oklahoman

OKLAHOMA CITY (MCT) -A study released last week by the Government Accountability Office reveals that nonfederally recognized Indian tribes netted more than \$103 million in federal funding over a four-year period, including one in Oklahoma.

The study was requested by U.S. Rep. Dan Boren, Oklahoma's lone congressional Democrat and ranking member of the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs.

Boren, of Muskogee, wasn't available to comment on why he requested the study, but the report issued by a Government Accountability Office analyst states that it was completed "to address ... the key means by which nonfederally recognized tribes have been eligible for federal funding and the amount of federal funding awarded to nonfederally recognized tribes for fiscal years 2007 through 2010."

One of the tribes in question hails from Oklahoma, which like

most other states doesn't officially recognize Indian tribes.

Sapulpa-based Euchee (Yuchi) Tribe of Indians, which is an incorporated nonprofit, received about \$775,000 in federal funding during the study period. A search of USASpending.gov shows the Euchees have received an additional \$1 million in federal funding since 2000, all of it from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

That total was not included in the report's findings, which was limited to a four-year period.

To put that in perspective, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma has received more than \$1.1 billion since 2000, and that's just in Oklahoma.

According to the study's findings, most of the \$103,588,000 in question went to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The tribe, which is officially recognized by the state of North Carolina and claims a membership of more than 50,000, received

**See FUNDS** *Continued on Page 4* 



U.S. Rep. Dan Boren



The Choctaw Nation Color Guard leads the way over the hills of Tushka Homma during the last commemorative walk held at the

### **Choctaw Nation holds 20th annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Walk**

LISA REED Choctaw Nation

DURANT, Okla. - This year marks the 20th annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Walk for the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. The tribe has honored its ancestors at several sites where they crossed into Indian Territory.

"I remember the first walk we held began in Horatio, Ark., and ended at Gardner Mansion near Broken Bow," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "Since that first 22-mile walk in 1992, we have alternated sites in our 10 ½ counties where Choctaws initially began communities. It's a humbling experience knowing the Choctaws were the first to be removed from their homeland, the first to walk the Trail of Tears."

Walks have been held at Eagletown and on the grounds of Wheelock Academy in

McCurtain County, Skullyville in northern LeFlore County, and Tushka Homma in Pushmataha County.

The Capitol grounds at Tushka Homma are the site of this year's event to be held May 19. The walk begins at 10 a.m. Participants will need to come early so they can leave their vehicles parked on the grounds and catch a shuttle bus to the beginning of the walk. A small ceremony opens the walk as everyone is welcomed to the gathering and hundreds fall into place behind the Color Guard.

There is a range of emotions radiating through the long line of people. Many faces reflect solemn, serious thoughts as they remember what the Choctaws endured as they left Mississippi for an unknown area, traveling through bitter winter conditions

**See WALK** Continued on Page 3

### Tribe's accounts to remain frozen

**OKLAHOMA** CITY (AP) - Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes officials are disappointed with a federal judge's decision to keep the tribe's accounts at an Oklahoma bank frozen until an internal leadership dispute is resolved, a spokeswoman said.

The tribe had asked U.S. District Judge David Russell to lift the freeze on about \$6.4 million by Clintonbased First Bank and Trust Co., but Russell allowed the freeze to remain in place. He cited the ongoing dispute between the tribe's governor, Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell, and its one-time lieutenant governor, Leslie Wandrie-Harjo, over who is the tribe's leader.

A hearing on the leadership

and banking issues is set for June 8 in Custer County District Court, where the bank filed for the administrative freeze.

Boswell's spokeswoman LisaLiebltoldTheOklahoman that the workweek for about 500 tribal employees has been reduced to 32 hours because of the frozen funds, and checks written by the tribe to workers, contractors and vendors have been returned because of insufficient funds.

"Now, we'll just wait for our court date on June 8. ... That's all we can do at this point," she said. "We're still locked out of those accounts, those frozen funds, so we have no idea what's happening with all of that."

The judge's order, issued May 9, noted that depending

on which side wins the governance dispute, "the bank faces potential liability for the payment of money at the request of an unauthorized signatory. ... In light of the ongoing governance issues, about which Plaintiffs have presented no evidence, the Court cannot conclude that Plaintiffs will ultimately prevail in their quest to have the administrative freeze lifted."

Scott Meacham, represents the bank, has said bank officials initially asked the courts to freeze the accounts because of uncertainty authorized signatory. Meacham was out of the office at press time and didn't immediately return a request for comment.

## **Tribal leader opposes** proposed fracking rule

■ The rule was amended to require the fracking chemical disclosure after completion of a well rather than before, in response to industry concerns.

TOWN, (AP) - A former president of the National Congress of American Indians says his tribe opposes proposed federal rules to require companies drilling for oil and gas on public and Indian lands to disclose chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing.

Three Affiliated Tribes Chairman Tex Hall stated his position May 8 during an energy expo on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, which lies in western North Dakota's booming patch. Hall believes federal red tape and redundant regulations threaten to slow oil development on the reservation, The Forum newspaper reported last week.

The process commonly known as fracking uses

pressurized fluid chemicals to break open oilbearingrock. It is controversial because some people fear it will harm the environment. The Obama administration on Friday issued its proposal for disclosure on public and Indian lands. The proposed rules also set standards for proper construction of wells

Tex Hall

and wastewater disposal. Secretary Salazar said the rules will allow continued expansion of drilling while protecting

public health and safety. Hall said he is not opposed to disclosure of fracking chemicals but feels the proposed federal rules go too

"We shouldn't be held up by federal obstacles or federal red tape," he said. "These rules are severely impacting the bigger economy at Fort Berthold."

Terry Kovacevich, an asset manager for Marathon Oil in Dickinson, echoed Hall's comments, saying the proposed federal fracking rules duplicate what the state already has in place and will slow oil production.

"All of this will drive development away from the reservation," Kovacevich said.

Rick Hotaling, acting North Dakota field manager for the federal Bureau of Land Management, said the rule was amended to require the fracking chemical disclosure after completion of a well rather than before, in response to industry concerns.

The proposed rules are subject to a 60-day public comment period. A final order is expected by the end of the year.

## **Southwind Energy completes** renewable Energy Project

**Businesses** interested in lowering energy costs, reducing their carbon footprint and pollution find hybrid lighting products as a viable economical option.

PONCA CITY, Okla. -In the first joint project of its kind in north central Oklahoma, Southwind Energy, an enterprise of the Kaw Nation partnered with Pioneer Technology Center, and Ponca City Energy to assemble and install a wind and solar lighting unit in Ponca City.

Career tech students and instructors received hands experience assembling and wiring the turbine and solar panels. Students were enthusiastic about the experience of participating in a green energy project.

City Energy supervisors and crews assisted with technical and foundation advice, raising and setting the hybrid unit.

Southwind Energy spokesperson Ken Luttrell said "the Kaw Enterprise Development Authority has been excited to work with these students from career tech and with Ponca City Energy to bring innovative alternative energy technology to the area. The Kaw Nation, known as The Wind People has a long heritage and relationship with the south wind and a commitment to renewable green energy.

Southwind Energy is a distributor and installer of wind and solar hybrid lighting. Cost effective and easy to install the devices provide strong, bright lighting for large parking lots such as shopping, medical and corporate centers. Streets, sidewalks, bike paths, security, farm and ranch lighting are all perfectly suited



Southwind Energy, an enterprise of the Kaw Nation, is a distributor and installer of wind

for their application.

and solar hybrid lighting.

Businesses interested in lowering energy costs, reducing their carbon footprint and pollution find hybrid lighting products as a viable economical option.

Designed to operate with no line voltage, trenching or metering the units offer significant benefits traditional grid based electrical lighting reducing pollution, power consumption and carbon dioxide emissions. The LED lighting should last 100,000 hours compared to conventionallights 10,000 hour life with substantial energy savings. Turbines and solar panels have a life expectancy of 20-25 years with virtually no maintenance. There is a substantial cost savings over five years compared to usual systems..

Southwind's upcoming projects include career tech involvement in a vertical axis wind turbine generator assembly and the installation

of a lighting unit at the Kaw Nation tribal complex in Kaw City illuminating the Warrior and Horse statue.

David Myers, Ponca City Development Executive wrote about the project in his weekly update. "Our friends at the Kaw Enterprise Development Authority have themselves a wind and solar dual energy generator for their newest public lighting project. The Sepstar Hybrid system is a customized stand alone, selfsufficient clean energy power source that can generate electricity through both solar and wind resources and store it off the utility grid in high performance batteries." "The unit installed by KEDA uses a 400 watt wind turbine and two 75 watt solar panels to power the lighting and store the excess energy. The light created by the high efficiency low voltage LED unit is impressive. Congratulations on their sustainability efforts."

## **Former Pawnee program director** faces embezzlement charges

**DAVID HARPER** Tulsa World

PAWNEE, Okla. (MCT)-A former Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma tribal program coordinator was arrested and arraigned May 10 on federal charges of embezzling tribal

Frances L. Roughface, 47, of Pawnee was indicted in Tulsa federal court on charges alleging the embezzlement and theft of more than \$33,000 from various tribal programs from October 2005 through December 2009.

Roughface was employed as the Pawnee Nation's Indian Child Welfare and Child Care Center coordinator during that time, the indictment says.

A grand jury alleges that she embezzled Center funds by reporting that she was collecting and depositing the money into a tribal bank account while she was actually putting the funds in a personal account.

Roughface is accused of leading the tribe to

believe that she spent at least \$7,220 of tribal funds on Walmart gift cards for the benefit of families and children in crisis situations when she allegedly used the cards to purchase beer, iPods, cosmetics, clothing and other items for herself.

The charges are the product of an investigation by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of the Inspector General.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Trent Shores said Roughface was arrested Thursday in the Pawnee area and was brought to Tulsa for her arraignment. She was released on bond.

Both Shores and Charles Lone Chief, vicepresident of the Pawnee Nation Business Council, said the tribe has improved its financial oversight procedures.

A press release from the U.S. Attorney's more than \$26,000 of the tribe's Child Care Office says Roughface could be sentenced to as much as 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000. However, Shores said that under sentencing guidelines that appear to apply, she would probably face about two years in prison if convicted.

## Collective effort brings back bones to California tribe

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. - More than a century after they were stolen from the San Luis Obispo area by a grave robber, a collection of Native American bones was reburied May 11 in their homeland.

The Salinan Tribe of Monterey and San Luis Obispo counties said repatriating seven Native American skulls and several jawbones from a museum in England and reinterring them at an undisclosed Central Coast location was an unprecedented move.

"This process has never been accomplished by any tribe, let alone a non-federally recognized tribe," said tribe spokesman Chris Molina. "Because of all the laws and procedures necessary, this became a government-to-government exchange between the Salinans and the UK, necessitating sensitive and timely treatment."

The details of the bones' odyssey are sketchy. They were scavenged from the San Luis Obispo area in the late 1800s by a man named R.W. Summers who sold them, Molina said.

Eventually, they wound up at the University of Birmingham in England, where they were on display at a medical museum. A year ago, the tribe got word that the bones were available for repatriation.

In cooperation with June Jones of Birmingham University, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, federal customs officials and the Chumash Tribe, the Salinans were able to get permission to bring the remains to the United States.

On Wednesday, the Salinans received the bones from Jones at Los Angeles International Airport. They were brought to San Luis Obispo, where an anthropologist at the county Sheriff-Coroner's Office positively identified them as Native American, Molina

Chumash or Salinan, the two tribes that lived in what is now San Luis Obispo County. A DNA test could determine this, but the tribe did not want to go to the expense, Molina

It is unknown whether the remains are

The remains were returned to their native soil Friday in a solemn ceremony. The Salinans hope that other tribes will be able to use their experience as an example of how stolen remains can be returned.

"The process brought the Salinans back full circle as the only interested tribe willing to maneuver through all the red tape within the federal, state and local governments necessary to have human remains shipped back to the United States," Molina said.



## Judge blocks transfer of Yellowstone bison

**MATTHEW BROWN** Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) - A Montana judge on Wednesday halted further transfers of Yellowstone National Park bison, dealing a significant blow to a governmentconservation sponsored effort struggling to overcome livestock industry opposition.

The order from Judge John McKeon in Blaine County has the immediate effect of blocking the pending move of several dozen Yellowstone bison to the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. McKeon said the animals must remain on the Fort Peck Reservation, where about 60 bison were transferred in March by state and tribal officials.

More broadly, the order blocks state wildlife officials from arranging future transfers of Yellowstone bison while a lawsuit against the program from ranchers and property rights groups is

The relocations are part of an attempt to curb the periodic slaughter of bison leaving the park. But many ranchers fear the bison could spread disease and compete with cattle for grazing.

In his order for a preliminary injunction, McKeon said the potential injury to the plaintiffs in the case outweighed whatever damage the state might suffer if the bison program is put on hold.

Plaintiffs' attorney Cory Swanson said the ruling protects his clients from possible losses to their livestock operations caused by bison.

"We're happy about it and feel it protects our clients from what we felt sure were future conflicts we weren't going to be compensated for. This eliminates that danger until we can get the whole case decided," Swanson said. The plaintiffs previously dropped a request that the bison at Fort Peck be returned to the park.

Mark Azure with the Fort Belknap Fish and Wildlife Department said tribal officials still hoped to get Yellowstone bison onto their reservation but were not going to make any move until further consultation with attorneys.

The Belknap Fort Reservation is located in north-central Montana and is home to the Assiniboine and Gros Ventre Indians. Although the tribes were not named as defendants in the case, Azure said he did not want to risk compromising the state's long-term goal of moving bison onto more public and tribal lands.

"From the get-go, it's really never been about just Fort Belknap and Fort Peck," he said. "This is another bump in the road, but I wouldn't say it's the end. I don't know that we're going to stop just because of this."

Sarah Elliot, aspokeswoman for Gov. Brian Schweitzer, said in a statement that the administration disagreed with the judge's characterization of bison as a large predator, a term defined in Montana law as bears, mountain lions and wolves.

Bison once numbered in the millions on the Great Plains and played a central role in American Indian life, providing meat for food, and pelts for clothing and shelter. The animals also feature prominently in many Native American religious ceremonies.

Tim Preso, a Bozeman lawyer who intervened in the case on behalf of environmentalists, said his clients were considering an appeal to the Montana Supreme Court to get the injunction lifted.

The March 19 shipment of bison to Fort Peck came without prior public notice and during a snowstorm - a maneuver by the Schweitzer administration and tribes that was meant to get the bison to Fort Peck ahead of a possible court injunction.

## Retired professor accused of defrauding tribe

RICHARD WINTON

LOS ANGELES (MCT) An attorney for the Twentynine Palms Band of Mission Indians and a retired Claremont McKenna College professor are among four people who have been indicted on federal bribery and money laundering charges, the U.S. attorney's office said May 10.

Prosecutors allege that

IRS investigation.

Those named are Gary Edward Kovall, 66, a Minnesota-based attorney who acted as legal counsel for the tribe; David Alan Heslop, 74, of Templeton, Calif.; Paul Phillip Bardos, 57, of Rancho Cucamonga,

and suffering hunger and

Some are on their first

memorial walk, often pushed

in strollers by their parents.

Several others begin the trek

with the aid of a cane or

walker, determined to get as

far as they can because they

a general contractor; and Peggy Anne Shambaugh, 56, of Ely, Minnesota, who is Kovall's wife.

According to indictment, Kovall advised the tribe to create a limited liability company purchase real estate, and then convinced them to hire Heslop as the company's manager.

Heslop is the former director of the Rose Institute and was a Claremont McKenna professor, according Asst. U.S. Atty. Joseph N. Akrotirianakis. Heslop was appointed in the 1980s to the National Council on Education Research by President Reagan.

Kovall and Heslop recommended that the tribe hire Bardos to act as the tribe's "owner's representative" in

After he was hired by the

The indictment alleges that in 2007 Bardos paid Heslop more than \$186,577, most of which was then funneled to Shambaugh.

"The United States attorney's office is committed to the prosecution of corruption and fraud in all of their guises," said U.S. Atty. Andre Birotte Jr. "This demonstrates that case our commitment extends vigorously pursuing cases against unscrupulous individuals who abuse their positions to take advantage of Native American tribes."

The indictment charges all four defendants with conspiracy. Kovall, Bardos and Shambaugh are also charged with multiple counts of bribery and money laundering.

If convicted of all charges, Kovall faces up to 75 years in federal prison and a \$2-million fine; Heslop faces 225 years in federal prison and a \$5.75-million fine; Bardos faces 155 years in federal prison and a \$4-million fine; and Shambaugh faces 105 years in federal prison and a fine of \$2.75-million.



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

### Native TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

### **NATIVE AMERICAN**

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

TIMES

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN

KAREN SHADE Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON

LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.con Distribution

SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country







Los Angeles Times

the defendants deprived the tribe of honest leadership and took advantage of their positions of trust by lining their own pockets with the tribe's money, including government funding designated for necessary services.

The 48-count indictment, handed down Wednesday, is the result of a joint FBI and

Continued from Page 1

sickness.

several construction projects at the Spotlight 29 Casino, according to the indictment.

tribe, he paid kickbacks to Heslop who, in turn, paid kickbacks to Kovall, prosecutors allege.

want to show their respect and gratitude.

All who have given their Saturday for this special event will also be able to enjoy singing by the Johnsons gospel group and cultural displays and activities such as basketweaving, pottery and stickball.

"We honor our ancestors' perseverance by coming together each year to walk in unity," said Assistant Chief Gary Batton. "We also celebrate the success of our tribe since 1831."

The first Choctaws to live in what is now Oklahoma built homes, schools, churches, businesses and continued to grow as a nation. With 200,000 citizens, the Choctaw Nation is the third largest tribe in the United States.



### AICCOK OKC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Help a deserving Native American student reach for their dreams.

### OVERVIEW

The OKC Chapter has historically provided scholarships for many years. Typically one acholarship is awarded to the top male and female entrants, as decided by the OKC Chapter Board of Directors. In 2012, we plan to notify the recipient student(s) by May 10 to allow them to list their scholarship in their graduation materials. We will present the actual scholarship award at the August luncheon.

### **SPONSORSHIPS**

There are 2 ways that your organization can help:

- 1. Sponsor a branded, stand-alone scholarship. (Minimum award \$250). Special emphasis can be requested (e.g. math or science, healthcare, etc).
- 2. Contribute to the AICCOK-OKC Chapter General Scholarship Fund.

### CONTACTS

To sponsor a scholarship, contact: James Lambertus, OKC Chapter Chair, aiccokc@earthlink.net, 405-650-5996 or Fran Smith, Treasurer, fran.smith@bank2online.com 405-946-2265.

To make a contribution to the Fund online, please click: http://tiny.cc/aiccokc\_scholarshipfund

### **Metal Roofing & Siding** Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

## Comanche Election Board announces polling details

LAWTON, Okla. – The Comanche Nation Election Board announces the official candidates and voter information for the Comanche Nation 2012 election season.

The Nation's primary election will be Saturday, May 26, 2012. All eligible Comanche Nation voters will receive an official ballot in the mail. The ballot provides the opportunity for Comanche citizens to vote for candidates in the following positions: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Committeeman No. 1 and Committeeman No. 2. (Official nominees are listed below). The ballot also provides the opportunity to vote on each Comanche Nation budget line item.

In addition to receiving an official ballot in the mail, eligible Comanche Nation voters will be able to vote at a polling site from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on May 26, 2012 in the following

districts: Anadarko, Apache, Cache, Lawton, Oklahoma City, and Walters. Specific locations are listed below.

Eligible Comanche Nation voters can also vote during early absentee (in-person) voting, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, May 25, 2012 at the Comanche Nation headquarters in the new conference room.

All eligible Comanche Nation voters must present their driver's license or tribal I.D. when voting in person. Voters who choose to submit their ballot via the U.S. Postal Service must remember to sign the affidavit on the back of the mailing envelope, affix the correct amount of postage, and have it received by the Lawton Post Office by noon, May 26, 2012. Voters cannot vote both in-person and absentee.

Another general council meeting will be called at a later date in order to take nominations for the remaining

vacancies in the Comanche Business Committee and Election Board.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Comanche Nation Election Board at (580) 492-3274.

Listed below are the official candidates for the 2012 primary election ballot. (Note: previous lists published in some outlets have been incorrect)

<u>Chairman</u>

1) Wallace Coffey

2) William Nelson, Sr.

3) Eleanor McDaniel

4) David Yeagley5) Calvin Kosechata

6) Jacquetta McClung

Vice-Chairman

1) William Owens

2) James Nelson

3) Mack Mike Mahsetky Jr.

Committeeman No. 1

1) Charles Ikner

2) Charles Wells3) Anita Daukai

Committeeman No. 2 1) Dan Bigbee, Jr.

2) Vernon Tehauno, Jr.3) Sonya Nevaquaya

Listed below are the official polling locations for the 2012 primary election:

<u>Anadarko</u>

Bureau of Indian Affairs Agency courtroom located at Hwy 281 N. Parker and McKenzie Road, Anadarko.

<u>Apache</u>

Comanche Community Center located at Julia Mahseet Road and Hwy 281, Apache.

<u>Cache</u>

Cahoma Building located at 752 NW Quanah Road, Cache (pending confirmation).

**Lawton** 

Comanche Nation Headquarters, new conference room, located at 584 NW Bingo Road, Lawton.

Oklahoma City

Comanche Nation Outreach Office located at 7390 S. Walker, Suite G, Oklahoma City.

<u>Walters</u>

Comanche Community Center located at 905 E. Missouri Street, Walters.

## Eastern Shawnee plan hotel, casino opening

The casino includes a smoke filtering system, a gigantic TV wall, a specially designed bar with chandeliers, and a 36 stall RV park.

MELINDA STOTTS Miami News-Record

MIAMI, Okla. (AP) – The Eastern Shawnee Tribe's vision for the members of their tribe and their community now stands solidly on the top of a hill that is rich in tribal connection. The tribe's goal was to create a destination to enjoy gaming, good food, and relaxation amongst the beautiful natural setting and that goal is now almost completed.

A VIP media event and tour was held Thursday at the new Eastern Shawnee Tribe's approximately 375,000 square feet casino and hotel located on Highway 60 which is now under the completion stages by Red Stone Construction Services.

"We're ready to get it up and get it open," Eastern Shawnee's First Council Member Larry Kropp said.

"The Eastern Shawnees have been extremely fortunate in the opportunity they've had at the old casino. It's actually located within the flood plain and we could not build onto it anymore than what we have, so, we 're looking forward to getting up out of the flood plain and operating the business up here," he said.

According to Kropp a soft opening is scheduled for

September 5th and the casino should be open to the public by October of this year.

When asked about the possibilities for the use of the old Bordertown Casino, "We're looking for a viable business to move into it. We're open for all possibilities, and we're going to incorporate part of it for office space," Kropp said.

The Eastern Shawnee Tribe has big plans for the new casino and the 170 acres of surrounding tribal land."This will be a plus for the tribal members and sustain them for the next twenty to forty years. We designed this in three phases. If everything goes well on this, we're looking at putting a truck plaza out on the road, adding a second hotel tower with more meeting rooms, and potentially a nine hole golf course,"Kropp said.

"It's a beautiful facility. I think we're going to be very pleased at the end of the day. We spent so much in landscaping to make it beautiful. We hope to make it an investment, long term, "Jerry West the new casino's general manager said.

"We have a couple of things that will be unique to this area. It's something new, and the cultural aspects that will tie in ,I think it will be really nice," West said.

West praised and thanked Red Stone's work and professionalism on the project. "This project has been on pace, on task and everyone can see from the outside in just how beautiful it is and there is a lot of the pieces that don't go noticed," he said.

As the opening date nears West said, "I've been waiting

for a long time. Sometimes it feels like it's never going to get here and other days it feels like it's breathing down my neck."

Red Stone Construction Services continues to work toward its completion doing the finer finish and detailing to make the casino a spectacular experience for its patrons."I think it's important to understand that the Eastern Shawnee Tribe stressed to Red Stone, being a Tulsa based company, that they wanted local participation of neighboring communities. They were adamant about that and the use of Native labor was also stressed. They wanted to employ their tribal citizens and we were able to do that and some local contractors," Chris Samples president of Red Stone stressed.

"I keep hearing Red Stone stressed, and that's fine, but the Eastern Shawnee Tribe worked hard....They did a great job," he said.

Samples said it took hours of meetings and planning to make the project successful. The Eastern Shawnees's Business Committee and Red Stone staff were introduced and thanked for their cooperative efforts. "This was Red Stone's first large project and we've been very successful to this point. We're here today to promote the economy for the nearest states, our tribal community of the Eastern Shawnees and this project should be wonderful for the local community," Samples said.

Lance Gopffarth, Red Stone's vice president, cited some interesting facts regarding the construction of the casino/hotel project. According to Gopffarth, Red Stone excavated 65,500 cubic yards of hard rock on the site which was mostly crushed and used as base rock under the building and paving. Twenty feet was cut from the hill top the casino/ hotel sits on.

There was enough rebar used to reinforce the concrete that if laid end to end would stretch more than 20 miles. The three diesel generators dedicated to the casino can power approximately 100 homes and there are 100 miles of low voltage wiring and 150 miles of high voltage wiring in the building. The landscaping used approximately 1,200 trees and 11,000 shrubs.

Economically the projects impact is that 90 percent of the workforce overall either lives in Oklahoma or Missouri with 150 to 250 employees working on the project on any given day.

"When this facility is up and running there is going to be another 300 to 350 people employed," Gopffarth said.

The media tour, minus cameras, inside the hotel and casino areas included the nearly completed bingo hall, casino and bar areas, office areas kitchen and employee break room. The casino includes a smoke filtering system, a gigantic TV wall, a specially designed bar with chandeliers, and a 36 stall RV park.

The media toured the behind the scenes working areas of the casino including the synthetic natural gas unit, water tanks, internet technology and security rooms. The casino floors are raised 18 inches and the wiring runs under it for more

flexibility and efficiency.

Tour guide, Red Sto

Tour guide, Red Stone's ead superintendent, Jason Dunnam said the casino and hotel are designed to allow the employees to conduct most functions behind the scenes and be kept separate from the hotel and casino floor for security and high quality service.

The tour of the 117 room hotel included a grand entryway with a 360 degree fireplace, glass balcony, seventh floor suites of luxurious rooms with spectacular views and a pool.

Architect for the project Charles "Chief" Boyd with Thalden, Boyd, Emery Architects designed the project. He said, "What excites me about this project is what it does for the Tribe. This is going to be huge for them and I'm not even sure they're fully aware of how much benefit it's going to be to the tribe."

"This kind of stuff is a hoot for architects," he said of working on the design of the casino/hotel, "and so it's a a lot of fun." Boyd said this casino/hotel project made for the 86th tribe he has worked for.

The design includes tribal colors and artifacts. "It's also a very, very, fun environment for the people who come and game here. But the tribal people will come and recognize this so they'll have ownership as their facility and then the gamers will enjoy it," he said.

"This will blow your mind, I'm not even a gamer, but I love doing these casinos and I love what it does for the tribe." Boyd said.

## FUNUS

Continued from Page 1

roughly \$78 million during the four-year span. A search of USASpending.gov reveals the Lumbees netted an additional \$100 million in federal funding since 2000. The report also shows the

Department of Health and Human Services funded two ineligible Indian tribes during the four-year span, although the amounts awarded in those cases totaled just \$244,000.

The Nanticoke Lenni-

The Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Indians of New Jersey and the Powhatan Renape Nation both received funds despite not being recognized by their home state.

The Department of Health and Human Services, which disbursed the funds to the two tribes, reported that the tribes' "state-recognized" status would have been traced back roughly 30 years, when the New Jersey Legislature passed concurrent resolutions recognizing the tribes.

Those resolutions, however, were not signed by the governor and aren't considered the letter of the law, the report shows.

"Agency officials told us they did not take any additional steps to verify that the entity was in fact state recognized," the GAO analyst wrote.

"They also said they have had regular contact with state officials about the awards, and those state officials never told them that the tribe was not state recognized."

Overall, the study found that almost all of the funds sent to nonfederally recognized tribes were disbursed appropriately, and any questionable findings were being dealt with by the agencies involved.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:				
Address:				
City:	State:	Zip:		
Phone:				
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues				
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issue	s 🖵 \$1.2	25 single copy		
Mail this form with a c	heck or mo	oney order to:		

Native American Times • P.O. Box 411

Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838



We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## COMMENTARY

## 'Beer sniffing' reporters invade Pine Ridge



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

The "beer sniffing" reporters from across the country, particularly those of the New York Times, descended upon South Dakota.

ABC Kristoff from the New York fence mending between Mrs. of Pine Ridge? Times and Arthur Sulzberger, Ziolkowski and I probably the New York Times Bureau went by the wayside with that the fact that "Nicolas Kristof Chief for Kansas City, and misquote." then Tony Newman, listed as for the Drug Policy Alliance.

he was staying. It was a pleasant I cautioned him about in our financially Indians in general.

He promised to send me did. a copy of his article when he

say, that is exactly what he

promise he never kept. He centerpiece of his story. then went on to misquote me. When Ms. Sawyer asked the I told him I had misgivings Pine Ridge police chief, Rich about the carving of Crazy Greenwald, about crime on Horse in the beginning, but the reservation, he replied that Ruth Ziolkowski, the that 80 percent of the people wife of the deceased sculptor, his officers arrested for traffic Korzak, had proven to be a violations or other crimes dedicated and determined were alcohol related. How inheritor of the project and did Ms. Sawyer report this she had done much to allay my comment? She said that 80 early misgivings. Sulzberger's percent of the people living the Pine Ridge Reservation in one line quote of our dinner on the Pine Ridge Reservation meeting, "Tim Giago, Lakota were alcoholics. Say what? First came Dianne Sawyer journalist said he had never Didn't she hear what he really Television met a Native American that said or was she seeking some immediately followed by a had anything good to say sort of sensationalism at the Tim Williams and Nicholas about the project." A lot of expense of the Lakota people

> Newman built his column on are painted a heartbreaking When Tim Williams of the picture" of the Pine Ridge

to evening and he picked my initial phone conversation was alcoholism, a community with brain for various and sundry not to make the beer selling an extension of Oglala Lakota the right place, but he didn't information about Pine Ridge, stores in Whiteclay, Neb., the College in each district, a Boys look far enough. Instead Crazy Horse Memorial and focus of his visit. Needless to and Girls Clubactively working of focusing on one school, against crime, alcoholism and Red Cloud Indian School, Like Ms. Sawyer, he made and also a community with have sought out the views got back to Kansas City, a his visit to Whiteclay the four high schools such as from tribal leaders like Tom Little Wound, Crazy Horse, Pine Ridge High School, and Lakota College or A. Gay Red Cloud High School, that Kingman, Executive Director are working long and hard to of the Northern Plains Tribal stop the very problems caused by alcohol and poverty that "Chic" Big Crow, founder and the savvy reporters from New director of the York failed to seek out.

is not the answer to curing High School. alcoholism because it was tried nationally and only led to the birth and growth of changed its cultural stifling organized crime. It also did image to become a progressive not stop alcohol consumers school that is now so popular from drinking.

Poverty, joblessness and hopelessness running to get away. It is a probably the contributors consumption of alcohol on reservation, but the difference the Pine Ridge Reservation. is that it is an independent Director of Media Relations New York Times called me Reservation. Yes he did, but he Perhaps some of the reporters school while the others are prior to his sojourn to Pine madePineRidgeandWhiteclay invading Pine Ridge should run by the Bureau of Indian Sulzberger was out in South Ridge he asked if we could synonymous with alcoholism. make a trip to Gallup, New Education or other branches Reservation. He was the founder Dakota to do an article on the meet. I assured that we could. One is a community whose Mexicowheremany of the federal government. Crazy Horse Memorial situated He told me when he would be sole existence is selling problems exist. The people of in the Sacred Black Hills of the out here and gave me a phone beer and cheap wine to the Navajo Nation face many reporters from back East, and Native Sun News. He can Great Sioux Nation. He called number, but when I called residents of Pine Ridge and of the problems encountered I got a call from a Mr. be reached at UnitySoDak1@

combat a sedative to their problems.

Nick Kristof's heart was in the depravations of poverty, as Ms. Sawyer did, he could Shortbull, President of Oglala Chairmen's Association, or

SuAnne Big Crow Boys and Tony Newman was right Girls Club or Bryan Brewer, when he wrote that prohibition former principal of Pine Ridge

> Red Cloud Indian School is a prime example of a school that that Lakota youngsters are homelessness, running to get in instead of main school that can be an example the for all of the schools on the Ridge that cannot be ignored.

me and we had dinner at the it he never answered and so the other is a community with by the Lakota and oftentimes Washington of the Associated knology.net

restaurant in the hotel where we never met. The first thing active programs struggling resort to consuming alcohol as Press regarding the status of senatorial candidate Elizabeth Warren. It is too bad that the national media chose this revelation to poke fun at Native Americans. The Native American Journalists Association pointed out this childish display of word usage by the press in mocking Warren. I fully support Warren and if she is proud of her Cherokee heritage, so be it, but she has never used this blood quantum to move her career forward as so many others have, including Ward Churchill as he did at the University of Colorado.

> As I write this there is a reporter from the Huffington Post sniffing around Pine Ridge for a story on poverty. I hope and pray that his nose doesn't catch the whiff of beer and lead him across the border to Whiteclay. There are too many good stories on Pine

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and educated on the Pine Ridge Indian of The Lakota Times, Indian While on the topic of Country Today, Lakota Journal

## Has one-drop rule on race identification been overruled?

CLARENCE PAGE Chicago Tribune Writer

So what if Elizabeth Warren claims to be part Native American? She's entitled, according to historical Besides, documents. Americans never have been all that clear or consistent about what distinguishes one race from another.

Republican Sen. Scott Brown, of Massachusetts, is calling on his Democratic challenger Warren to clear the air over questions raised by the Boston Herald as to whether she used her ancient and diluted Indian heritage to give herself an unfair employment advantage.

At least she's not lying about her background. Historical records appear to confirm that she has Cherokee ancestors. But is her background Indian enough?

That question looms after

researcher Christopher Child at the New England Historic Genealogical Society turned up evidence of her Indian blood. A transcript of an 1894 marriage application shows Warren's great-great-greatgrandmother listed herself as Cherokee.

That would make Warren 1/32nd Native American, although it is possible that more recent Indian ancestors could be turned up in further research. Child also found that Warren's greatgrandfather, John Houston Crawford, lived in Native American territory but identified himself as white in the 1900 census.

However, Warren's family is not included in the official Dawes Commission rolls, a census of major tribes completed in the early 20th century that Cherokees use to determine tribal citizenship.

Such a tenuous tie to her

Indian past has led critics at the Boston Herald, which broke the story, to label her "Fauxcahontas," among other nicknames. Yet, I would ask, how much Indian blood do you need these days to claim Indian heritage?

In other words, whatever happened to the one-drop

That's the rule in America's past, you may recall, that declared anyone who had at least "one drop" of "black blood" to be black. The irony of this rule, invented by slave masters who wanted to have more slaves, is how it has been encouraged in modern times, particularly by black leaders who want to have more blacks in our ranks.

But like other rules of race, this one is not applied uniformly or consistently. George Zimmerman, the man accused of killing Trayvon Martin in Florida,

had an Afro-Peruvian greatgrandfather on his mother's side, according to his family. That would make him at least one-eighth black, which is a lot more than Warren is Indian. Yet Zimmerman was reported first as "white," then a "white Hispanic." If the old one-drop rule applies, he also could be called a white-Hispanic black.

If taken literally, that would make the killing of Martin, about whose blackness there is no confusion, a black-onblack crime -- which, sad to say, attracts a lot less national attention than similar violence that crosses racial lines.

Zimmerman is not likely to be seen as black by many people. But, like the Warren controversy, he illustrates how quickly our old racial narratives are failing to keep up with changing times.

The Herald reported that

Warren used to list herself as Native American in law school directories while teaching at several law schools across the country in the 1980s and

She dropped the reference from her biography after she was hired at Harvard Law School in the 1990s at a time when protesting students and faculty had been pressuring the school to hire more minority female faculty. The law school says it has one faculty member of Native American heritage, according to reports, but won't say which one.

If Warren was claiming Indian ancestry when it worked to her benefit, she was following another American tradition. writes David Treur, an Ojibwe Indian from northern Minnesota and author of "Rez Life: An Indian's Journey Through Reservation Life."

"An Indian identity has become a commodity," he recently wrote in The Washington Post, "though not one that is openly traded. It has real value in only a few places; the academy is one of them. And like most commodities, it is largely controlled by the elite.

Race is no longer as simple as black and white, but then it never really was. The real issue of what Warren, Zimmerman and the rest of us want to call ourselves has two sides: how we see ourselves and how we are seen by others.

If anything, Treur is right about elites. The Warren controversy illustrates how rapidly the one-drop rule and other old rules of race are fading at a time when race is becoming less of a problem than privilege -- who has it and who doesn't -- regardless of race.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim Plumbing • Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties –

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA** INDIAN SUPPLY

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## Seminole Nation chief Leonard Harjo seeks to build modern tribe

M. SCOTT CARTER
Journal Record

WEWOKA, Okla. (AP) – Leonard Harjo sees his job as a builder.

Actually, he considers himself a rebuilder

Harjo, who was elected principal chief of the Seminole Nation in 2009, says his goal as chief is to rebuild his tribe into a modern, economically diverse Native American nation. After watching the tribe struggle through the 1990s, he said, he wants to make the modern Seminole Nation an economically strong, diverse group.

Based in Wewoka and primarily in Seminole County, the nation has a total tribal enrollment of about 18,800, records show. Of that figure, about 13,500 Seminoles make their home in Oklahoma. It also includes about 2,000 Seminole freedman, descendants of black Americans brought into the tribe in the late 1800s.

And though deeply engrained in state history – the nation is one of the state's five civilized tribes because of its written language – over the past decades it has not had the rapid economic growth of its neighbors, the Chickasaws and Choctaws.

Harjo's goal, he said, is to change that.

"With the advent of self-governance, we could see there was a lot more that could be done in Indian Country," he said. "It was easy to see parallels with international development and where we were."

Seminole County, he said, was trying to transfer from agriculture, to oil and gas and manufacturing.

"Seminole County, and of course the Seminole Nation, were experiencing the same thing," Harjo said. "I want to bring some of the understanding of how to grow and develop an economy here."

To spur that growth, Harjo said he wants to develop programs that keep Seminoles in Oklahoma.

"We have spent a fair amount of money educating our people," he said. "And what happens is we're in a really big brain-drain situation. The vast majority of our members who are educated can't live and work here. There's nothing here."

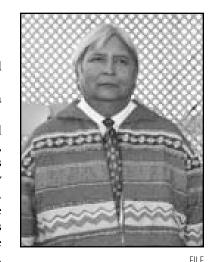
Those who have completed their education, he said, can't stay in Seminole County and make a living.

"In order for us to be able to ask you to make a sacrifice to work for the nation and still be able to offer you a standard of living, something that is within range of the norm, we have to do something," he said.

That approach doesn't surprise others from the area.

Stu Phillips, publisher of the Seminole Producer, said Harjo has a definite vision for his tribe.

"I know he has a real set of ideas about where he wants to go," Phillips said. "But sometimes it's hard to figure out what Chief Harjo is thinking. He can be very quiet and stoic and very traditional."



Leonard Harjo

Because the Seminoles haven't seen the same economic growth as other nations, Phillips said, Harjo will be forced to diversity and expand.

"They haven't progressed as fast as others," he said. "But they are doing other things beyond just gaming. They are in retail and they have convenience stores. And there's a need for that type of employment in the county."

Harjo said he is simply working to bring different ideas together.

He's also not above luring executives from other tribes to reinvigorate the nation's economic development efforts.

"There are people in other tribal business organizations who have topped out," Harjo said. "Their careers aren't going to grow much more; the turnover at the levels above them is low."

Harjo said tribal executives who are looking for new opportunities have started considering his nation.

"When we went looking for a CFO of gaming, we were able to find just such an individual working for the Chickasaws," he said.

The result, he said, was a well-trained executive who could bring a wealth of experience to the tribe.

"We got people who were very well-trained, and much better equipped to help us catapult those organizations light-years ahead of where we were," he said.

With an emphasis in gaming, retail and real estate development, Harjo said, his tribe has worked to slowly expand, diversify and rebuild his tribe's business interests.

"We have expanded in other areas; it's a small revenue base, but it is something that has a lot of potential and gives us a lot of opportunity," he said. "We can leverage that in a manner which I don't think we've ever thought about."

Still, Harjo isn't just focused on tribal business. Education, culture and even politics are all issues, he says, that he and the tribe continue to address. The son of a former Seminole chief, Harjo doesn't run from politics. He embraces it.

"I usually tell people that tribal politics is the family business," he said. "I tell the story when we were meeting with the tribal council, my father created his own advisory group. I have an older sister who

has a law degree and a degree in accounting. I have another sister who is a private practice CPA. And there's me: I have economic development, planning and business management experience."

Harjo said his father would bring issues home to him and his two sisters for examination and input.

"We were his kitchen cabinet for years," he said. "That's how he used us. He'd asked us questions and we'd go around and around and have different arguments and discussions."

His father, Floyd, served as chief in the early 1970s and led a successful campaign for a new tribal constitution to restore the rights of the Seminoles to elect their own chief. Harjo's father also served as general council representative for the Tusekia Harjo Band, assistant chief and principal chief.

His great-grandfather was a member of the Seminole Light Horse, the tribe's mounted police force

Leonard Harjo has continued that

Elected principal chief in 2009, Harjo was born near Sasakwa. Raised on his grandfather's allotment near Wolf, Harjo said his family raised livestock, grew corn and other crops and spent a great deal of time at church.

He attended Bowlegs High School until his sophomore year. Later he applied for and received a scholarship to the Northfield Mount Hermon School, a private preparatory school in Northfield, Mass.

After graduating from Northfield Mount Hermon, Harjo entered Harvard University. In 1979 he received a bachelor of arts degree in economics with an emphasis in economic development. Six years later, he received a First Nations Fellowship to attend the Yale School of Organization and Management in New Haven, Conn.

In 1988, he graduated with a master's degree in public and private management.

That education, away from his family and hundreds of miles away from his tribal home, helped Harjo understand and embrace his Native American roots.

"You don't think that in other parts of the country it's different," he said. "That experience really helped me begin to understand what it meant to be Seminole as opposed to what it meant to be someone from Seminole County."

It was only after he was away from Oklahoma, he said, that he discovered his heritage.

"Otherwise you're just another one from the area," he said. "It was a different world."

Harjo returned to Oklahoma in 1980. He worked for the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, the United Tribes of Western Oklahoma and Kansas and for what is now the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

At DOC, Harjo said he helped

coordinate planning activities for the state's weatherization and antipoverty programs and create a business development program for Community Action Agencies.

In 1988, he began working for the Seminole Nation and, over the next decade, served in a variety of positions, including tribal planner, director of economic development, and the first director of the Seminole Nation Development Authority.

"I've been involved on many levels," he said.

And today, as chief, Harjo has set a single goal: rebuild the Seminoles and bring them into a new era of prosperity.

"We can rebuild and we can thrive," he said. "That's my direction for the Seminole Nation and the Seminole people."

For the Seminole Nation's principal chief, education is the key.

Raised in rural Oklahoma, Leonard Harjo knew that it would take more than a diploma from Bowlegs High School to get him where he wanted to go.

"I wanted to go to Harvard, and I knew I would need a path to get there," he said. "I told my family I wanted to go, they found me a way to do it and I did it."

At Bowlegs, he said, classes were filled with too many students.

"The majority of time we spent in what we called homeroom classes, the teachers did nothing but try to maintain control of the classroom for eight hours," he said.

To get to Harvard, he said, he knew he would have to leave Oklahoma.

During his sophomore year at Bowlegs, he applied for and received a scholarship to the Northfield Mount Hermon School, a private preparatory school in Northfield, Mass.

"At that time, it wasn't an option," he said. "Academics was what I was good at and I felt that I needed to be somewhere where I could take advantage of that."

After graduating from Northfield Mount Hermon, Harjo entered Harvard University. In 1979 he received a bachelor of arts degree in economics with an emphasis in economic development. Six years later, he received a First Nations Fellowship to attend the Yale School of Organization and Management in New Haven, Conn.

In 1988, he graduated with a master's degree in public and private management.

And while Harjo said he might reconsider leaving Oklahoma today, the experience away from his native land changed him for the better.

"It helped me understand my Seminole heritage," he said. "Coming from Oklahoma, it never really occurred to me that people in other parts of the country are different, how they acted and with the things they do. It helped me begin to understand what it meant to be Seminole as opposed to what it meant to be someone from Seminole County."

# Contestants sought to compete for Miss Cherokee title

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — The Cherokee Nation is currently accepting Miss Cherokee Leadership Competition entries from young women interested in representing their tribe and earning money for their education. For more than 50 years, Miss Cherokee has served as a cultural icon and a goodwill ambassador on behalf of the Cherokee Nation. The competition is held in conjunction with the 60th Cherokee National Holiday to be held in Tahlequah over Labor Day weekend.

"We have a long history of selecting strong, capable women to represent our nation as Miss Cherokee," said Deputy Principal Chief S. Joe Crittenden. "As a traditionally matrilinear tribe, it is fitting that we have a young woman as an ambassador and role model and it is my hope that every eligible Cherokee citizen will be up for the challenge to participate."

Eligible contestants must be between the ages of 17 and 22 as of Aug. 25, 2012. To be eligible, a candidate must be a citizen of the Cherokee Nation who resides within the tribe's jurisdictional area. Additionally candidates must be a high school graduate or have a GED.

Miss Cherokee Leadership Competition is held in Tahlequah during the final week of August. Contestants are judged on their platform, their usage of the Cherokee language and their interviewing skills. Higher education scholarships will be awarded to the top three contestants. Miss Cherokee will be officially crowned during the State of the Nation ceremony held at Cherokee National Holiday on Sept. 5, 2012, and the new Miss Cherokee's duties will begin immediately with appearances throughout the remainder of the festival and continuing over the next 12

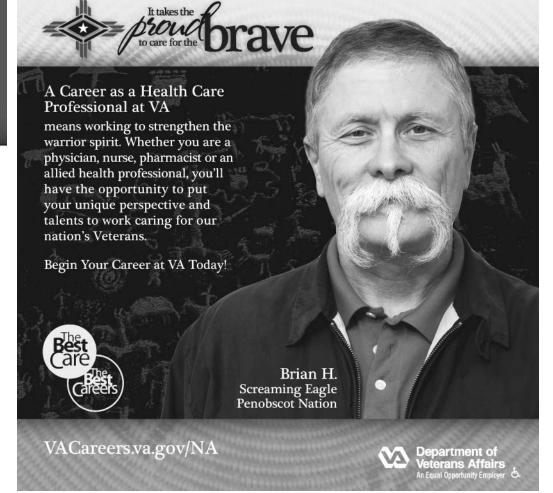
Miss Cherokee entries must be postmarked by July 27, 2012. For more information including an entry form with a full list of eligibility requirements, please call 918-207-3577



Miss Cherokee Sidney Kimble



WWW.GANICA.NET



### **Bacone College to host American Indian Summer Bridge Program 2012**

MUSKOGEE, OK - Bacone College through its Mission Statement maintains its commitment to serving American Indians by hosting its Fourth Annual American Indian Summer Bridge Program 2012 (Summer Bridge 2012) scheduled for July 9, 2012 through August 3, 2012 on the Bacone campus. Summer Bridge 2012 provides American Indian students (students) opportunities to improve their reading, writing, and math skills before they enter college; to live on a college campus; and to get involved in cultural and academic presentations, discussions, and field experiences. Most importantly, Summer Bridge 2012 helps students transition to college life!

Whether students plan to attend Bacone College or another college or university, students are invited to participate in Summer Bridge 2012. It further provides students the opportunity to attend Bacone College and opportunities to get involved in the college experience before college begins by earning six college credit hours and a scholarship opportunity to attend Bacone. Bacone offers Summer Bridge 2012 to students free of charge and further provides books, tuition, room and board, and an opportunity to participate in field experiences.

Please contact Dr. Pete G. Coser, Director of Summer Bridge 2012 at (918) 781-7301 or by e-mail at coserp@bacone.edu for further information, clarification, or a Summer Bridge 2012 application. A cohort of twentyfive students will be selected for Summer Bridge 2012.

### Native students honored by OCIE

NORMAN, Okla. - The Oklahoma Council for Indian Education honored 773 Native American high school and college students on April 26 at the organization's annual Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society induction/dinner.

More than 100 schools in Oklahoma nominated students. To qualify, students need a cumulative 3.9 grade point average and "demonstrate moral character, leadership skills, participate in cultural activities as well as service and involvement to the tribe and community," a press release states.

Those honored at the event received certificates, eagle pins and T-shirts. Three \$500 scholarships were also given to outstanding students. Cherokee Nation citizen Christy Joy Kingfisher, a Tahlequah High School senior, received the John Sam Memorial scholarship.

"(To apply) I had to be a member of OISHS, apply for it and write an essay," she said.

The essay included her intended college major and her plans for after graduating college.

"I want to go to medical school and be a physician's assistant," she said. "I'm going to go to NSU (Northeastern State University) for my basics, and I think I want to go to OSU (Oklahoma State University)."

Kingfisher said she's been an OISHS member for three years and receiving the John Sam Memorial Scholarship was a great achievement.

"It means a lot to me and I'm really honored that they chose me out of all the applicants that they had. I appreciate it a lot,"

Kingfisher's cumulative grade point average is 4.53. She said she also received a scholarship from NSU that equals a full

Other honorees were Ada High School senior and Chickasaw Nation citizen Zachary Star Garcia, who received the Alice Tonemah Memorial Scholarship, and Holdenville High School senior and Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Brittany Elizabeth George, who received the Marlene LeClair/Helen Wright

To apply for one of these scholarships, the student must be a member of the Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society (OISHS) and must complete an OCIE Scholarship Application form. Scholarship recipients are recognized at the annual OISHS banquet held each spring. The banquet is held in Oklahoma City area in odd calendar years and the Tulsa area during even calendar

OCIE has honored students since 1990. According to the press release, each year membership increases, with this year's inductees bringing the total membership to more than 10,000 students.

For more information on OISHS, call 405-366-5809 or email lharjo2@norman.k12. ok.us.

### **From Princess to State Champion**

**CEDRIC SUNRAY** 

Savannah Waters (Ponca/Kiowa/ Choctaw/Creek/Chickasaw) has been more recently known for her beautiful smile and accompanying tribal regalia, as well as involvement with the Owasso Lady Rams 6A high school basketball team, than for what occurred this past Saturday at the Oklahoma High School Track & Field State Championships.

As an average event participant in both the shot put and discus events as a sophomore the preceding season, Savannah has developed in to a legitimate state title contender in her favorite event, the discus. After besting her opponents in regional competition she entered the state championships with a positive frame of mind and calmness indicative of one who excels academically in school (3.7 GPA) and exudes grace during her many responsibilities at community and ceremonial events for the Ponca

In the first round of the state championships she threw well enough to make it into the field of eight that would comprise the finals. She sat in the middle of the pack after two throws and then I witnessed her look over at her dad. Savannah mentioned something

to the effect of, "This is the one." On her third and final attempt the discus soared higher and farther than it had all day. Ten minutes later she found herself standing on the podium in the host stadium clutching on her silver medal amid the "lulus" of her female family members and applause of the men and many others gathered to view her accomplishment.

In a few months she will hand over her title as Ponca Princess as her family gives away

Savannah Waters has developed into a legitimate state title contender in her favorite track and field event, the discus throw.

gifts to the many gathered in appreciation for the support and fellowship they have provided to her over this past year. The announcer will speak of her accomplishments in the cultural, academic, and athletic realm to those in attendance. And at that time she will be preparing for one more run at a state championship during her senior year and dealing with the pressures of being an early favorite for gold, while no longer content with

### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

dreaming of silver.

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program. Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

### Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!



## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Com**merce of Oklahoma – Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens** Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm cherokeeartistsassociation.org 8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

> **MAY 17 Pawnee Community** Gathering 6pm at Albin **Leading Fox Hall located** at 861 Little Dee Road in Pawnee, Okla. Info call PNC 918-762-3343.

**MAY 18** Walk MS Team Hope For **A Cure Silent Auction** fundraiser. A great night

filled with tons of great services and products from local businesses. All auction proceeds will go toward the **National MS Society toward** finding a cure for MS. Silent auction at 6:00 PM at the **Ardmore Santa Fe Depot** located at 251 E. Main St Ardmore, OK.

**MAY 18 & 19** Indian Taco Sale 11am to 4pm at Tulsa Indian UMC, 1901 N College. Info call 918-834-1956 or 918-798-2845.

**MAY 19 Kiowa Tia-Piah Society of** Carnegie, OK, benefit dance at the Red Buffalo Hall, in Carnegie, OK. Begins at 1:00PM with Scalp Dancing, followed by Gourd Dancing. 5:30PM Supper. Black **Leggings Society Color** Guard after supper, followed by Round Dancing and Veteran's songs, followed by Gourd Dancing. The flag of Cpl. Joshua Ware will be honored. A special invitation to all Veterans.

**MAY 20** We Are The Aboriginal Pioneers rally at Okla. State Capitol, 1pm - 6pm. All Drum Groups, Singers, Stompers, Dancers, Speakers, Storytellers are invited as time permits. Contact spiritwomenrawk@yahoo. com or 405-471-7610 for

more information.

**MAY 25 Native American Student** Association at OSUIT/ CMN Indian Taco Sale, 11am-2pm at Okmulgee **Indian Community Center.** \$6 including drink and a dessert. Free delivery for orders of three or more otherwise a \$.50 delivery fee per taco. Accepting pre-orders. Contact rsourjohn21@ymail.com or (918) 304-7802

**MAY 26** The Sac and Fox Nation **Veteran's Organization** 6th annual Memorial Day **Gourd Dance & Powwow. Gourd Dancing Starts at** 2pm. Traditional Dinner for all participants from 5pm until 6pm. Grand Entry at 7pm. We put a flag on every deceased vets' grave in 10 tribal cemeteries.

**Art Class: Slate Rock Art** Paintings by Bill McCulley at Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th Okmulgee, Okla. Class is limited to 20 people. Reserve your spot call 918-756-2324 or csago71@ sbcglobal.net 10 a.m.-2 pm. Free.

JUNE 1 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East

**Beaumont Drive, Norman,** Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 2 **Tinker Intertribal Powwow in** Joe B. Barnes Regional Park in Midwest City, Okla. from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Interested vendors or participants should contact Corene Chakenatho at (405) 734-7366.

JUNE 8 Chilocco Powwow in the **Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache **Fire Dance. Contact Garland** Kent, Sr at 580- 352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox **Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

**JUNE 10-16 Jim Thorpe Native American** Games at Remington Park, Oklahoma City. Proceeds benefit the Jim Thorpe **Bright Path Youth Programs** and Awakening The Spirit **Diabetes Prevention and Control program. Contact** Annetta Abbott: 405-208www.jimthorpegames.com

**JUNE 14** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 4th **Annual Golf Tournament** kicking off Iowa Tribal Powwow - 8am at Cimarron Trails in Perkins, Okla. Registration begins at 7am. Info call Linda Andre 405-547-5352 Ext 23

**JUNE 15-17** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 27th Annual Pow Wow, Bah-Kho-Je PowWow Grounds, Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Okla Free admission, camping, contests in all divisions, arts & crafts, rations. Contact Robert Murray 580-304-6731 or Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600.

**JUNE 16** The 17th Annual Oklahoma **Indian All-State Basketball** Games at the sports center on the Oklahoma Wesleyan University campus in Bartlesville. Games will start at 6:00 P.M. For more info: contact us 918-642-3162, paradox@valornet.com

**JUNE 23 Creek Council House** Museum's Indian Art Festival 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918-756-2324

## Mississippian culture comes to life in 'Spring'

BECCA AYRES
Chickasaw Nation

Symbols of rebirth, fresh beginnings, good luck and prosperity seem more than appropriate for the first blanket in the Pendleton Woolen Mills' "Legendary" series featuring Mississippian designs.

Chickasaw artist Dustin Mater said that the design on the "Spring" blanket is based on the ancient culture that brought new life and a creative spark to his artwork.

"I've been drawing since I could hold a pencil, but I spent years trying to find my inspiration," said Mater. "I was drawing monsters and doing abstract art painting and stuff that didn't really have a basis or meaning. I was just kind of finding what I could do. I never thought my art had anything to offer my family or my tribe."

Then he was asked to create artwork for a traditional Chickasaw story "Spider Brings Fire," and



Chickasaw artist Dustin Mater

"Lowak Shoppala" (Fire and Light), a theatrical production based on Chickasaw history and culture. As part of the projects, he delved into research of Mississippian culture, symbols and designs.

"These Mississippian patterns just kind of spoke to me. It just kind of started growing and growing and growing," he explained, the intensity in his voice rising with every word. "I just started having ideas blossom in my own head and in my own research that I was doing. It was just continuing the bloom of different ideas."

While he was excited about the new direction of his artwork, one of his first showings drew a less than enthusiastic response.

"The first time I showed my artwork based on Chickasaw culture was at Red Earth in 2010 and most of the time I just got questions of 'what is it?' People were just not really getting what I was doing as an artist," he said.

Undeterred, he approached Pendleton with this simple question – "How do I get my artwork on one of your blankets?"

In a relatively short time, he was asked to send in some of his designs for consideration. He submitted 10 of his designs in 2011 and "Spring"

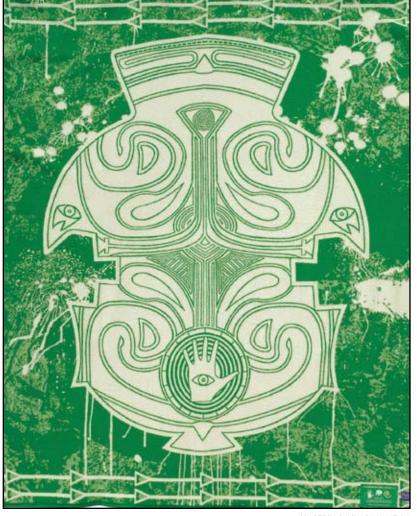
was selected to become part of the Legendary series.

"To have Pendleton see it and respond so positively to it kind of made me feel validated as an artist – that what I'm doing is on the right path," he said.

His philosophy has always been to "study everything, absorb everything. Be a sponge. You never know where inspiration is going to hit you."

His artistic influences run the gamut from Japanese illustrators to Monet to comic books.

Mater attended Santa Monica College and the Multimedia Institute in North Hollywood, but said that he has continued to develop his skill set through different kinds of artistic



COURTESY CHICKASAW NATIO

Symbols of rebirth, fresh beginnings, good luck and prosperity are woven into Pendleton Woolen Mills' "Legendary" series featuring Mississippian designs.

 $adventures\ in\ different\ mediums.$ 

Now, whether he is engraving traditional shell gorgets, etching designs in glass, or creating graphic designs for poster art, his work bears the mark of his ancient Mississippian culture.

"My inspiration is the Mississippian mound builders in the old territories where the Muskogean people – where we all come from - Chickasaw and Choctaw people come from," Mater said. "I don't feel that any of this artwork belongs to me or to anyone else. This is our birthright. We all dip

from the same well artistically. From (Classical music composer) Jerod Impichchaachaaha' Tate to (textile artist) Margaret Roach Wheeler to (painter) Brent Greenwood."

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby said that it "means a great deal" to have Chickasaw culture represented on a Pendleton blanket.

A Pendleton blanket based on the original design of a Chickasaw artist is a very meaningful way to share a part of our culture with the world," said Gov. Anoatubby. "Dustin Mater is very deserving of this honor. He is

using his talent in a way which pays tribute to the many generations of Chickasawartists who have embraced our culture and tradition."

Mater says he thinks the blanket designs signifying rebirth and fresh beginnings are especially appropriate because of what is happening with artwork based southeastern American Indian culture.

"Right nowit's actually a really good time to be a Mississippian modern artist, because it is in a renaissance," he said. "We are rediscovering, and enabling the world to discover, this artwork. It's just a really exciting time to do this. I would recommend any aspiring artists or someone who just wants to know more about the culture to go beyond the trail, to go beyond the first contact and just keep on digging.

"There is such a wealth of story and mythology and legend that it inspires me every day.

Looking at the mounds from Moundville to the area near the Chickasaw Bluffs in Tennessee and all the surrounding areas. There is just so much that is unexplored."

He said that he feels fortunate his work at the Chickasaw Nation offers a unique avenue to pursue his passion.

"This is really the first job I've ever had where I'm looking forward to what I'm going to do next," he said. "I've never had a job where I've been able to do the things that I'm interested in doing, the things that I am passionate about.

"My work here enables me to do what a lot of other Mississippian descendants are doing, which is keeping my culture alive and keeping the artwork alive. I feel like I'm part of something larger. I hope what I'm doing will inspire others."

## Choctaw writer Howe earns Lifetime Achievement Award

The Native Writers'
Circle of the Americas
recognizes LeAnne Howe
with the 2012 Lifetime
Achievement Award

NORMAN, Okla. - LeAnne (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma), author of fiction, poetry, screenplays, creative nonfiction, plays, and scholarly articles, is the winner of the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers' Circle of the Americas. A well respected and honored author, LeAnne Howe's books include Shell Shaker (2001), winner of an American Book Award in 2002 from the Before Columbus Foundation; Equinoxes Rouge, the French translation of Shell Shaker, a 2004 finalist for Prix Medici Estranger, (one of France's top literary awards); Evidence of Red (2005), winner of an Oklahoma Book Award in Poetry and Wordcraft Circle Award in 2006; and Howe's most recent novel, the acclaimed Miko Kings: An Indian Baseball Story (2007) was the 2009-2010 Read-In Selection at Hampton University in Hampton Virginia.

Howe is screenwriter and oncamera narrator for the 90-minute PBS documentary Indian Country Diaries: Spiral of Fire (2006); she is also writer/co-producer of Playing Pastime: American Indian Fast-Pitch Softball and Survival, both documentaries with James Fortier (a three-time Emmy award winner filmmaker). Her scholarly work has appeared in Clearing a Path: Theorizing the Past in Native American Studies (2001), Preremoval Choctaw History: Exploring New Paths (2008) and Reasoning Together: Native Critics Collective (2008), for which Howe is listed as a co-author. Reasoning Together was named one of the most influential Native texts of the first decade of the 21st century.

In2010-11, Howe was a J. William Fulbright Scholar at the University of Jordan, Amman, where she taught in the graduate program as well as conductedresearch for a new novel. In March 2011, she was awarded the Tulsa Library Trust's "American Indian Author Award" in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and the Maynard Institute for Journalism Education named Howe one of 30 American Indians authors to celebrate during Native American Heritage Month, November 2011. Additionally, Howe's multi-genre

autobiographical and scholarly prose essay, "My Mothers, My Uncles, Myself" appears in Here First: Autobiographical Essays by Native American Writers (2001), and her scholarly work on Tribalography (a term she coined) has found traction with other literary critics in the field such as professors Dean Rader, Jill Doerfler, Joseph

Bauerkemper, among others.

Born in Edmond, raised in Oklahoma City, she maintains an ancestral home in Ada. Howe's roots run deep into the red dirt of Okla Humma. As she writes, "I am part Cherokee, ...although I am wholly Choctaw," Howe's work speaks to the larger Choctawan experience and interaction with not only Indian Country, and the U.S., but also with the world. She's traveled extensively to Japan, Jordan, Israel, Romania, and Spain. These experiences act as both research for her work and



LeAnne Howe

experiences by which she negotiates the ways in which Indigenous people broadly and Choctaws specifically maneuver, negotiate, and impact the world around them. Howe has been honored to serve as writer-in residence at several universities throughout the United States before joining the faculty at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She is a professor in the American Indian Studies, and English. LeAnne is working on her third novel, Memoir of a Choctaw Indian in the Arab Revolts, 1917 -2011. Her latest collection of short stories, Choctalking, is forthcoming from Aunt Lute Books in Spring 2013. She is a daughter, mother, grandmother, culture bearer, and educator of the next generation. A ceremony honoring LeAnne Howe will take place during the Returning the Gift Native Writers gathering at the Menominee Reservation in Wisconsin later in the year.

## Brandon Little Axe; National athletic success story

CEDRIC SUNRAY

Oklahoma's top high school athlete didn't make spectacular catches in the end zone on Friday nights this past fall. He didn't hit game winning three pointers with a second or two left on the clock. It wasn't huge home run shots in the final inning propelling him to this deserved status.

Brandon Little Axe, a high school senior and enrolled member of the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, simply dominated a game that is only in more recent times gaining an interest amongst the youth of Indian Country. On Saturday night he lead his Norman North soccer program on to the field to play for a 6A state championship against perennial athletic powerhouse Tulsa Union. His team, sporting a 16-0 record and having outscored their opponents 59-7 to this point in the season, was ranked #3 in the nation and #2 in the state. Oddly, Tulsa Union held a #1 state ranking and #10 national ranking. Brandon entered the game having scored 23 of his team's goals as well as a handful of assists. This tally had made him one of the most prolific offensive weapons in the country. Unfortunately for Tulsa Union and their offensive "Redskin" moniker, an actual Indian carrying a 3.8 GPA, 25 ACT, and a humble character to boot, was about to add two more goals to his season leading campaign and assist his team in taking home a 2-1 victory. This accomplishment would propel Norman North to a #1 state and national ranking.

When the whistle sounded and

the Norman North student body rushed out of their stadium seats to mob those who just added a state and national championship to their trophy case, all one could hear in every side conversation was his name. The same chorus had been heard throughout the season. In true Brandon Little Axe style after being surrounded by news reporters and television cameras asking about his performance, he made the following statement. "We have no egos on the team. We're all together."

Brandon will be deciding his collegiate future this week between offers from schools including the University of Tulsa, Southern Nazarene University, William & Mary College (Virginia), Oklahoma Christian University, Mid-America, and few others. Kiowa tribal member and former NCAA D-II player Chris "Wonder Wondo" Wondolowski has already blazed a trail for the young Absentee Shawnee through college and the professional ranks of Major League Soccer winning the pro league's prestigious goal scoring title only two seasons ago and leading the league in goals so far this season for his San Jose Earthquakes squad. Hopefully, five or six years from now Indian Country will have a repeat of his performances from a young man with "Little Axe" scrolled along the back of his team jersey. Never minding the small number of American Indians inhabiting the soccer sports culture, I still like those odds.

Cedric Sunray is a former head college soccer coach and NCAA/NAIA soccer player.

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Immersion school graduates first class
- Miss Indian Oklahoma chosen
- Red Earth Festival has new parade route









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# **AMERICAN**

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 21

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

MAY 25, 2012

## Judge tells Kialegee tribe to stop building casino

■ The tribe plans to take its case to the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals.

**JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS Associated Press** 

TULSA, Okla. (AP) -A federal judge issued an injunction May 18 to prevent a small Oklahoma Indian tribe from building a casino in a Tulsa suburb, siding with thousands of residents, church leaders and local lawmakers who rallied for months against the project.

U.S. District Judge Gregory K. Frizzell ruled that the Kialegee Tribal Town does not have jurisdiction over the 20acre parcel in Broken Arrow, where it is building the Red Clay Casino. The judge issued his opinion stopping the casino construction after a three-day court hearing in Tulsa.

"It's the right outcome; we're excited," said Attorney General Scott Pruitt, whose office sued the Kialegee in February, accusing the 350-member tribe of moving ahead with construction without first

getting approval from the National Indian Gaming Commission. Pruitt also argued that the land is owned by two Muscogee Creek Nation tribal members, not Kialegee, and that they have jurisdiction over the property.

Attorneys for the Kialegee disagreed, saying the land could be jointly held by both the Kialegee and Muscogee. They said the Kialegee already established a satellite tribal office at a house on the property, where the tribal flag flies above a garage door. This is in addition to the tribe's headquarters in Wetumpka in southeastern Oklahoma.

Frizzell's ruling stunned some casino backers, particularly developers who took a big gamble late last year when they broke ground on the project and in recent weeks when they truckedinseveralpre-fabricated buildings to temporarily house slot machines. The casino was scheduled to open around Labor Day in the conservative community of nearly 100,000.

"I am surprised. Very said Kialegee surprised," attorney Dennis Whittlesey, minutes after Frizzell's ruling.

"It's like they were treating us as second-class citizens," said another attorney for the tribe, Vicki Sousa, outside the courthouse.

The lawyers said the tribe plans to take its case to the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals.

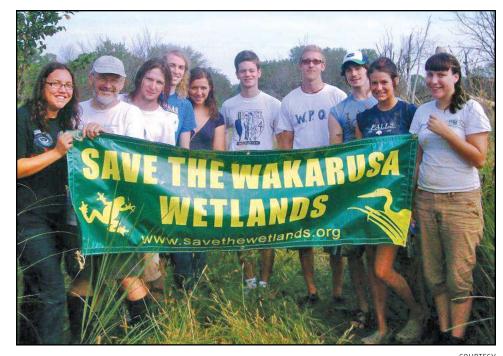
Opponents of the project, who collected more than 10,000 signatures from residents and business owners to keep the casino out, welcomed Friday's ruling and said they would be prepared to mount another campaign if the Kialegee appeal.

"This is exactly what we've been saying all along: These are not Indian lands," said Rob Martinek, co-founder of Broken Arrow Citizens Against Neighborhood Gaming. "The burden of proof for them (in an appeal) will be higher than it was today."

Broken Arrow resident De EttaHughes, whose house is about a mile from the construction site, said it was "absolutely so exciting to know that the law isn't being overridden" by a group of developers.

"Even if they come back to

See CASINO Continued on Page 4



Students from Haskell Indian Nations University are embarking on 1,000 plus mile trip to bring awareness to the protection of Native American sacred places and present a copy of the Protection of Native American Sacred Places Act to Congress.

## Students walk to protect Native sacred places

DANA ATTOCKNIE Native American Times

LAWRENCE, Kan. - Not everyone agrees progress is a step forward; especially if development means destruction.

A dozen students from Haskell Indian Nations University are walking to the save the Wakarusa

remaining native wetland prairie in Lawrence, Kan., from being destroyed in order to become the South Lawrence Trafficway (SLT). Their walk through seven states is named the Trail of Broken Promises, and their first steps were taken on May 13, 2012 from Lawrence, Kan. Their

journey will go through 50 communities, cover 1,100 to 1,300 miles, and end July 9 in Washington, D.C. where the students will present the Protection of Native American Sacred Places Act to Congress. The bill amends the American Indian Religious Freedom

See WALK Continued on Page 6



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Kristy Smithson, Choctaw, left, and her 'little' Shoshanna, Choctaw/ Muskogee-Creek/Seminole, take a rest from a rough and tumble game of stickball.

## BBBSOK seeks Native American 'bigs'

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

When playing stickball, Kristy Smithson keeps her eye on the ball. Her other eye is on her little sister, Shoshanna, who is getting into the rough and tumble game for the first

At 15, Shoshanna had but a brief introduction to the game before this round, but she's already keeping pace with the seasoned players.

In stickball, men often play the women, but usually only the men and boys use the specially-made sticks designed to maneuver the small hidewrought ball away from opponents and toward the goal - in this case, a wooden fish painted bright orange and mounted on top of a pole about 25 feet in height.

The sisters each make plays, rushing for the ball, grabbing it with their hands and catapulting it through the air to hit the orange fish. Shoshanna impresses Smithson.

"She's good at it," Smithson, out of breath, says. "She's just trying to get a feel for it. I told her 'It's real rough, you got to be careful."

Shoshanna found that out for herself.

"It's pretty fun," she says, wearing a T-shirt several sizes too large for her. "I already got stepped on."

Although they are not related, they have been sisters for five years. In other words, Smithson is Shoshanna's mentor, and they were matched together through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Oklahoma, the nonprofit organization that

See BBBSOK Continued on Page 2

## Tribes name Okla. judge in suit over frozen funds

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes in Concho, Okla. have amended a complaint against a Clinton bank that froze its accounts because of an internal dispute to include a Custer County judge.

The tribes named District Judge Doug Haught in the petition filed in federal court earlier this week, accusing him of depriving the tribes of their constitutional rights by failing to dismiss First Bank and Trust Co.'s administrative freeze on

about \$6.4 million in the tribe's funds. The tribes argue that actions by the bank and Haught have "detrimentally" affected all tribal members.

An attempt to contact Haught at the courthouse was unsuccessful and a home telephone number couldn't found at press

Bank officials have said they were concerned about turmoil within the tribe and were uncertain about who the authorized signatory is.

## **Oregon bans Native American mascots**

JONATHAN J. COOPER Associated Press

SALEM, Ore. (AP) - Eight Oregon high schools will have to retire their Native American mascots after the Board of Education voted Thursday to prohibit them, giving the state some of the nation's toughest restrictions on Native American mascots,

nicknames and logos. The 5-1 vote followed

months of passionate and emotional debate about tolerance and tradition.

The schools have five years to comply with the order or risk losing their state funding. Another high seven schools identified as the Warriors will be allowed to keep their nickname but will have to change mascots or graphics that depict Native Americans. An unknown

See MASCOTS Continued on Page 4



(Back row, left to right) Cambria Bird, Emilee Chavez, Alayna Harkreader, Cheyenne DrowningBear and Lauren Hummingbird. (Front row, left to right) Maggie Sourjohn, Cree DrowningBear and Sean Sikora. (Not pictured) Lauren Grayson. The students are the original charter members of the revolutionary immersion school Cherokee Nation started in 2002 and the first to graduate the program.

## Students make history as first to graduate from Cherokee Nation's Immersion School

■ The graduates completed prekindergarten through sixth grade at the **Immersion School and** will now be able to transition to seventh grade at Sequoyah.

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. The first 11 students to attend Cherokee Nation's Immersion School made history May 14 when they graduated from the program during a commencement ceremony held at Sequoyah Schools' Place Where They Play.

"In the history of the tribe, this is the first graduation for Cherokee speaking students from a Cherokee school," said Dr. Neil Morton, Cherokee Nation's executive director of education.

Sean Sikora, Alayna Harkreader, Cambria Bird, Hummingbird, Maggie Sourjohn, Cheyenne DrowningBear, Cree DrowningBear, Lauren Grayson and Emilee Chavez are the original charter students in the revolutionary language program the tribe started in 2002 and are the first to complete the school's curriculum.

Cherokee Nation Principal

Chief Bill John Baker addressed the graduates during the ceremony. "I'm here to congratulate you on the first commencement ceremonies of the Immersion School.

You are the hope of the survival of the Cherokee language and its evolution," said Baker. "I hope that you will use this gift to carry on the tradition, language and culture that you've learned forever."

Tsalagi tsunade loquasdi ("Cherokee school" in the Cherokee language) began in classrooms at Cherokee Nation's Head Start as a way to educate children in a

cultural environment while revitalizing and promoting of the Cherokee language. Since opening, the Immersion School has grown, adding a higher grade almost every year to accommodate the students who grew with the program.

Last week's graduates completed pre-kindergarten through sixth grade at the Immersion School and will now be able to transition to Sequoyah Schools' existing seventh grade classroom, where they will have the opportunity to take more Cherokee language classes and continue their

## **Census: Hispanics** remain largest **Oklahoma minority**

**OKLAHOMA CITY** (AP) - U.S. Census Bureau estimates show Hispanics remain the largest minority group in Oklahoma, but Native American population has made gains after dropping from the largest minority in last year's report.

The census estimates show that Hispanics made up 9.1 percent of Oklahoma's estimated 3.79 million residents in 2011 and that the Native American Alaskan Native group made up 8.9 percent. Native Americans and Alaskan Natives are counted as one group by the bureau.

Blacks were the third largest minority group with an estimated 7.6 percent of the 2011 population followed by those identified as from two or more races with 5.1 percent.

Hispanics, with 9 percent of the state population, surpassed American Indians, with 8.5 percent, as Oklahoma's largest minority group in 2010, three years after legislation targeting illegal immigrants became law.

"Maybe the illegal immigrant issue wasn't as big a problem as it was thought to be," University of Oklahoma political science professor Keith Gaddie said Monday. "In the long term, it reflects a trend going on across the United States. You're going have a different looking workforce and a different looking electorate that is less white."

The Census Bureau estimated the white population in Oklahoma at 75.7 percent.



## BBBSOK

Continued from Page 1

children works to help and youth reach their full potential through matching them with adult volunteers. Smithson was in college when she decided to sign up. Now at 27, she is BBBSOK manager of Native American partnerships, actively recruiting Native youth (littles) and adults (bigs)

"When we match based on ethnicity, we find that they (pairs) have a closer bond, and that we're able to learn from one another," Smithson said. "With my 'little,' we do a lot of cultural events together, and I encourage that in her."

Smithson and Shoshanna (her last name is withheld due to BBBSOK policy) are both Choctaw. Shoshanna Muskogee-Creek also and Seminole, but the duo's shared heritage adds another dimension to their friendship.

### **Initiative**

The organization has roots that go back to the early 20th century. In the 1970s, two volunteer mentor groups came together to form the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America that we know today. It operates in every state as well as in several countries.

According the organization's website, independent studies have shown a measurable impact BBBS has made in the lives of children. Participants are more likely to develop more confidence in school, relate better to others, avoid alcohol and illegal drug use and stay

Special mentoring programs help to match children of African-American and Hispanic heritage to mentors of the same ethnicity. Other programs have also been created to help kids cope with a parent in incarceration as well as those who have a parent actively serving in the military.

volunteer mentors of the same ethnicity or shared experience helps give them an early sense of trust and relationship building. It can increase their progress to the benefits of mentoring, said Anne Lisko, BBBSOK director of program evaluation.

"They start thinking of their future in ways they never have before," Lisko added.

The Native American mentoring initiative was made possible through funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention under the U.S. Department of Justice. Currently the program has a little more than 100 Native children enrolled across BBBSOK's eight service areas covering Oklahoma. More than half of the children are matched to a mentor. The rest are on a waiting list for volunteers.

In recruiting, Smithson said she approaches individuals and schools. Shoshanna's mother found out about the organization at her daughter's school. Smithson also goes to the tribal governments. Some tribes, such as the Chickasaw Nation in Ada, have created formal partnerships with BBBSOK to recruit volunteers and youth from tribe-owned businesses, including casinos.

There is still a need for more, especially male volunteers. The state organization, which works with more than 2,000 children total, sees a deficit across the board in men to mentor boys. There is rarely a shortage of big sisters to pair with girls.

"We'll have a hundred boys and no men to match them with," Lisko said. "We really feel like we'd be doing a disservice to the boys if we match them with a woman, because the reason they're coming to us is because they don't have a father figure."

organization goes Further research shows through a thorough check that matching children to of all mentor volunteer applicants. But Lisko said that shouldn't discourage genuinely interested people from applying.

> "We aren't looking or people that are perfect," Lisko said.

Past lessons learned can help mentors relate to their 'littles' when they need guidance.

Volunteers are asked to spend an hour or two a week with their 'littles,' but that time is often spent playing games, watching movies, eating pizza, helping with homework, hiking and sharing other fun activities.

Smithson and Shoshanna spend a lot of their time going out for ice cream or heading for powwows.

"These kids are amazing. teach volunteers things every day, but it is a commitment," Lisko said.

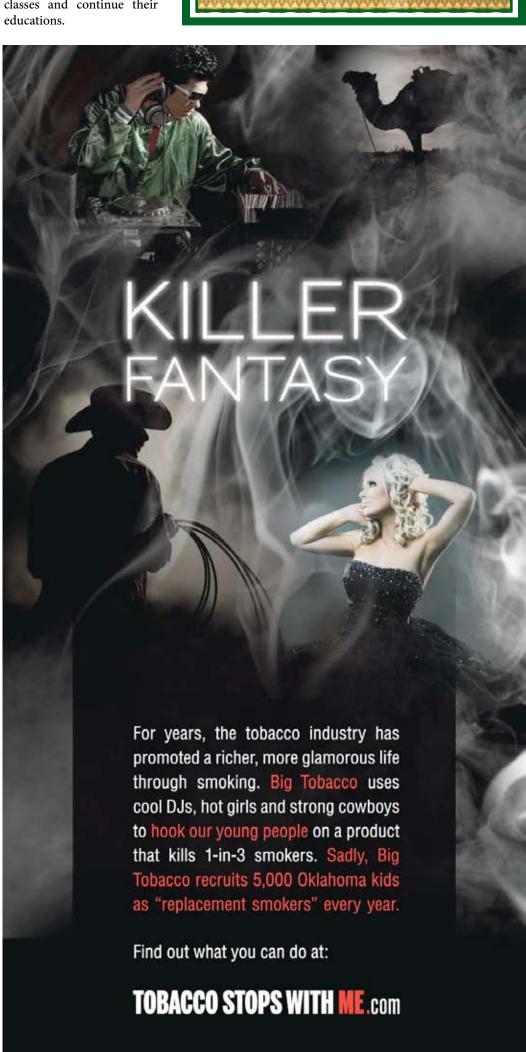
BBBSOK asks mentors to commit to at least one year. Many find it rewarding, like Smithson, who is eager to see more Native children and youth empowered.

"When you see someone of your own ethnicity being successful and doing good things like going to college or having a job, it's inspiring to them," she said.

Shoshanna has gained respect for herself and others through friendship with her big sister. Although there are some subjects at school that she would rather avoid, she works at those studies as if they were her favorite subject:

"I probably wouldn't have gotten where I am now," she said.

To find out more about BBBSOK and its Native mentoring American program, go online to www. bbbsok.org or call Smithson in the Oklahoma City offices at (405) 606-6309.



## Senators renew opposition to museum bonds

TIM TALLEY Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) -Two Oklahoma state senators criticized managers of the unfinished American Indian Cultural Center and Museum May 17 and said there are not enough votes in the Senate to pass a bill that would authorize another \$40 million in bonds to complete it.

Republican Sens. Cliff Aldridge of Midwest City and Patrick Anderson of Enid said 14 GOP senators have signed a pledge to oppose additional bonds for the Oklahoma City museum, which they said has seen its construction costs swell from an initial estimate of \$99 million to around \$171 million.

Aldridge said the 16 Democrats in the 48-member Senate also have said they will not support the bill as long as Republicans keep pushing for tax cuts, but he said Republicans remain committed to income tax

cuts in future years. With a majority of the Senate against the measure, it has no chance of passing.

"I don't know how we're going to get it out of the Senate," Aldridge said.

Anderson said Legislature has already issued \$63.4 million in bonds for the project and that annual bond payments total \$5.5 million. Another \$40 million bond issue would increase the annual bond payments to \$9 million, he said.

"We think that is totally irresponsible," Anderson said. "This would certainly increase spending."

The two senators said they are not opposed to the cultural center, located east of downtown Oklahoma City at the junction of Interstates 35 and 40, and believe it could be an economic boon to the region.

But they said the state has other capital needs including repairs to the State Capitol and the Medical Examiner's

Office, where a storage cooler of bodies malfunctioned last Wednesday. Workers were forced to move the bodies to refrigeration trucks.

Budget negotiators have said they have a tentative agreement on a \$200 million bond issue that would fund repairs to the state's crumbling Capitol and other nearby buildings.

 $Aldridge\,said\,the\,Senate\,had$ agreed to consider additional funding for the museum under certain conditions, including development of a completion plan for the structure and an audit of money already spent. He criticized the completion plan as inadequate and said the audit will not be finished before lawmakers are required to adjourn next week.

A final condition was the merger of the Native Cultural American Educational Authority, a state agency created in 1994 to oversee the project, with the state Tourism and Recreation Department. Legislation that

would authorize the merger is pending.

"We think the management of the construction by this agency has been poor at best," Aldridge said. "We're just saying at some point you have to draw the line."

Aldridge said according to the completion plan, the structure needs another \$50 million to finish, plus \$30 million for exhibits. But \$40 million in private donations has already been collected to complete the structure and many of the exhibits will come from the Smithsonian Institution and Oklahomabased Indian tribes at little or no cost, he said.

Blake Wade, CEO of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority, said work on the project began in 2005 and was slowed by expensive remedial work on property donated by Oklahoma City that was formerly part of an extensive oil field.

"The land environmental disaster and also in a flood zone," Wade said. "It took three years just to do that."

He said the \$40 million in donations from private citizens, businesses and tribes will have to be returned if the Legislature does not approve additional funding.

"We're hoping the state will finally match those dollars so we can get it finished," Wade

Gov. Mary Fallin supports the bond issue, according to spokesman Alex Weintz.

"The taxpayers of Oklahoma have made a significant investment in the Native American Cultural Center and the governor thinks it is important they see a return on that investment," Weintz said. "If there is not support in the Senate for such a bond issue, she hopes that senators will bring forward constructive ideas on how to finish the project."



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

## TIMES

Tahlequah Recycling

recycles with Incorporated... shouldn't you?

### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie

WESLEY MAHAN

KAREN SHADE Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON

LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.con

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country







## VA/DOL program launches to retrain unemployed vets

veterans between the ages of 35 and Hire Heroes Act of 2011, the Veteran · Be 35-60 years old, unemployed on the 60 can now apply for new benefits to Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) day of application, and not dishonorably cover education costs for up to one allows qualifying Veterans to receive up discharged; year through a joint Department of to 12 months of assistance equal to the · Start education or training after July retraining 99,000 Veterans for highdemand jobs.

education and training they need to March 31, 2014. find meaningful employment in a and the economy grow."

As part of a provision of the Veterans demand occupation.

WASHINGTON - Unemployed Opportunity to Work (VOW) to To qualify Veterans must:

who served our country receive the under this benefit program ends on as defined by the DOL;

of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. direct deposit information (bank Rehabilitation and Employment); play a vital role in helping businesses school, the program the Veteran wishes days; to pursue, and the applicable high-

Veterans Affairs and Department of full-time Montgomery GI Bill - Active 1, 2012, in a VA-approved program Labor (DOL) program that focuses on Duty rate, currently \$1,473 per month. of education offered by a community Veterans can apply on a first-come, college or technical school leading to an first-serve basis for programs that begin associate degree, non-college degree or a "This important tool will help those on or after July 1, 2012. Assistance certificate for a high-demand occupation

· Not be eligible for any other VA To complete an application, a education benefit program (e.g. Post-9/11 high-demand field," said Secretary Veteran will need to know his or her GI Bill, Montgomery GI Bill, Vocational

"Veterans are disciplined, hardworking, routing number and account number), · Not be enrolled in a federal or state job goal-oriented team members who can the name and location of his or her training program within the last 180

> Not receive VA compensation at the 100% rate due to individual www.dol.gov/vets/

unemployability (IU).

Upon completion, the Labor Department will engage with participants within 30 days after their training to help them find good jobs that utilize their newly learned skills.

For more information Veterans may go to the website at www.benefits. va.gov/VOW, or call VA's Call Centers toll free at 1-800-827-1000. Veterans may also access the VRAP application online at https://www.ebenefits.va.gov. Veterans are also encouraged to visit the nearly 3,000 One-Stop Career Centers across the nation for assistance. To find the center near you visit www. servicelocator.org.

For more information, go to http://

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

AICCOK OKC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

## Help a deserving Native American student reach for

their dreams.

### OVERVIEW

The OKC Chapter has historically provided scholarships for many years. Typically one acholarship is awarded to the top male and female entrants, as decided by the OKC Chapter Board of Directors. In 2012, we plan to notify the recipient student(s) by May 10 to allow them to list their scholarship in their graduation materials. We will present the actual scholarship award at the August luncheon.

### **SPONSORSHIPS**

There are 2 ways that your organization can help:

- 1. Sponsor a branded, stand-alone scholarship. (Minimum award \$250). Special emphasis can be requested (e.g. math or science, healthcare, etc).
- 2. Contribute to the AICCOK-OKC Chapter General Scholarship Fund.

### CONTACTS

To sponsor a scholarship, contact: James Lambertus, OKC Chapter Chair, aiccokc@earthlink.net, 405-650-5996 or Fran Smith, Treasurer, fran.smith@bank2online.com 405-946-2265.

To make a contribution to the Fund online, please click: http://tiny.cc/aiccokc\_scholarshipfund

## Oglala Sioux tribe testing sentencing circles

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) – A South Dakota tribe has been testing a form of restorative justice called sentencing circles in hopes it will make community members more accountable to each other and reduce the number of people who commit more crimes.

Sentencing circles provide an alternative to prison, with a group discussing the case and recommending a punishment that tailored to the offender. The circle can include prosecutors, police, the offender, victims, relatives of the offender and victims and anyone else in the community who has a stake in the situation.

The Oglala Sioux tribe currently has one sentencing circle in operation, and the tribe's attorney general said she hopes the method could be extended to all cases.

"It has a more healing affect because you're mending broken relationships and broken people," Attorney General Rae Ann Red Owl told The Associated Press. "I think if you compare that with a penal system, you're locking them up, you may or may not see the light from the incarceration. A lot of times, those in the penal system, it's such a different culture of its own, and it's based on a kind of survival mentality so you don't really know what you're going to get when you're done."

Red Owl declined to provide details on the case being handled by the sentencing circle but said it originated in Family and Child Court, which handles custody issues, juvenile crimes and child abuse cases. The tribe has been working with the Rapid City-based Center for Restorative Justice to develop the sentencing circle. A new one would be formed for each case.

"It's a lot like a talking circle," Red

Owl said, referring to a traditional Native American process in which each member of the circle is allowed time to speak without interruption. "Everybody gets a chance to talk without interruption. It's done in a respectful way. It's confidential."

Red Owl, who is also a proponent of peace making practices, acknowledged that sentencing circles take time – the offender and victim have yet to be brought together in the case that started in February – but she said the result will be worth it.

"I think if we really want to better our communities, we have a responsibility of helping them. I think our penal system kind of falls short, especially in our court system where we don't have services. It's kind of a hit or miss," she said, noting that the tribal court does not have probation services. "With the sentencing circle, that's something that would help alleviate that because it would put that juvenile back in the community

and the community would give them direction."

Police Sgt. John Mousseau, of the Medicine Roots district of the Oglala Sioux Department of Public Safety, said sentencing circles could be beneficial but would need to be properly managed.

"I think it's going to have to be watched because it could trigger horrific memories," said Mousseau, who is not involved in the current sentencing circle. "As long as its managed properly, it could be positive, but you have to have a support system – like counselors – in place."

The Center for Restorative Justice is a non-profit organization established in 1997. Trained volunteers act as mediators to facilitate the circles. A representative from the organization could not be reached for comment by press time.

### CASINO

Continued from Paae 1

fight, that's OK, this is a step in the right direction," Hughes said.

U.S. Rep. John Sullivan, R-Okla., whose district includes the casino site, called the ruling "a big win for the Broken Arrow community."

"This decision reaffirms what I have said all along – opening a casino without approval is a violation of federal law," Sullivan said in a statement.

Area homeowners, pastors and politicians had accused the tribe of sneaking the project through without any community input – a claim Whittlesey rejected.

"We've done everything by the book," Whittlesey argued Friday. "We went to the city of Broken Arrow a long time ago. It was no secret."

Chris Buskirk, pastor at the nearby Abiding Harvest United Methodist Church, testified May 17 that his parish holds Celebrate Recovery meetings each week for people struggling with gambling and other addictions. He said building a casino so close to his church could be an "Achilles' heel" for some addicts.

"This has primarily been a safe haven for folks coming to get well," Buskirk testified. "I've seen – within our own church – homes lost, marriages wrecked (due to gambling)."

But the town king, Tiger Hobia, maintains that his tribe is exempt from a federal review. He has said the casino would give the tribe its only chance to provide programs for its impoverished members. Sixty-five percent of tribal members are unemployed, he said, and more than 90 percent of those who are employed only earn minimum wage.

"The Red Clay Casino project provides our tribe with its only viable opportunity to provide programs for our elders, our school-age children and our infants and to develop a strategy to achieve long-term security for our tribe and finally a way to escape from the crippling effects of poverty," Hobia wrote in a letter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

## DC court: Tribal faction can't block land payments

KEN RITTER
Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) – A federal appeals court is telling an Indian tribal faction it can't block the long-fought distribution of money that Congress allocated to settle land claims in a vast area that includes California's Death Valley and most of what is now Nevada.

The U.S. District Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., issued an order May 15 recognizing the April 2011 election of a Timbisha Shoshone tribal council that favors accepting money set aside by a federal Indian claims commission in 1977 and the Western Shoshone Claims Distribution Act of 2004.

The election "constituted the resolution of an internal tribal dispute in a valid tribal forum," the appeals court said, quoting a letter from a federal Bureau of Indian Affairs official to tribal leader George Gholson.

A rival tribal faction, headed by Joe Kennedy, doesn't have legal standing to challenge the payments, the court said.

Kennedy's group "is unhappy with how the election was run, who voted, and the results," the court conceded. "But ours is not the forum for that debate."

Gholson, of Bishop, Calif., said May 17 he was

satisfied that accepting payments of about \$37,000 to extinguish 19th century land rights offered a practical solution to a decades-old fight that could have gone unresolved indefinitely.

Shoshone tribes say the 1863 Treaty of Ruby Valley gave tribes, not the federal government, final say over water, mineral and property rights over lands from the east side of the San Bernardino Mountains in Southern California north across the Great Basin of Nevada to the Snake River Valley in Idaho.

The commission ruling and congressional act cite more than 100 years of what the government termed "gradual encroachment" over an area covering 93,750 square miles, or roughly the size of Maine. The region is now dotted with American cities, highways, bridges, dams and other improvements.

"We look at it practically," Gholson said. "It wouldn't be realistic to believe we would ever get the land back."

An update posted last week on a Bureau of Indian Affairs website says the program has distributed payments of about \$22,000 to just under 3,200 recipients in nine tribes. The program has more than 9,600 applicants.

Final payments are expected in September, Gholson said.

"They're paying us off," the tribal chairman said.

"But the people who should have received the money should have been my grandparents."

Gholson said his mother, age 79, is receiving the federal money. So is Gholson, who at age 48 heads a tribe that he said has 380 remaining members.

Kennedy, 44, who lives in Nevada's Fish Lake Valley, said he intends to keep fighting.

He said he and his family members have rejected the payments, and he maintained that the vote that installed Gholson was tainted by allowing nonmembers to vote. He said payments are supposed to go to tribes, not individuals.

Kennedy counted just 265 valid tribe members, and alleged the Interior Department "hand-picked the council that would accept the money."

The appeals court acknowledged that Kennedy has a lawsuit pending in federal court in California challenging federal recognition of Gholson as tribal chairman.

Robert Coulter, head of the Indian Law Resource Center in Helena, Mont., and a supporter of the Kennedy group, said their attorneys may ask the court to reconsider the ruling or ask the U.S. Supreme Court to take the case.

Coulter accused the government of taking tribal property without compensation and due process.

Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs and Interior Department officials did not immediately respond to messages.

## **MASCOTS**

Continued from Page 1

number of elementary and middle schools also will be affected.

The ban doesn't apply to colleges, but none in Oregon have Native American mascots after Southern Oregon University and Chemeketa Community College dropped them. Since the 1970s, more than 600

high school and college teams across the country have done away with their Native American nicknames, including 20 in Oregon.

Critics say Indian mascots are racist, contending they reinforce stereotypes and promote bullying of Native students. Supporters say the mascots are a way to honor Native American history, evoking values of strength and bravery.

"It is racist. It is harmful. It is shaming. It is dehumanizing," Se-ah-dom Edmo, vice president of the Oregon Indian Education Association, told the board.

In 2006, the Oregon Board of Education adopted a nonbinding recommendation that schools stop using Native mascots. A handful did, but some small communities have resisted the trend, saying the nicknames are a source of pride.

"It's a chance for us to talk about family and tradition and loyalty," said Jim Smith, principal of Banks High School – home of the Braves – who grew up on the Fort Peck Reservation in Montana.

Banks, west of Portland, has a logo depicting an Indian head on the gymnasium floor and walls, and even on the hurdles used by the track team. When the Star Spangled Banner is played at the beginning of every game, the crowd joins in and tweaks the last stanza: "and the home of the Braves."

Some critics of the ban said they were concerned about the costs of changing sports uniforms and equipment, school letterhead and street signs.

In some areas, schools have worked with nearby tribes to change their practices without changing their nickname. Roseburg High School, home of the Indians, switched a logo depicting a Native American to a simple feather. Molalla High School changed sports jerseys to say "Molalla" instead of "Indians" and stopped using a mascot dressed like a Native American to lead cheers.

Students and teachers from schools

with Native American nicknames packed two public hearings on the topic. Some suggested they be allowed to keep their Indian nicknames if nearby tribes consent.

The board rejected that idea, with board member Artemio Paz describing it as a "search for acceptable levels of racism."

Native American mascots are a form of oppression that contributes to isolation among Native Americans and its social consequences, said Tom Ball, assistant vice president of equity and diversity at the University of Oregon. Those include high rates of suicide, incarceration and school dropout.

Oregon Department of Education officialssayWisconsinistheonlyother state to enact restrictions on Native American mascots. Wisconsin's law, approved by the Legislature in 2010, requires school boards to prove that their Indian mascots don't promote discrimination, harassment or stereotyping if someone complains. Dozens of Wisconsin schools still have Native American mascots.

The NCAA limits the use of imagery and names considered hostile and abusive, and a debate still rages over the University of North Dakota's "Fighting Sioux" nickname and a logo with the profile of an American Indian warrior.

The Oregon Legislature voted in 2001 to eliminate the word "squaw" from geographic names because many Native Americans consider it offensive.

Associated Press writer Steven Dubois contributed from Banks, Ore.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		
Address:		
City:	_ State:	_ Zip:
Phone:		
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues	<b>3</b> \$32.50	for 26 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

■ \$1.25 single copy

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## COMMENTARY

## Editorial paints deceptive picture of Okla.



S.E. RUCKMAN

Speaking of collusion, a recent editorial in the largest paper in Oklahoma served up a jolting piece the other day. In an editorial posted on May 6, a writer pointed to the traveling and collecting of one James Anaya, an indigenous rights observer for the United Nations. He was in the Sooner State, presumably because a state with 38 federally recognized tribes has its fair share dealing with indigenous

Anaya was on hand in Tulsa

Indian tribes and take notes on country; native, in essence. the position of its Native people some level, etc.

places like Suriname, Chile guessing. and Guatemala. It was likewise pointed out that the tribes here relationship with the State of in Oklahoma could not possibly Oklahoma was made possible be compared to indigenous by the generous hearts of peoples in other parts of the state voters who approved world. Seriously?

indigenous club card wasn't state-to-tribal compacts based Indians in Oklahoma had \$3.23 billion, that's a right cozy of our assertions. forsaken their indigenous relationship.

This eye-opening editorial in regards to the Declaration allowed that living in Oklahoma on the Rights of Indigenous was a lot better than it used to Peoples. As such, he was be. A side step over the past curious to see what our input fifty years of history, to be sure. was, to inquire if any issues Through our gaming funds we were of interest to us, did we now "enjoyed access to the halls find a place for improvement at of power through lobbying efforts and personal ties." This It was pointed out that is a loaded statement, implying Anaya had done similar work much more than makes any for indigenous people in tribal leader comfortable I'm

This new and improved State Question 714 in 2004, Besides wondering why our laying the groundwork for

originating in and characteristic Country. More members of state representatives get is a foundation of mainstream in Oklahoma.

acknowledged their tribal to sovereign negotiations affiliations, pumping up the questioned/examined/ membership in the Native exposed. The editorial thinkers American Caucus to 17. Many assume mixing in other of those members felt free to entities like treaty monitoring come out of the Native closet, bodies or commissions that so to speak, and acknowledge safeguard human rights would their Indian heritage.

It was noted that if or when This is telling. a dispute arose among tribes and states (think water here), "tribal governments are hardly being run over." But that in Oklahoma. He's getting the part where the tribes got a feedback from us, because fair shake--either historically, regardless of how the tribes socially or economically. here bought respectability in state politics (is there any other the times that tribes were taken way?), a platform for bettering their stance may be next. It is the intent of a position report mailed out yet, I read on. The on gaming tribes' Class III Anaya will file with The United Indians in Oklahoma (as graduated from the University implication was that somehow revenues. In a market worth Nations to make a public note

standing unlike the rest of To be fair, after gaming wind comes sweeping down officials regarding sovereign a special contributor to the the world. So I looked it up. compacts arrived, things the Plains, the state's slip is issues? No, the reason given is Native American Times. She is The meaning of indigenous is did change for us in Indian showing. For some reason, that "American Indian culture a freelance writer who is based

complicate the status quo here.

We are informed, if you read editorials, that the state admits Indians "got the short end of the stick at times in our nation's is not what Anaya is doing history." I must have missed Oklahoma's belt is notched for advantage of on a parked car date. It goes on:

Things have changed for

to meet with leaders of various of a particular region or the Oklahoma state legislature nervous having their approach Oklahoma culture." Reading between the lines, we vibe that they are us and we are them.

> Furthermore, letting international "busybodies" tinker with the strong relationship between "neighbors," is admonished. In an almost too obvious fashion, this editorial pantomime is clear: Indigenous rights belong to the rest of the world, but not to Oklahoma. Please, Mr. Anaya, make note that Oklahoma's indigenous voice belongs at the United Nations Human Rights Council table.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She per the editorial). Could it of Oklahoma's School of be improved negotiations Journalism and has written for In this case, where the between state and tribal the Tulsa World and is currently

## The casualties of war

**DR. DEAN CHAVERS** 

*Around the Campfire* © 2012

I'll never forget the first time I thought I was going south again. The target was in the second cell. Mu Gia Pass on the border of North Vietnamese ("Charlies") were bringing supplies from Hanoi to the South every day through this pass. It had high mountains on either side, with a small narrow road through around with us?

drop bombs on either side of the mountains, collapsing the rocks, which would then fall down and cover the road. Like a lot of the ideas from on high, this one was quite a bit shaky. But if you're a grunt, as I was, you can't argue with the generals. All you can do is salute and say "Yes, sir."

The coolies from the North had the road open less than two days later. But we kept bombing it and they kept opening it again—for the next six years.

I was on Dale Christian's crew. Dale was a Major. The bomb aimer was Tom Johnson, a Captain and one of the best of all time. We were headed almost straight north on the bomb run, 350 degrees. As soon as we finished releasing the bombs, we made a 180 degree turn and headed south heading 170. As soon as we rolled out, Bill Grissom, the tail gunner, called out, "Pilot, we have a fighter on our tail."

"How far back is he, Gun?" Dale asked.

"He's about 75 yards back,

sir," Bill replied. "Hang on, crew," Dale said. He put the throttles to the firewall and made a violent left hand diving turn. For the next few minutes he jinked, if you can call it that with a huge B-52. The airplane was 186 feet wide and 152 feet long. You couldn't get two of them nose-to-nose on a football field. Then Dale called out, "Where is he now, Gun?"

"He's still in the same position, sir," Bill answered.

"Fire a warning burst at him, Gun," Dale said. So Bill aimed his four fifty calibers all the way up and fired a three-

and we lost him. But he pulled airplane. to die. We had just flown the back in behind the leader of the first sortie into North Viet third cell and started harassing shot 12 SAMs at us that day. Nam by B-52s and had turned him. We were the lead aircraft But they never hit anything.

North Vietnam and Laos. The waiting for him to fire at us. To and round their scopes. If they this day we don't know what got a target, they could switch happened. Did his guns jam? to the tracking function, which Was it a North Vietnamese meant they had us in their Mig? Or was it one of our cross hairs. guys in an F-105 just messing

with a court martial. He got they went to guidance, we had an attorney to fight it, and red lights all over the airplane. did not get the court martial. If that red light ever came on, it But he had to take a letter of meant get out and fast. The five reprimand that went into his people up front had ejection permanent file. Our sin: on the seats, which meant you would bottom of page 12, it said only the last aircraft in a cell could The gun had to pull a handle fire the guns. Do you think any and dump the tail end, and of us remembered that with a literally roll out. fighter on our tail? No.

CAP (Combat Air Patrol) every aiming their SAMs like a rifle, day. They were running up to they shot them like shotguns. Hanoi and Haiphong knocking Unbelievably, they were zero for out enemy targets every day. They had been assigned to fly of years ago that my cousin cover for us, we had been told. But to them, the flight we made Beck from Petersburg, VA was was a piece of cake.

close calls. When we went in save his life. He was in an Army low we knew we were in danger. unit that was trying to help the in the same time every night. The NV had supplied farmers Marines stay alive. with shotguns with slugs, which could knock an airplane out of the sky if it hit an engine or a fuel tank. At 500 feet we knew we were vulnerable. Luckily for us, we usually took off at 10 bomber and a KC-135 tanker o'clock at night, which meant ran together north of the we were dropping bombs at Philippines. They were at the 3:00 a. m., when most people are asleep—even communists.

The other close call we had was in support of the Marines at different altitudes. at Khe Sanh, just south of the DMZ. The NV had put SAM-3s on the low mountain there, south of Saigon. They were which meant theoretically they being guided by a ground could hit us at 35,000 feet.

One day we were going across the target area at 270 degrees at noon, an unusual time for three aircraft had to fly 15 feet us. As soon as we dropped the bombs, the copilot said, "What below the lead aircraft in a cell. was that telephone pole that just went by the right wing?"

Only three of the six crew members could see outside.

It turned out that the NV had They had a search function on We, of course, had been their radar, which went round

they could switch to guidance, slept. But instead of being which meant they could steer be out in less than a second.

The VC obviously knew about The 105s were flying Mig the red lights, too. So instead of 12 that day. I learned a couple Cindy Godwin's husband Jack on the ground there that day. We had another couple of He thanked me for helping to

> We lost a total of 15 B-52s in Viet Nam. At least five of them were accidents that should not have happened. On the very first mission in 1965, a same altitude, which was the fault of someone at HQ. After that, bombers and tankers went

The other mistake happened when two B-52s ran together controller. The formation they were in scared the bejesus out of us. Number two and down, 15 feet back, and 15 feet The airplane was so big that a mistake of a few feet meant That scared the whole crew. two airplanes are going to run together.

And that's what happened. CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

second burst. It was 3:00 o'clock The pilot, copilot, and gun The wing commander at Guam, on Easter Sunday, 1966. The could see out, but the bomb a two-star named Crum, was fifties would light up the sky. aimer, navigator (me) and the on the lead aircraft. As the The fighter immediately dived EWO could not see out of the third pilot, he had no ejection seat, and went down with the aircraft. The G forces would not let him get downstairs to bail out. My friend Toki Endo, the EW on the lead, fractured his right elbow punching out. But he healed in a few weeks.

> I have hated the two crashes ever since. After Gen. Crumm went down, we stopped flying tight formations. You can't Once they launched a missile, imagine how much better I

The other accidental loss The idea was that we would rewarded, Dale was threatened the SAM into us. But when happened when a BUF lost hydraulics one night and had to land at Da Nang. Someone forgot to tell him that there was a mine field at the end of the runway, put there to slow down the VC. He had no brakes, the engine reverse was not enough to stop them on the runway, and they ran off the end.

When the mines exploded, it blew the airplane apart, and five of the six crew members were killed. The only one who got out was the gunner, who was saved by a heroic ground pounder.

The big loss was during the Christmas bombing of 1972. The four-star, Gen. John Meyer, who was a fighter pilot, sent the BUFs in from the northwest at 35,000 feet. They also went After a few evenings of this, the SAM operators got much better. They knocked down 10 of these beautiful planes. It was a waste of life, time, talent, and equipment.

They should have gone in at different times, different directions, and at 200 feet. Believe it or not, that airplane worked beautifully at 200 feet.

I knew several of those guys. In fact, Columbus AFB, my last base, was one of the two bases that lost a lot of airplanes. Marshall L. Michel III wrote the definitive book about the campaign, which was called Operation Linebacker II.

Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of Catching the Dream in Albuquerque. CTD is dedicated to providing scholarships to Native college students and helping Indian schools to improve. Contact him at

### **Letters to the Editor**

UN visit to Oklahoma

We Native people in Oklahoma were gratified that Mr. Anaya and the U.N. considered a visit to Oklahoma, the state with the most (39) Native nations, as necessary and while I don't believe many Native representatives present thought that significant change would come soon as a result of this consultation, but rather considered it a singular opportunity to be on record with the prestigious international entity the UN represents as important. The real value in making the statements may be in reminding local establishment that tribal nations have valid issues and are making them heard outside Oklahoma. We feel that a U.N. rep's visit to listen to Native concerns lends credibility, and here in the reddest (republican) of red states, we need all the help we can get.

And then .....The Daily Oklahoman outdid itself by running this blatantly biased editorial 5/9/12 titled "In Oklahoma, much has changed for the better for American Indians." Point after jaundiced point the writer brags about "our states tribal nations are stronger then ever" like 39 separate tribal entities belong to Oklahoma so that makes us grow stronger? We have become stronger but it's because we fought for every remnant of sovereignty we still enjoy. "Tribal governments enjoy access to the halls of power through lobbying efforts and personal ties." Like native people are lucky to even have any "access" to Oklahoma's "halls of power." Instead of noting the multitude of assets Native nations give to Oklahoma, not the least being one of the states largest employers (18,000 and mostly non-Native) and adding a staggering 15 BILLION dollars to the local economy, the whole tone of the Daily Oklahoman article is condescension instead of congratulatory because the U.N. visited with Native leaders. "There's no denying American Indians got the short end of the stick at times in our nation's history" is such a monumental understatement it puts the whole article into the realm of patronizing denial. The Native nations suffered centuries of the worst kind of atrocities including having their homeland taken, forcibly being put on reservations, repeated attempts at genocide and you think maybe we sort of got, "the short end of the stick"?? You think?

Dwain Camp, Ponca Elder Ponca City, Okla.

### Hat off to Tim Giago

The commentary of Tim Giago which ran in this newspaper edition April 27, 2012 is exactly correct. Larry Echo Hawk served as an ineffective Asst. Secretary of the Interior as my experience and documents confirm. Mr. Echo Hawk was a law professor at Bringham Young University prior to appointment of Asst. Secretary and yet Mr. EchoHawk seemed to have no knowledge of Federal Law 25 USC 1901, the Federal Indian Child Welfare Act or any Indian Law for that matter.

Apparently Mr. Echo Hawk's Association with the Mormon Church was more important than the laws of the United States. Mr. Giago explains this point very well in his commentary published by this newspaper. When Mr. Echo Hawk was appointed by the president in less than thirty days the United States Senate provided advice and consent. My experience with the federal government thirty days is required to read a letter sent to these politicians.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is a broken bureaucracy from the region office to Washington D.C., and reform of this federal agency will only be accomplished when Native peoples stand together and demand reform.

My hat is off to Tim Giago for having the guts to speak the truth of "We the People" government. "We the People" government has never existed for Native peoples and does not exist in the year 2012.

Larry Shelton, Choctaw Citizen Idabel, Okla.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

### **WALK**

Continued from Page 1

Act, "to ensure that federal laws protecting the free exercise of religion include protection of traditional Native American Sacred Places where ceremonies, commemorations, observances or worship are conducted or occur, and to provide a right of action to protect Native American Sacred Places."

"This is a spiritual issue. We believe that Congress needs to address specific legislation to protect sacred places in an inclusive manner for all people whom those places affect ... By walking the Trail of Broken Promises we call attention to the spiritual interconnectedness that we as human beings have with our environment and all elements within it," Millicent Pepion, of the Navajo and Blackfeet Nations, said to United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples James Anaya, on May 3 in Tulsa. "We declare that a mutual respect and dignity be given to Native American people in concerns that affect our home communities. We respectfully request that the U.S. government adhere to our cultural, social, medical, environmental, and spiritual interests that the Trail of Broken Promises members seek to protect."

Pepion is active in the Wetlands Preservation Organization and the Indigenous and American Indian Studies Club at Haskell. Her quest to bring awareness to the wetlands is part of her Commitment to Action that was accepted into the Clinton Global Initiative University. In her commitment letter she quotes Dr. Daniel Wildcat, her advisor, as reminding her, "It is not our right to protect Mother Earth, it is our responsibility."

"It could be these wetlands or the San Francisco Peaks. If we allow desecration of these sacred places in the name of 'progress,' what chance does any place in this world have? Or animals and people?" she stated.

The Federal Highway
Administration and the Kansas
Department of Transportation

have been fighting to pave through the wetlands, located behind the Haskell campus, for years. The issue remains in court, however, a U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals decision is due this month, according to Kansas transportation officials. The Sierra Club and other environmental groups have also voiced opposition to the \$174 million project that would steer traffic from the southeast side to the northwest side of Lawrence.

"This is not just another 'Indian problem.' Forced relocation of these plants and animals is both an environmental and social threat. As one of the country's remaining natural wetlands, this ground is home to a multitude of indigenous medicinal plants from Evening Primrose to Eastern Red Cedar. It is also a common stop for some 260 migratory birds. This delicate ecosystem is of sentimental significance as well," Pepion, a Haskell Indigenous and American Indian Studies junior, stated. "When Haskell was first founded as an Indian boarding school in 1884, the wetlands were a sanctuary for its earliest students. Current Haskell students use the wetlands as a place to study, relax, and perform ceremonies."

Students on The Trail of Broken Promises harvested a 2,000 lb. buffalo days before they left Lawrence in order to obtain the energy needed to fulfill their journey. They will trek through Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland. They are divided into four teams: land, animal, people and drivers. Among other duties, the land team will pick up trash along the freeway; the animal team will coordinate meals; the people team will meet with local people along the route, and the driver's team will help everyone and set up tents. All teams help to haul water. Each team has their own starting and stopping point, but they camp together each night.

The first resting stop for the group was 2 miles east of DeSoto, Kan. on the Shawnee Reserve Number 206.

"They had a great time while here. We provided the facilities they needed, got some great pictures. (It was a) beautiful night for them. Great students, very smart. (We) had a great bonfire for them. We wish them a safe trip; (we) talked about how to be safe," United Tribe of Shawnee Indians Principal Chief Jim Oyler said. "Great people; sure glad they had time to spend the night here on our Indian Country."

The teams are traveling approximately 30 miles each day for four days then they rest. The group connected onto the Potawatomi Trail of Death while in Buckner, Mo., and they will disconnect from the trail on June 6 in Lafayette, Ind. From September to November 1838 Potawatomi Indians were forcibly removed by the U.S. government from their homelands in Indiana to Kansas, and 42 people died; making it The Trail of Death.

The group has already visited the Shawnee Indian Mission while passing through Shawnee, Kan., and they plan on ending up at Carlisle Indian Boarding School on July 4. Anyone interested in hosting the group or making a donation for trip expenses/ supplies can contact Pepion at (480) 258-2930.

"We have a choice to either work with or against our environments. I am against the desecration of sacred places. I am against people who choose to ignore certain members of their community. Most of all, I am against organizations who are unwilling to keep their promises. The history of my people has taught me that the decisions made in the past have not always been in the majority's best interest. I refuse to sit on the outskirts of an irresponsible society and let them decide what they think is best for me and my generation, and future generations!" Pepion stated. "Lastly, let it be known the Wakarusa Wetlands is but one piece of land that is asking for help. All of this land, all over the world, is calling for representatives. The Trail of Broken Promises is committed to addressing their cries as well."

The Trail of Broken Promises can be followed on Face book at: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Trail-Of-Broken-Promises/300284686671395 and on Twitter at: http://twitter.com/#!/ToBP2012.

# Chilocco Class of '62 reunion June 7-9

NEWKIRK, Okla. – The Chilocco Class of 1962 is hosting reunion activities at the First Council Casino, in Newkirk, Okla., June 7-9. Campus activities and evening powwow June 8 are free to attend.

Reunion organizers would like to especially invite all graduates and loved ones to dance with them at the powwow on Friday, June 8. For more information contact Charmain Billy 580-762-7938, Jim Baker 405-612-1099 or Garland Kent 580-762-5112.

Chilocco Class of '62: Alene Auck, Larry Austin, Alene Bailey, Rosie Baker, Olson Begay, Della Botella, Judy Burch, Keith Buffalohead, Charles Burris, Henry Bushyhead, Paul Carpenter, Dominick Cerino, Sylvia Cloud, Dora Culley, Juan Louis Curley, James Deere, Jr., Gena Denson, Joe Dick, Lester Eagle, Wilbur Frazier, Buena Gouladdle, Bill Glass, Dean Hudson, Thurman Hudson, Bernice Hulwa, Malcolm Isaac, Tommy Johnson, Roberta LaBatte, Richard Lasley,

Dixon Lewis, Suzanna Lossiah, Doris Marks, Doris McClure, Paige McDonald, Jimmy McGilbra, Ralph McNac, Peggy Lou Nix, Henrietta Osceola, Charmain Pensoneau, Sally Pickering, Margaret Polk, Adrian Seaman, Bobby Lee Smith, Toby Smith, Hattie Smith, Sue Smith, Ina Mae Spencer, Alma Spottedwolf, Thomas Springer, Claude Steve, Joseph Steve, Junior Thompson, Marjorie Tubby, Edna Tucker, Minnie Pearl Wade, Viona Weiser, Stanford Wells, Esther Wesley, Don Wildcat, Alice Wilson, Velma Wolf, Randy Wood.

Classmates no longer with us: Charlotte Bascome, Allen Blalock, Wayne BlueBack, Judson Deere, Clifford Doyeto, Arlene Feathers, Jenny Horsechief, Luke Jimmie, Wilma Sue Kinney, Henry Mann, Jr., Josh Morris, Reginald Nibbs, Paul Peyketewa, Dashne Sandoval, Victor Smith, Harry Tiger, Linda Wahpepah, Albert Wolfe, Tony York.

## Foundation establishes \$1 million endowment at TU

TULSA, Okla. – Cherokee students planning to pursue higher education at The University of Tulsa are now eligible to obtain additional funding through a newly established \$1 million endowment.

Through a 2-to-1 matching program by TU, the Cherokee Nation Foundation's \$333,334 gift was amplified to create the endowment.

The scholarship will be awarded to select Cherokee Nation students who show exemplary leadership qualities in their communities and are eager to use their education to serve their tribe. The funds may be used to pay for books, housing expenses, fees, tuition and other academic expenses.

"Education has always been a priority for the Cherokee people," said Bill John Baker, Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. "It is the most valuable asset we can give our children, and we are blessed to work with yet another outstanding university that shares our passion for education."

"This step is the latest in a long and proud association between TU and the

Cherokee people," said TU President Steadman Upham. "We are especially honored that our alumni are well represented within the tribe's leadership. These leaders provide strong models for the scholars who will benefit from this fund. The step we take today allows new generations to build upon our work and create greater prosperity and achievement that benefit us all."

The funds were part of an estate donation made to the Cherokee Nation Foundation honoring Cherokee citizen Martha Redus. Her generous contributions continue to support the foundation's mission to provide higher education assistance to Cherokee citizens.

"This partnership furthers our commitment to Cherokee students and their dreams of higher education," said Robin Ballenger, Board President of Cherokee Nation Foundation. "With generous support from loyal donors such as Martha, we are able to continue to invest in opportunities for our youth, knowing that their generation's success will become our greatest accomplishment."

## CLASSIFIEDS















### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



### **Chief Financial Officer**

Cimarron Casino, located in Perkins, OK is accepting applications for Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The CFO will be responsible for the financial statements and financial activities of Cimarron Casino, its component units, and/or any other entities as assigned.

As a key member of the Executive Management team, the CFO will report to the Cimarron Casino Enterprises (CCE) Board of Directors (aka lowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee) and assume a strategic role in the overall management of the Accounting Department. The CFO will play a critical role in developing and implementing the financial strategy for Cimarron Casino.

The CFO will directly assist the lowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee with all strategic and tactical matters as they relate to budget management, cost benefit analysis, forecasting needs, and securing new funding.

The CFO will establish and maintain Cimarron Casino and the lowa Tribe of Oklahoma's financial policies and procedures and provide operational and administrative direction to the accounting, budgeting, treasury, tax, and investor relations functions. The CFO directly supervises the General Accounting Manager and indirectly supervises the activities of all employees who work in the Accounting Department.

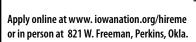
### Requirements

Gaming industry experience is required. Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Accounting or Finance required; MBA preferred. Mature and proactive, with evidence of having worked as a true business partner to the CEO of a multi-divisional organization. Casino experience a must.

Ten-plus (10+) years of broad finance experience, ideally beginning in accounting, followed by experience gathering and evaluating financial information and making actionable recommendations to senior leadership. Must have experience managing the accounting/finance functions (accounting, budgeting, control, and reporting) within a diverse tribal/casino-based entity.

Valid Certified Public Accountant (CPA) designation required.

The lowa Tribe of Oklahoma operates a drug-free workplace. The selected applicant must submit to and pass applicable drug test. Additionally, selected individual must be bondable and able to pass background check in order to obtain a gaming license from the lowa Tribe of Oklahoma Gaming Commission.







### **General Manager**

Cimarron Casino, located in Perkins, OK is accepting applications for General Manager. The General Manager is responsible for the successful overall direction, administration and coordination of all activities at Cimarron Casino Enterprises, in accordance with the policies, procedures and objectives established by the lowa Tribe of Oklahoma, with the ultimate objective to provide the maximum profit and return on investment. The General Manager will ensure a maximum level of guest service and satisfaction throughout the property is achieved and maintained. The General Manager directly supervises all department heads, the Administrative Assistant and the maintenance department and indirectly supervises the activities of all employees who work on the property.

#### Requirements: Bachelor's degr

Bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university, or four to six years related experience and/or training, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Ten (10) to fifteen (15) years experience in the gaming industry required. Minimum of five (5) years management experience on an executive level required. Must possess excellent communication skills, and effective public speaking skills.

The lowa Tribe of Oklahoma operates a drug-free workplace. The selected applicant must submit to and pass applicable drug test. Additionally, selected individual must be bondable and able to pass background check in order to obtain a gaming license from the lowa Tribe of Oklahoma Gaming Commission.

Apply online at www. iowanation.org/hireme or in person at 821 W. Freeman, Perkins, Okla.



11, 2012.

Riverside Indian School in Anadarko,
OK is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

HS Academic Counselor

NATI

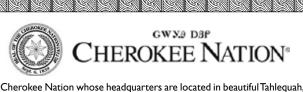
AMERIC

HS Academic Counselor
HS Math Teacher
HS Science Teacher
HS English/Reading Teacher
Special Education Teacher

For information about these vacancies you may visit the school website www. ris.bie.edu or call 405-247-6670.

# NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com



Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

### CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

#6543 INPATIENT RN/R/FT/ER,
WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL CLOSE 5/22/12

#4713 INPATIENT RN/RPN/T/PT/OR, WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL CLOSE 5/23/12

#6537 MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST/R/FT,

WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL, CLOSE 5/25/12

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

Cherokee Nation
Human Resources Department
PO Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465
(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050
Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

### **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is advertising for Architectural/Engineering Services for the design and construction of an Elder Center which will contain the elderly nutrition center. This new facility will be located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve which is east of Pawnee, Oklahoma. The complete Request for Qualifications including the criteria that will be used to select the most qualified firm is available upon written request.

Submit your request for the full RFQ by fax at 918-762-6446 or by email (mrobedeaux@pawneenation.org) and please include your email address and/or your fax number.

Qualifications documents must be received no later than 4:30 pm on Monday, June

Point of Contact for Information: Muriel Robedeaux, ICDBG Coordinator

Contact: Marshall R. Gover, President, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, (918) 762-3621, Fax: (918) 762-6446. Attn: ICDBG Pawnee Tribal Elder Center Project

## Brittany Morgan Hill wins Miss Indian Oklahoma

READER SUBMISSION

OKLAHOMA CITY The Miss and Ir. Miss Indian Oklahoma pageant was held May 12, 2012, in Oklahoma City.

The pageant is hosted by the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women. The theme of the pageant this year was: "Remembering our Native Mothers: Their Spirit, Strength, and Beauty". Each candidate competed in the categories of: essay writing, personal interview, description of tribal dress, tribal greeting/ traditional introduction, talent, contemporary wear, presentation of platform and impromptu question. The age division for Miss Indian Oklahoma is 18-24 years old. Brittany Morgan Hill was awarded Best Tribal Greeting and the title of 2012 Miss Indian Oklahoma. The title of Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma was awarded to Jasa Lightfoot of Apache, OK.

Brittany Morgan Hill belongs to Yankton Sioux tribe of Marty, SD and the Muscogee (Creek) tribe of Oklahoma. Her Indian name is "Maka Duta Win", which translates to "Red Earth Woman". She is the 21 year old daughter of Levi Hill, originally of Eufaula, Ok, and Deborah Hill, originally of Marty, SD. Brittany currently



resides with her family in Broken Arrow, OK. She has two sisters, Jennifer Niyah and Breana Hill, along with two nephews Joseph and Brandon Niyah. **Brittany** has relatives from California to West Virginia. Including South Dakota, New Mexico, North Carolina, Florida and of course here in Oklahoma. Brittany is a former 2008-2009 Tulsa Powwow Princess 2009-2010 Eufaula Indian Community Powwow Princess. Brittany believes that she is a summation of her parents, grandparents, ancestors and her community.

She is very proud of her Native culture and heritage which is embedded into her daily life. Brittany and her family love to travel throughout Indian country to various powwows and events. Brittany currently attends the College of Muscogee Nation and OSUIT in Okmulgee, OK where she is majoring in Sociology/Criminology with a minor in Native American Studies. Brittany has set her sights and goals high for her future. Her plan is to become an advocate for our native youth and the challenges they face in Indian Country. Her platform for the pageant was raising awareness regarding the issue of suicide among our Native youth. Brittany is dedicated to joining and working with others in their commitments to improving the overall well-being of our Native American families and communities all across Indian country. She not only wants to be an advocate, but a voice for our Native youth.

Brittany would like to thank her family and friends for all their love and support. She looks forward to an exciting reign representing her family, tribes, community, the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women as well as all Indian people throughout Oklahoma as the 2012 Miss Indian Oklahoma.

Master of Ceremonies  $\Diamond$  Frank Carson 2011 Tribal Princess 

Alexis Tanyan

2012 Tribal Princess \( \text{Danelle Springer} \) Head Gourd Dance Singer \( \rangle \) Leonard Cozad Jr.

Head War Dance Singer \( \rightarrow John Arkeketa \)

Head Man Dancer  $\Diamond$  George Alexander

Head Lady Dancer \( \rightarrow \) Michelle Garcia-Holiday

Head Gourd Dancer ◊ John Shotten

Northern Drum 

Blackbird

Arena Directors  $\Diamond$  Pat Moore & Bear Murray

Co-Host ◊ Red Rock Creek

Water Boys \( \rightarrow Josh & Jordan Murray \)

Pow Wow Committee O Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731 John "Kandie" Des Jarlait

Lori Murray

Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600

#### nformation: Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731

#### **FRIDAY**

5:00 PM LOWER FLAG 6:30 PM **GOURD DANCE** 7:00 PM **REGISTRATION OPENS** 

7:30 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 10:30 PM SPECIAL "49" CONTEST

**SATURDAY** 2:00 PM **GOURD DANCE** 5:00 PM **LOWER FLAG EVENING MEAL BREAK** 5:30 PM

6:30 PM **GOURD DANCE REGISTRATION OPENS** 7:00 PM 7:30 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 

11:00 PM SPECIAL GEORGE GIBSON MEMORIAL STOMP DANCE CONTEST

**SUNDAY GOURD DANCE** 2:00 PM LOWER FLAG **GRAND ENTRY** 

### American Indian Arts & Crafts/ Food Vendors

Coordinated by Iowa Tribe Enterprises Linda Big Soldier, CEO Must complete application Reservations & information: 405-547-4239 or lbigsoldier@iowanation.org

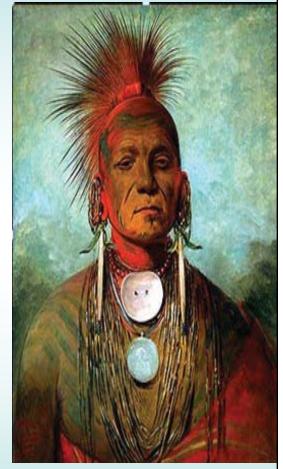


### 27th Annual Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma POWWOW

June 15-16-17, 2012

**Bah-Kho-Je Pow Wow Grounds** 

Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Oklahoma



#### Contests

Rules: Must register and be in parade in on night of contest Must be in full regalia to receive prize Committee reserves right to combine or separate divisions

Tiny Tots (0-6) - Combined boys & girls, combined divisions Jr. Girls (7-12) - Combined divisions Jr. Boys (7-12) - Combined divisions Teen Girls (13-17) - Combined cloth/buckskin; fancy shawl/jingle Teen Boys (13-17) - Combined grass & traditional; straight; fancy Women (18-54) - Cloth; buckskin; combined fancy shawl/jingle Men (18-54) - Straight; fancy; combined traditional/grass

Golden Age Men (55+) - Combined divisions Gold Age Women (55+) - Combined divisions





## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Veteran's Organization

Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

**YOUTH COUNCIL** The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west cherokeeartistsassociation.org of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

> **MAY 25 Native American Student** Association at OSUIT/ **CMN Indian Taco Sale,** 11am-2pm at Okmulgee Indian Community Center. \$6 including drink and a dessert. Free delivery for orders of three or more otherwise a \$.50 delivery fee per taco. Accepting pre-orders. Contact rsourjohn21@ymail.com or (918) 304-7802

**MAY 26** The Sac and Fox Nation

6th annual Memorial Day **Gourd Dance & Powwow. Gourd Dancing Starts at** 2pm. Traditional Dinner for all participants from 5pm until 6pm. Grand Entry at 7pm. We put a flag on every deceased vets' grave in 10 tribal cemeteries.

Art Class: Slate Rock Art Paintings by Bill McCulley at Council House Museum, 106 W. 6th Okmulgee, Okla. Class is limited to 20 people. Reserve your spot call 918-756-2324 or csago71@ sbcglobal.net 10 a.m.-2 pm. Free.

JUNE 1

- 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East **Beaumont Drive, Norman,** Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 2

**Tinker Intertribal Powwow in** Joe B. Barnes Regional Park in Midwest City, Okla. from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Interested vendors or participants should contact Corene Chakenatho at (405) 734-7366.

**JUNE 4 Osage Election Day Dance** at Osage Campus Lawn, **Grandview Avenue,** Pawhuska. Gourd Dance at 2pm and 6pm. 7:00 processional, war mothers songs, social dancing until too dark to see, work in the morning!

JUNE 8 **Chilocco Powwow in the** 

**Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache Fire Dance. Contact Garland Kent, Sr at 580-352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox **Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

**JUNE 10-16 Jim Thorpe Native American** Games at Remington Park, Oklahoma City. Proceeds benefit the Jim Thorpe **Bright Path Youth Programs** and Awakening The Spirit **Diabetes Prevention and Control program. Contact** Annetta Abbott: 405-208-9253

www.jimthorpegames.com Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 4th **Annual Golf Tournament** kicking off Iowa Tribal Powwow - 8am at Cimarron Trails in Perkins, Okla. Registration begins at 7am. Info call Linda Andre 405-

**JUNE 15-17 Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma** 27th Annual Pow Wow, Bah-Kho-Je PowWow Grounds, Hwy #177, 4

547-5352 Ext 23

miles south of Perkins, Okla Free admission, camping, contests in all divisions, arts & crafts, rations. Contact Robert Murray 580-304-6731 or Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600.

JUNE 16 The 17th Annual Oklahoma **Indian All-State Basketball** Games at the sports center on the Oklahoma Wesleyan University campus in Bartlesville. Games will start at 6:00 P.M. For more info: contact us 918-642-3162, paradox@valornet.com

**JUNE 23 Creek Council House Museum's Indian Art Festival** 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918-756-2324

**JUNE 28 – JULY 1 Pawnee Indian veterans** Powwow held at the Memorial Stadium. For more info call Toni Hill (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25

**JUNE 30** 47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729 HWY 9 West, Seminole, Okla. All descendants of **London Coker and wife** Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044. Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM

- 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JUNE 30** Murrow Indian Children's Home Benefit Powwow. 3pm-11pm at Bacone College, Muskogee.

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**AUGUST 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 7** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

# Choctaw Casino Resort unveiling Gilley's venue June 1

Grand opening celebration includes a special performance by iconic country star Mickey Gilley, autograph signings from professional bull riders and rodeo champions, live music, food and drink specials, prize giveaways and more.

#### **CLAIRE BLOXOM**

DURANT, Okla. – A major milestone will be reached on Friday, June 1, 2012, at Choctaw Casino Resort in Durant, Oklahoma, with the unveiling of Gilley's, the iconic Texas entertainment venue made famous in the 1980 blockbuster, Urban Cowboy.

The Gilley's at Choctaw unveiling will kick off at 6 p.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by a special performance by Mickey Gilley and the original Gilley's band, Chris Rivers Band. Additional festivities include:

Autograph signings by multiple professional bull riders and rodeo champions, including Professional Bull Riders' (PBR) World Champion Justin McBride, legendary PBR bull riders Tuff Hedeman and Mark Cain, and more.

Live concerts from Somebody's Darling, John David Kent, In10City, Jamie Richards, Arkbuckle Xpress, and more.

Performances from the "Gilley Girls" dressed in cowgirl-attire from head to toe.

Food and drink specials and tasting events, including Bud

and Sissy-sized beer, cocktail and shot specialsOne-of-a-kind, custom Gilley's merchandise giveaways.

Free mechanical bull rides.

Gilley's at Choctaw, which is located on the north side of Choctaw Casino Resort in the space previously home to the Diamondback Lounge, encompasses a full-service restaurant and bar/nightclub with 176 seats, a dance floor, an iconic mechanical bull like the one made famous from Urban Cowboy, and two bars with a dedicated draught beer system offering up to eight beers on tap, 32-ounce man-sized draft beers called "Bud," 16-ounce, regular-sized draft beers called "Sissy," and Gilley's specialty drinks served by the Gilley Girls dressed in cowgirl-attire from head to toe.

The new Gilley's Durant at Choctaw also features a 500-square-foot performance stage, which is positioned in the center of the venue and offers 360-degree views, including from the gaming floor. Live entertainment will take place each weekend from local, regional and national artists, with several shows already confirmed from musicians such as Two Tons of Steel, Chris Zalez & The Pistoleros, Jason Eady Band, TJ McFarland, and more.

"The addition of Gilley's Durant at Choctaw adds a unique southern charm to Choctaw Casino Resort and certainly makes our customer's overall experience a lot more fun," said Janie Dillard, executive director of gaming for the Choctaw Nation.



The Cheyenne Chiefs are a regular at the Red Earth parade. This year the parade route will circle the Myriad Botanical Gardens in downtown Oklahoma City.

#### EU E

# Red Earth announces new parade route to open 26th annual festival

**ERIC OESCH** 

**CITY OKLAHOMA** - A new parade route that circles the Myriad Botanical Gardens following \$43 million makeover in downtown Oklahoma City will signal the opening of the 26th annual Red Earth Festival on Friday, June 8. The Red Earth parade has been referred to as America's most unique parade and features hundreds of participants in authentic tribal regalia, drum groups, tribal princesses,

floats, bands and other participants.

The streets will vibrate with Native American Spirit as the Red Earth Festival celebrates its 26th year of being Oklahoma's premiere cultural experience. The parade starts at 10 am with line-up in the 500 block of West California. The route will proceed south on Walker Avenue to Reno Avenue and will continue east to Robinson. The parade then traves north on Robinson to Sheridan and continues west one block to Hudson where it will conclude.

The parade is expected to

last approximately one hour signaling the opening of the Red Earth Art Market at 11 am followed by the Grand Entry of Dancers scheduled for noon inside the Cox Convention Center Arena directly across from the

Myriad Gardens.

Last year the Red Earth Parade featured had nearly 100 entries with 10,000 spectators along the streets to experience the colorful event. The parade is free to the public and free for participants.

Participants may include but are not limited to Tribal programs, officials & princesses, color guards, dancers, musicgroups, school groups, drum groups and community organizations.

Tickets to attend the Red Earth Festival are \$10 for adults, \$7.50 for seniors and youth and free for children under five. Three day passes and group rates are available. Tickets can be purchased online at www.ticketmaster. com or in person at the Cox Convention Center Box Office.

For Red Earth parade applications or additional information visit www. redearth.org or call (405) 427-5228.

## Bacone hosting benefit powwow for Murrow Indian Children's Home

MUSKOGEE, Okla. -Bacone College through its mission to serve American Indians is hosting a Benefit Pow Wow for the Murrow Indian Children's Home (Murrow). The Benefit Pow Wow is to assist Murrow with its ability to sustain efforts to meet the needs of the Murrow residents. The Benefit Pow Wow is scheduled for Saturday, June 2012 and is to be held in the Warrior Gym on the Bacone College Campus, 2299 Old Bacone Road in Muskogee, OK. The Benefit Pow Wow is sponsored by the Murrow Indian

Children's Home and hosted by the Center for American Indians at Bacone College. The schedule includes gourd dancing at 3:00 PM, supper at 5:00 PM, gourd dancing at 6:00 PM, evening program at 7:00 PM, and closing song at 11:00 PM. The head staff includes; Choogie Kingfisher of Tahlequah, OK serving as the Master of Ceremonies; Joel Deerinwater of Tahlequah, OK serving as the head singer; Savannah Waters of Owasso, OK and the reigning Ponca Tribal Princess serving as the head lady dancer; Eric Hicks of Okemah, OK serving

as the head man dancer; Eli Crowels of Tulsa, OK serving as the head gourd dancer; and Robbie Anquoe, of Tulsa, OK and President of the Tulsa Pow Wow Club, serving as the arena director. Arts & Crafts vendors are welcome, please contact Sharla at (918) 230-2174. Please bring your own chairs for seating.

Contact Pete Coser, Sr. at (918) 360-6471 or by email at coserp@bacone.edu or Betty R. Martin at (918) 682-2586 for further information or clarification. Everyone welcome.

Raquel O. Grant, a citizen of the Muscogee Creek tribe and a graduate of Wewoka High School, has signed a letter of intent to play college basketball at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. Raquel maintained a 4.0 GPA her senior year and made First Team for Indian All State and picked up MVP awards from her coaches and All Tourney from 4 Love of the Game. Raquel is the daughter of Lori Proctor and Mandrill Grant, and the granddaughter of Lydia and Lumber Proctor, Dianne and Gheral Payne. Congratulations Raquel!





We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

INDIAN LAW
PROBATE
ADOPTIONS

RESTRICTED LAND ISSUES

SOCIAL SECURITY
DISABILITY



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA
VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

### **Inside this issue:**

- Surgical scars provoke protest
- LaDonna Harris 'adopts' actor Johnny Depp
- Nixon, Self Determination, subject of talk









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# AMERICAN

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 22

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

JUNE 1, 2012

## US court upholds \$3.4B Indian royalty settlement



The settlement is the result of a class-action lawsuit filed in 1996 by Blackfeet tribal member Elouise Cobell, pictured here, who died of cancer in October.

■ While the settlement may not be as much as some wished, the deal provides a way out of a legal morass and provides some certainty for the beneficiaries.

**MATT VOLZ** Associated Press

HELENA, Montana (AP) -A panel of appellate judges on May 22 upheld a \$3.4 billion settlement between the U.S. government and hundreds of thousands of Native American plaintiffs whose land trust royalties were mismanaged by the Interior Department.

The ruling means that

settlement checks could be mailed to members of the classaction lawsuit within weeks, said plaintiffs' attorney Dennis Gingold. Further appeals would delay that disbursement, and the attorney for the challenger, Kimberly Craven of Boulder, Colorado, said they are considering their options.

The three-judge panel from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia dismissed the challenge by Craven, who had objected that the settlement did not include an actual accounting for how much money the government lost and said that the deal would overcompensate a select few beneficiaries.

But the judges said in their ruling that the government would be unable to perform an

accurate accounting, the deal is fair and it is the best that can be hoped for to avoid years of additional litigation.

Craven's characterization of the settlement as taking shortcuts "is to ignore the history of this hard-fought litigation and the obstacles to producing an historical accounting," the judges said in their ruling.

The settlement is the result of a class-action lawsuit filed in 1996 by Blackfeet tribal member Elouise Cobell, who died of cancer in October. The lawsuit had originally sought to find out how much money had been mismanaged, squandered or lost by the Department of the Interior, which held the trust

See ROYALTY Continued on Page 3



OKLAHOMA CITY THEATRE COMPANY | COURTESY

Actors Jeremy Tanequodle, left, and Tiffany Tuggle play the characters Wolf and Memela in Salvage, the mainstage production of the annual Native American New Play Festival, June 1-10, in Oklahoma City

## Play festival debuts Native works

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY -Family turmoil on Montana's Blackfeet Reservation plays out on the Oklahoma City Civic Center Music Hall stage when the 3rd Annual Native American New Play Festival begins this weekend.

Diane Glancy's drama titled Salvage is the featured production of the festival, presented by Oklahoma City Theatre Company. The play, about a struggling family caught up in a feud with another following a fatal car accident, will be shown June 1-10 in OKC Civic Center Music Hall's versatile CitySpace Theatre.

The festival started as a way to set OKC Theatre Co. apart from other groups.

"This is something not offered anywhere else in the country but for the state of California," said Rachel Irick, company artistic director. "It made sense for Oklahoma to be home for that kind of work where playwrights establish and emerge as leaders in this art form."

The Autry National Center is home to the Native Voices at the Autry program, created to develop and produce new works for live theater by Native Americans as well as Alaska Native and First Nations playwrights. The Native American Play Festival wasn't patterned after the Autry program, but the results are similar.

When Salvage opens Friday, June 1, audiences will see a contemporary piece of storytelling told

by Native Americans and reflecting the lives they live today. Set in an auto salvage yard, a young man named Wolf has hit another car accidentally, and his father, Wolfert, is badly injured. When a passenger in the other vehicle dies, old clan rivalries reemerge to make them and Wolf's wife, Memela, targets. Internal tensions among the characters surface as the pressure builds outside of the salvage yard, and themes

See FESTIVAL Continued on Page 4

## Judge allows **Shoshone tribe into** eagle permit case

■ The Fish and Wildlife Service stated it had conferred with the **Eastern Shoshone and** learned that the tribe was opposed to eagles being killed on the reservation, which the two tribes share.

**BEN NEARY** Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - A federal judge is allowing the Eastern Shoshone Tribe to challenge the Northern Arapaho's plan to kill bald eagles on the reservation they share in Wyoming.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson on May 18 agreed to allow the Eastern Shoshone Tribe to participate as a "friend of the court" in the lawsuit the Northern Arapaho Tribe filed last year against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The federal agency in March issued the Northern Arapaho Tribe the nation's first permit

allowing the killing of bald eagles for religious purposes. The permit would allow the Northern Arapaho to kill two bald eagles, but only outside the Wind River Indian Reservation.

Other tribes and individual Indians in the Southwest have secured federal permits allowing them to kill golden eagles.

In specifying that the Northern Arapaho could only kill eagles off the reservation, the Fish and Wildlife Service stated it had conferred with the Eastern Shoshone and learned that the tribe was opposed to eagles being killed on the reservation, which the two tribes share.

The Fish and Wildlife Service stated in March that the Northern Arapaho wouldn't need permission from the State of Wyoming to kill eagles off the reservation with a federal permit. However, Johnson appeared to have a different view of that in his order allowing the Shoshone to intervene.

permitted "(T)he area expressly excludes lands within the Wind River Indian

See EAGLE Continued on Page 3



The Northern Arapaho have maintained in their lawsuit that they have a right under the U.S. Constitution to kill eagles for their religious ceremonies.

## Tribes criticize govt. over proposed pipeline

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Tribes from four states say the federal government is ignoring them in talks over the potential approval of a 300-mile pipeline aimed at pumping billions of gallons of water from rural areas along the Nevada-Utah border.

Southern Nevada Water Authority won approval in March from Nevada's state engineer to pump up to 84,000 acre-feet of water from rural areas to quench the thirst of the Las Vegas Valley.

Officials are now waiting on required permits from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to build the \$3.5 billion pipeline.

In a statement May 23, tribal leaders from Nevada, Utah, California and Arizona say their input is being ignored as talks continue about the pipeline, which they claim will involve digging on Indian ancestral land in areas where ancient remains and artifacts are located.

## Surgical scars some see as racist provoke protest

Many in the Native American community believe there are different standards of justice for them and for other races.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) -Hundreds of people marched Monday in support of a man who says the letters KKK were carved into his stomach by a surgeon at a South Dakota hospital.

A YouTube video featuring 69-year-old Vern Traversie, a Lakota man who lives on the Cheyenne River Reservation, has gone viral in Native American communities. In it, Traversie shows a photo of his abdomen. Though he himself is blind, Traversie says he was told by others that the scars left after his heart surgery make out the hateful letters, and he is outraged.

The problem is, not everyone sees it. Like those spotting the Madonna in a water stain, Traversie's advocates are staunch believers. Those who aren't include police who investigated his allegations and hospital officials.

Rapid City police say they conducted an investigation but found no evidence of a crime. Craig Saunders, a cardiologist at

Barnabas Hospital in Newark, N.J., said incision marks can take many different shapes, depending on where the doctor needs to get into the body.

Saunders, who did not operate on Traversie, said surgical tape also can leave scarring lesions depending on the make-up of the person's body.

The lack clear letters hasn't deterred Traversie, supporters or those who see the scars as just evidence more continued mistreatment Native American people.

"Rapid City ... we understand you have been carving our people. is going end today," American Indian Movement founder Dennis Banks said to a roaring crowd before leading the supporters on a more

than two-mile long march from a and incarceration rates among Rapid City plaza to the hospital

Native Americans as their reasons

where the surgery happened.

While Traversie's story spurred the protest, many in attendance referred to broken treaties, unsolved murders



KARIN EAGLE | COURTESY NATIVE SUN NEWS

Dennis Banks, American Indian Movement co-founder, prepares to lead a protest march on Rapid City Regional Hospital May 21. The march was held in support of Cheyenne River elder Vernon Traversie, who alleges surgery performed at the hospital last August left him with racist for showing up.

"We're classified as second class citizens," said Hap Marshall, 69, a resident of the Cheyenne River reservation. "But when they want our votes, we're their brother."

The protest was relatively peaceful. Officers from the Rapid City Police Department blocked off traffic as the supporters, many dressed in red shirts and waving American Indian Movement flags, marched to the beat of a drummer riding in a truck leading the way. Passing cars occasionally honked.

A group of about 15 people including Banks and Oglala Sioux Vice President Tom Poor Bear - met with officials at the hospital, while police prevented other supporters from entering the building.

The march was largely organized by Cody Hall, who lives on the Cheyenne River Reservation, and Chase Iron Eyes, who lives on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation that straddles the North Dakota-South Dakota border, in an effort to bring attention to what they say is continued mistreatment of Native American people.

Many in the Native American community believe there are different standards of justice for them and for other races, said Stew Magnuson, who writes a column for a Native American newspaper and wrote a book about issues on South Dakota's

Pine Ridge Reservation.

Prior to the 1970s and the American Indian Movement, Native Americans felt powerless without representation on juries. AIM changed that by marching into towns and demanding justice, which no one had ever seen before, Magnuson said, adding: "So, I think some of these feelings live on, rightly or wrongly."

As long as the marches and rallies remain peaceful, Magnuson said he believes the demonstrations are an appropriate way for Native Americans to get their voice heard. On the other hand, he said, people can't let rumor and speculation be the narrative of the story.

Some Pine Ridge reservation residents - Native American and non-Native - mentioned a March protest as an example of an instance when demonstrators didn't check their facts beforehand.

In that incident, a group of residents began protesting what they said was a truck carrying materials for TransCanada's Keystone XL project. The Oglala Sioux and Rosebud Sioux tribes have been vocal in their disapproval of the proposed pipeline that would bring oil from Canada's tar sands region in Alberta to refineries along the Texas Gulf Coast.

But the trucks they were attempting to block were not a part of the pipeline, which has been stalled by rejection of a federal permit.

## Navajo Nation faces hurdles in recovering funds

The tribe has no jurisdiction over a non-American Indian, even if that person is on tribal land.

FARMINGTON, N.M. (AP) - The Navajo Nation may have little recourse in seeking money from a Colorado man who is accused of spending millions of the nation's funds for personal use.

Hak Ghun, of Durango, Colo., accused of using corporate funds the Navajo Nation invested into his Shiprock Biochemical company, Systems Decontamination Manufacturing Inc.

Authorities allege Ghun spent more than \$1 million between 2005 and 2007 and concealed his actions by filing false tax returns in the company's name.

He pleaded not guilty on last week to three federal

counts of income tax evasion totaling \$368,000 between 2005 and 2007.

LoRenzo Bates, chairman of the Navajo Nation Council's budget and finance committee, said in the Farmington Daily Time that the Navajo Nation may have little legal standing to bring its own charges against Ghun.

"The federal government is going to take its money first," Bates told the Farmington Daily Times. "If Hak has any money left over after that, then the Nation can go after

The Navajo Nation still faces jurisdictional hurdles, Bates said. The tribe has no jurisdiction over a non-American Indian, even if that person is on tribal land.

"The issue with that is not just getting Ghun back on the Navajo Nation," Bates said. "He doesn't have to comply with warrants issued from the nation."

Ghun would have to be

physically on the nation to face civil or criminal charges, but even if Navajo officers arrested him, they don't have the authority to hold him.

Navajo is cooperating with the federal government in the investigation.

Navajo President Ben Shelly said the nation will do whatever it can to pursue charges against Ghun and get its investment back.

"We are exploring every option to our disposal right now," Shelly said. "We are making every effort to ensure the Navajo people's money is returned."

Ghun is the former chief executive of the failed Biochemical Decontamination Systems Manufacturing Inc. Shiprock.

The maximum penalty for conviction on each count is five years in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

## eat better. move more. be tobacco free.

Interested in making Oklahoma a healthier place to live, work, learn and play? Consider joining a coalition in your area.

#### ATOKA AND COAL **COUNTIES**

Atoka/Coal Partnership for Change 580.380.0463

### **BECKHAM AND**

Oklahoma Unified Resources (OUR) Turning Point Coalition 580.225.6247

### **BRYAN COUNTY**

Bryan County Turning Point 580.924.4285 ext 254

### **CARTER COUNTY**

Carter County Turning Point 580.223.7075 ext 314

### **CLEVELAND COUNTY**

Cleveland County **Turning Point** 405.307.6602

#### **COMANCHE COUNTY** Fit Kids of Southwest

Oklahoma 580.585.6686

### **JACKSON COUNTY**

**Jackson County Community** Health Action Team 580.482.7308

#### **KIOWA AND CADDO COUNTIES**

Kiowa Coalition and Caddo County Interagency Coalition 580.726.3383

### **LOGAN COUNTY**

Logan County Partnership 918.282.3485

#### **LOVE AND JOHNSTON COUNTIES**

Fit Communities - Love and Johnston Consortium 580.371.2470

### McCURTAIN, CHOCTAW **COUNTIES**

Tri-County Consortium 580.298.6624

### **MUSKOGEE COUNTY**

Muskogee County **Turning Point** 405.683.0321

#### **OKLAHOMA COUNTY** Wellness Now Coalition

405.425.4315 **OKMULGEE COUNTY** 

### Okmulgee County

Wellness Coalition 918.633.3202

#### **TULSA COUNTY** Family Health Coalition

918.595.4039

No coalitions in your area? Find your local Turning Point Partnership and learn more at

**ShapeYourFutureOK.com**.



## Ag Secretary names Council for Native Farming and Ranching

WASHINGTON - Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced May 24 the appointment of members to the Council for Native American Farming and Ranching, a committee created to advise him on ways to eliminate barriers to participation for Native American farmers and ranchers. The Council is being appointed as part of the Keepseagle settlement.

"The Council for Native American Farming and Ranching will help Native governments, businesses, farmers and ranchers and tribal governments partner with USDA to create jobs, drive economic growth and strengthen tribal communities," Vilsack said. Keepseagle v. Vilsack was a lawsuit alleging

that USDA discriminated against Native American farmers and ranchers in the way it operated its farm loan program. The Obama Administration worked to settle the lawsuit in 2010 and the settlement was subsequently approved by the court.

The Council will suggest changes to Farm Service Agency (FSA) regulations and also provide internal guidance or propose measures that would promote the participation of Native American farmers and ranchers in all other USDA programs and support government-togovernment relations between USDA and tribal governments. The Council is a discretionary advisory committee established under the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture, in furtherance of the settlement agreement.

Members of the Council are appointed for two-vear terms by the Secretary. The appointees include: Native American (American Indian and Alaska Native) farmers or ranchers; representatives of nonprofit organizations that work with Native farmers and ranchers; civil rights professionals; educators; tribal elected leaders; senior USDA officials; and other persons the Secretary deems appropriate.

The Council will hold its first meeting this summer. It will work with the Office of Tribal Relations, the FSA, and other USDA agencies to improve the success of Native farmers and ranchers who access USDA's entire portfolio of programs to build and achieve profitability in their businesses. The USDA is addressing civil rights concerns that go back decades, and the appointment of the Council for Native American Farming and Ranching is another step toward achieving that effort.

The Council for Native American Farming and Ranching will provide guidance that will ensure that all Native American eligible applicants for USDA programs are served in an equal and fair manner. It will enable USDA to enhance business opportunities for Native American farmers and ranchers, tribal governments and the tribal communities they serve, and those interested in improving tribal economies through food and agriculture production.

**Professional & Affordable Web Design** 



<sup>ୁ</sup> 376-3428



**VINITA** 

918-256-5585

LANGLEY

918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND

918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned

### 2 Oregon tribes disappointed in school mascot ban

on Native American mascots in public high schools means a charter school on tribal land may have to change its Warriors logo, a chief in a headdress.

The new rules have drawn objections from two of the nine tribal groups in Oregon recognized by the federal government, including the Confederated Tribes of Siletz

The rules adopted by the State Board of Education allow the nickname "warriors," but not if it's accompanied by imagery such as the chief in the Siletz Warriors' logo, the Eugene Register-Guard reported last week.

"We will be forced once again to succumb to the misguided intentions of people who have no knowledge of Indian communities," the Siletz tribes said in a statement.

Other Native Americans have objected to the mascots, including Brenda Frank, chairwoman of the body that made the rules, the state Board of Education, and also a member of the Klamath Tribes.

She said she understood objections from the portrayal of Native culture. Siletz and the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, but disagreed.

Oregonian. "The Oregon State Board of in Oregon.

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) - Oregon's new ban Education speaks for all students in the state of Oregon."

> Schools that don't follow the ban could lose state money. Fifteen schools are affected. They face a 2017 deadline.

Federal law recognizes tribal sovereignty for tribal institutions on Indian land. But the state describes the Siletz schools as public, and all charter schools in Oregon get state aid, said Oregon Department of Education spokeswoman Christine Miles.

Principal and Superintendent Sam Tupou said that, despite disappointment, Siletz will comply with the state board's decision, hasn't decided on the future of the logo, but will follow widespread community support for maintaining the Warriors nickname.

"If there's anything good that came out of the ruling, it's that we get to keep the name,"

The Siletz and Grande Ronde tribal groups had backed an alternate proposal to allow tribes to work with local schools on their

Siobhan Taylor, a spokeswoman for the Confederated Tribes of Grande Ronde, said "With all due respect ... their responsibility the board's decision "tramples our sovereignty" is only to their membership and not to the and ignores calls for curriculum changes that community as a whole," Frank told The accurately describe Native American history

### Vilsack announces appointment of **USDA** Tribal Relations Director

WASHINGTON

Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack announced last week that that Joanna Mounce Stancil has been selected to serve as the Director of the USDA Office of Tribal Relations.

"Joanna's background is a mix of corporate, Tribal, and federal experience. She has been a successful small business owner, contractor, and consultant to numerous Tribal governments, said Vilsack.

director, Stancil provide permanent leadership to the efforts of USDA to improve tribal government consultation

policies and practice and improve the ability of USDA agencies to work effectively with Tribal governments, communities and individuals. She will work closely with Janie Simms Hipp, who will continue to serve as Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Tribal Relations.

Stancil is Shawnee/ Cherokee from Oklahoma and has been an advisor to the Federal government in their responsibilities to Tribal governments and to Tribal governments in helping them in building infrastructure and economic development. Before joining USDA, she was the senior marketing

specialist for the U.S. Small Business Administration. She also served as the American Indian and Alaska Native program manager for the U.S. Census Bureau.

A former journalist, she is the founder of the National Tribal Conservation Areas project and has worked with the National Wildlife Federation, the National Congress of American Indians, numerous environmental organizations and Tribal governments to create tribally managed conservation parks similar to the National Park System.

### Feds want new study of Makah whaling impact

PORT ANGELES, Wash. (AP) - Federal agencies want a new study of gray whales on the Washington coast before the Makah tribe is permitted to exercise its treaty right to whaling.

The National Marine Fisheries Service Department of Commerce issued a notice Monday to terminate a 7-year-old draft environmental impact statement.

A new study would consider whether there is a resident population of about 200 gray whales that should be managed differently than the 20,000 gray whales that migrate past Washington each year on their way between Alaskan and Mexican waters.

Tribal Chairman Micah McCarty told the Peninsula Daily News the tribe may prepare a statement on the development.

Makah whalers harpooned and killed a whale in 1999. Courts say the tribe needs a federal waiver from the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

Andrew Baldwin, lawyer for

## **EAGLE**

Continued from Page 1

Reservation, which is the only place in the State where Wyoming law criminalizing the taking of eagles does not apply," Johnson wrote. "The permit thus confoundingly allows the Northern Arapaho Tribe to take eagles only on lands where doing so is a criminal offense...."

Johnson pointed that the federal permit also specified that the Northern Arapaho Tribe would have to follow state laws. Accordingly, he wrote, the federal permit "offers no real permission to take eagles at all."

In asking for permission to intervene in the case, the Eastern Arapaho Tribe noted that it has an indivisible, onehalf interest in all the wildlife on the reservation. It states that killing eagles would violate its cultural beliefs and also says that it would be against the joint Shoshone and Arapaho Law and Order Code.

The Northern Arapaho filed papers recently opposing the Shoshone's move to enter the lawsuit. The Northern Arapaho have maintained in their lawsuit seeking the permits that they have a right under the U.S. Constitution to kill eagles for their religious ceremonies.

declined comment Monday on Johnson's order allowing the Eastern Shoshone to participate in the lawsuit. Attempts to reach Kimberly D. Varilek, attorney general of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, were not successful on Monday. She didn't respond immediately to phone calls seeking comment. The Northern Arapaho Tribe

has a history of conflict with the federal government over the eagle issue. The tribe filed papers in court supporting Winslow Friday, a young tribal member who shot a bald eagle without a permit in 2005 on the reservation for use in his tribe's Sun Dance.

Former U.S. District Judge William Downes dismissed the charge against Friday in 2006 saying it would have been pointless for him to apply for a permit. "Although the government professes respect and accommodation of the religious practices of Native Americans, its own actions show callous indifference to such practices," Downes

A federal appeals court in Denver later reinstated the criminal charge against Friday. The U.S. Supreme Court ultimately refused to hear his case and he wound up pleading guilty in tribal court and was ordered to pay a fine.

the Northern Arapaho Tribe, ahleguah ecycling tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856

## TIMES

"Changing the culture of waste." TA

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL ROB WALTON advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







ROYAITY

Continued from Page 1

money for land allotted to Native Americans under the Dawes Act of 1887.

"Our deepest regret is that Ms Cobell did not live long enough to see this victory," Gingold said in a statement

The lack of records created a problem in creating an accurate accounting of who was owed what, and the cost of creating such a record for each beneficiary would have cost more than what they were actually owed. After more than 13 years of litigation, the government and Cobell made a deal.

The agreement would pay out \$1.5 billion to two classes of

beneficiaries whose numbers have been estimated to be between 300,000 and 500,000. Each member of the first class would be paid \$1,000. Each member of the second class would be paid \$800 plus a share of the balance of the settlement funds as calculated by a formula.

Another \$1.9 billion would be used by the government to purchase fractionated land allotments from willing individuals and turn those consolidated allotments over to the tribe. An education scholarship for young Indians also would be established under the agreement.

Congress approved the deal in December 2010 and U.S. District Judge Thomas Hogan approved it after a

June 2011 hearing. Hogan said that while the settlement may not be as much as some wished, the deal provides a way out of a legal morass and provides some certainty for the beneficiaries.

As part of the deal, Cobell was awarded \$2 million and the three other named plaintiffs were awarded between \$150,000 \$200,000.

Craven and others objected and appealed the settlement, claiming the deal creates a conflict between the beneficiaries as some would be overpaid while others would be undercompensated for their claims. Creating a lump-sum award without an accounting creates an arbitrary payout system

without knowing who is said he believes they correctly actually owed what, she argued. The appellate panel quoted

Hogan in saying, "It is hard to see how there could be a better result" than this settlement. Few beneficiaries are likely to have substantial claims, Craven did not provide evidence that some beneficiaries would be underpaid and Congress' authorization of the deal "carries significant weight and sets this case apart from others," the appellate court

TedFrank, Craven's attorney,

argued the shortcomings of the settlement. Frank is considering his options, which could include a request for the full appellate court to review the decision.

"So we're certainly disappointed, because we believed we were correct on the law, though we understood that we had an uphill battle given the exhaustion factor of a case that had already generated 22 (now 23) published opinions," Frank said in an email to The Associated Press.



## **True American Indian**

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES** 

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

Charles Snell 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

## DRUMRIGHT DENTAL CENTER Advanced Dental Technology

We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## Play sheds light on 'Bearer of the Dawn' FESTIVAL

**DANA LANCE** Chickasaw Nation

OKLAHOMA CITY - Dressed in authentic Native regalia, Mary Frances "Te Ata" Thompson Fisher enlightened the world about Native



Mary Thompson "Te Ata" Fisher is a famous Chickasaw storyteller and actress. In 1987, Te Ata (1895–1995) became the first person to be declared an "Oklahoma Treasure."

American history and culture by sharing the stories of her Chickasaw tribe and other indigenous people.

The Chickasaw Nation and Oklahoma City University are collaborating to present a play inspired by the life and legacy of Te Ata this

> "Te Ata" will be presented June 14-17 and 21-24, 2012 at Oklahoma City

> University. The play will be presented at 8 p.m. June 14-16 and 21-23 and 2 p.m. June 16-17 and 23-24. One of America's most beloved

> Native storytellers, Te-Ata achieved national and international acclaim with her one-person performances of American Indian folklore and enchanted a wide variety of audiences including, presidents, European royalty, heads of state and many more.

> "Te Ata brought the beauty and wisdom of American Indian culture to the world in a way that helped develop greater appreciation for core values such as basic human kindness and respect for the natural world," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "Her life's work helped bring diverse cultures closer together. She is a shining example of how artistic expression can change hearts and minds."

> Te Ata, which means "bearer of the dawn," was named the first Oklahoma Treasure 25 years ago and is also a member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame and the Chickasaw

The production will be brought to life by awardwinning Chickasaw playwright, JudyLee Oliva. Ms. Oliva holds a Master of Fine Arts in directing from the University of Oklahoma and a Ph.D. in theater and drama from Northwestern University. Her work has been seen by audiences from coast to coast including New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles. She was named the 2006 Dynamic Chickasaw Woman of the Year for her work on "Te Ata." She has published two text books and has contributed to more than 20 other books and journals.

"Te Ata" will be directed by noted Native American scholar and director Dr. Christy Stanlake. An associate professor of English and the director of the Navy Theatre program at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. Dr. Stanlake earned a Ph.D. in theatre history, literature and criticism from Ohio State University, where she specialized in Native American dramaturgy. She earned a Master of Arts in theatre from the University of Oklahoma.

The production includes music composed by Jan Seiden.

Tickets are now available by contacting the Oklahoma City University Theatre Department at 405-208-5227 or visit the OCU website for more information at www.okcu.edu/theatre. Tickets range from \$12 to \$15. Students, senior citizens, Allied Art members and groups purchase for \$10

The Oklahoma performances will be followed by a touring production July 5-8, 2012 at the National Museum of the American Indian Rasmuson Theatre in Washington, D.C. For more information about the Washington, D.C. performance, visit http://nmai.si.edu/calendar/.

of identity and dignity are realized in the actions and words.

Salvage premiered in 2008 at the Autry National Center in Los Angeles and its Native Voices at the Autry. The play has also been presented during the Origins Festival in London in 2009. The work is Glancy's third piece for theater, and she has specific memories about creating it.

"I had actually been in Montana, working on my second play, Stone Heart. ... I was driving, and the characters got in the backseat and rode with me for many miles. I finally realized another play was on its way," Glancy said.

The play's director Sarah d'Angelo said Salvage is uniquely Native American in its story mode as opposed to the European-American model.

"I see a hearkening to Native intellectual tradition, like the ideal of place - it plays an important role, almost as if it were another character," said d'Angelo, Mohawk. "... It's a very contemporary story, and the language is really quite beautiful. Diane is a novelist, poet and playwright. Her voice is something very unique."

The play was chosen for fullstaging treatment after it was read at last year's festival. OKCTC accepts script submissions before a March deadline. Submissions are selected for staged readings at the festival based on solidity of the script. Two or three are then presented at the festival for the general public, which gets to add input. From those scripts, festival organizers choose one to produce the following year's festival.

They are chosen on their strength and also for their application to the festival's parameters. Works for a large cast or requiring an elaborate, complicated set are not considered for production at this time because of OKCTC's available resources. For this reason, there are no winners and

In time, the theater company hopes to present at least two new play productions each festival week, Irick said. The most important point is to continue collaboration between the company and local Native American writers, directors, actors and artists.

Salvage will be performed throughout the festival week. Other events include a discussion panel with the playwrights, authors luncheon and staged readings of three more new plays, one of which will be produced

Glancy said she plans to attend the June 8 showing of her play. The author will also be in OKC for the screening of The Dome of Heaven, a 2011 feature film starring Oklahoma actor Wes Studi, Cherokee, during the deadCENTER Film Festival. Glancy wrote the screenplay and directed. The film will be shown at 11:15 a.m. June 9 at Harkins Theatre, 150 E. Reno Ave., Oklahoma City.

IF YOU GO

The 3rd Annual Native American New Play Festival will be June 1-10 at Oklahoma City Civic Center Music Hall's CitySpace Theatre, 201 N. Walker Ave., Oklahoma City.

### Festival schedule:

2 p.m. June 3

Salvage show times: 8 p.m. May 31 (preview performance) 8 p.m. June 1-2, 7-9

Other festival activities: Saturday, June 9

2 p.m.: Free staged reading of Chalk in the Rain by Bret Jones

8 p.m.: Final performance of Salvage

Sunday, June 10 11:30 a.m.: Meet and Greet with

playwrights and authors over light 1 p.m.: Free staged reading of Broken

Heart Land by Vicki Lynn Mooney 3 p.m.: Coffee and snack break 3:30 p.m.: Free staged reading of

Waaxe's Law by Kathryn Nagle 5 p.m.: Q&A panel discussion with the playwrights

Tickets to see Salvage are \$10-\$20. To purchase, call the Oklahoma City Theatre Co. box office at (405) 297-2264 or go to www.okctheatrecompany.org. To RSVP for the June 10 luncheon, call (405) 812-7737 by June 5.

For more about the deadCENTER Film Festival, go to www. deadcenterfilm.org.

## Comanche leader makes Johnny Depp honorary member

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico (AP) -Johnny Depp has been made an honorary member of the Comanche tribe.

Depp is in New Mexico, shooting the film adaptation of "The Lone Ranger." He plays "Ranger" sidekick Tonto in the film.

Comanche Nation tribal citizen LaDonna Harris said last week that the tribal chairman presented Depp with a proclamation at her Albuquerque home May 16. She said the Comanche adoption tradition means she now considers Depp her son.

Harris said Depp seemed humbled.

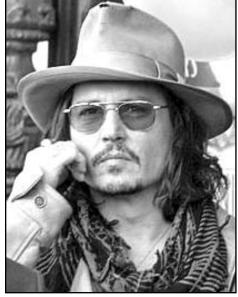
His spokeswoman, Jayne Ngo, confirmed the actor participated in a ceremony, but she declined to provide details.

Harris said she had read in interviews that Depp identified himself as being part Native American, so she thought it would be fun to adopt him – a tradition she says is common in Comanche culture. She ran the idea past her adult children, and they agreed.

Harris said she reached out to the "Dark Shadows" star through a friend who is working as a cultural adviser on the "Lone Ranger" set.

The Comanche Nation is based in Lawton, Oklahoma. About half of its 15,000 members live in southwestern Oklahoma.

Depp has been the topic of much discussion in Indian Country and online since he was cast as Tonto, with comments about his costume, ranging to the selection of a non-Native for the part, to how the role  $itself has historically epitomized \ Hollywood \hbox{'s}$ misrepresentation of Native culture.



Johnny Depp has been the topic of much discussion in Indian Country and online since he was cast as Tonto.



The members of North Bear, in front, won the Gathering of Nations 2012 Hand Drum contest. Their winning performance can be found on

## **Drum group wins national contest**

MARTIN REED

The Riverton Ranger

RIVERTON, Wyo. (AP) - The four Northern Arapaho members of North Bear rhythmically hit the drum each of them held as they began to sing in the center of the University of New Mexico Arena known as The Pit.

Their style of round dance singing started in the traditional chant before they hit an unheard of four-part harmony, concluding with the lyrics "She's my world. She's my everything. She's my Daddy's Girl."

Cheers, whistling and screams from spectators in The Pit erupted at the sounds of singers Jermaine Bell, Luke Bell, Herb Augustine Jr. and Abe Thomas at the Gathering of Nations Powwow in Albuquerque, N.M., on April 28.

"North Bear in the house!" the announcer could be heard saying in the arena. "...That's Indian harmony, man!"

The response was tremendous for the North Bear singers from the Wind River Indian Reservation, who walked away with the title of world hand drum singing champions at the annual powwow.

"I still can't believe it," Augustine said in an interview with The Riverton Ranger.

"I can't get over it," Thomas said. "People are blowing it up all over Facebook I don't even

Jermaine Bell, who wrote the winning song "Daddy's Girl" performed by North Bear, said the unique singing style has been called a game-changer by some top performers in the Indian Country music.

"It's so big because we changed up everything," the 31-year-old Arapahoe man said. "We made a

traditional song into a four-part harmony and nobody has ever done that before."

Video of North Bear's winning performance, found on You Tube under "GON 2012 Hand Drum 1st Place Champs," is making the rounds on the Internet and causing a stir on the reservation

and elsewhere. "We've gotten compliments already from all the big name singers," Bell said. "They told us, 'You've changed the game right there. Nobody is going to look at round dance singing the same."

More importantly for the group that regularly performs around the region, the winning song is historic for the Wind River Indian Reservation.

"The good thing about it is no other drum group accomplished something like that from our reservation," Bell said. "It makes us feel proud to represent the Northern Arapaho people."

Augustine added: "We really want to thank the people."

The inspiration for the four performers came from their family and children. "It's kind of cool because we all have little girls," Bell said.

The song itself was one Bell wrote in December when he couldn't visit his 3-yearold daughter, Olowan Win Josephine Bell, in Montana over Christmastime due to poor

After writing the song, "I sang it to her over the phone," Bell said. "It's a song I sing to her as

Bell talked about changing the song's style to make it unique for the group's performance at the powwow.

"The traditional singing, it's one tune. It's one beat. What we did was basically something that no one has ever done with a fourpart harmony," he said.

"We were toying with the idea" to incorporate harmony, Augustine, 32, of Ethete, said. "We didn't know it was going

to be this big until we actually sang it," Bell said.

The four winning members of North Bear who have been singing at times together since high school and consider themselves brothers competed against 25 other groups for the hand drum contest at the powwow.

"It's considered the world championship of all powwows. There's like 50,000 people there," Bell said. "There's the top singers from all over the world."

The pressure was on for the

"It was surreal. It was really surreal. It was scary," Bell said. "We just happened to be different than every other drum group out there. Every other drum group out there does the same thing."

Thomas said thinking of everyone's children helped the group's performance. "It was just a very exciting feeling, a very happy feeling because when we sang it, we sang it to our full emotion. We had a reason behind it, especially Jermaine," he said.

As the North Bear members prepare to record a new CD, they still can look forward to smaller

"We sing a lot of karaoke," Augustine said.

"We like to do a lot of karaoke," Bell added.

"It helps keep our voice in shape," Augustine chimed in, saying they sing "country or whatever."

"They call round dance music the Indian country version," Bell said.

## Arizona tribes talk about significance of solar eclipse

**FELICIA FONSECA** Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) -Seven years old and lounging in a tree listening to the radio, Baje Whitethorne Sr. wasn't aware of the lesson he was about to learn.

His grandfather called him down from the tree, saying it was time to go inside their home on the Navajo reservation and wait while the sun died and was reborn. There was going to be a solar eclipse.

Whitethorne wanted nothing more than to eat, but he did what he was told. That day, he learned patience and a cultural teaching that he has passed on through a children's book he wrote about why Navajos shouldn't gawk at an eclipse like the one that was recently visible in parts of the western United States.

"It was just the respect and honor you give to what nature does," Whitethorne said. "The sun is reborn, and in acknowledging what nature does, you take a minute to acknowledge yourself."

Many American Indian tribes view the sun and moon as cultural deities but the beliefs among northern Arizona's tribes and individual members don't all signal a need to stay clear of the ring eclipse,

or annular solar eclipse, that hadn't been seen in the U.S. since 1994. Whitethorne says he used the opportunity to read the first book he authored and illustrated 20 years ago, "Sunpainters: Eclipse of the Navajo Sun," to his grandchildren.

Carletta Tilousi of the Havasupai Tribe had no plans to go out of her way to watch it. Even if she did, it would be nothing more than a glance,

"In our tradition they tell us as children not to look at the moon because it's such a powerful energy that if you gaze upon it too long, it can bring bad dreams," she said.

In the Hualapai culture, blocking out the sun could be interpreted as a bad omen, said tribal member Wilfred Whatoname Sr.

"We may have done something wrong to make that happen," he said. "That doesn't happen often, so people are led to believe that maybe we should take care of our lives a

Staring at the eclipsed sun can indeed cause a serious eye injury, and some Navajos have linked exposure to it to birth defects, or other physical and mental ailments. Whitethorne's grandfather covered the food and water outside their hogan decades ago to keep anything the livestock could eat or drink from being exposed to the eclipse as well, he said.

Navajos living in Canyon de Chelly National Monument on the reservation or people visiting there were at one of six prime viewing spots for the May 20 eclipse, where the moon covered about 95 percent of the sun's diameter.

An eclipse is a phenomenon that the Hopi Tribe refers to as one piggybacking off the other. It is acknowledged in the tribe's history, but the director of the tribe's cultural preservation office said it isn't known to be taboo to look at

"Over time we've been exposed to eclipses on and off, but we don't have anything bad about it through our traditions," said Leigh Kuwanwisiwma. "It's just an amazement."

Sitting on a blue chair inside his grandfather's hogan, Whitethorne imagined small children with paintbrushes restoring color to the landscape once the eclipse was over. He followed his grandfather's lead in blessing each direction in recognition of the renewal that had taken place.

And when they were done, he got to eat.

## Ocmulgee to Okmulgee: Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Trail of Tears Bicycle Tour** set for June 2-23, 2012

**MEDIA RELEASE** MCN Museum, Cultural Center & Archives

OKMULGEE, Okla. -"Ocmulgee Three words, to Okmulgee" pack an encyclopedia of history for the Muscogee people and make an appropriate name for the commemorative bicycle tour taking place in June.

The staff members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum, Cultural Center, & Archives, Program Manager/ Museum Director and Curator John Beaver and Asst. Director Justin Bruce Giles are spearheading the event through collaboration with many agencies including: the National Park Service; the Alabama Historical Commission: the Historic Chattahoochee Commission; Fort Gibson Historic Site; Let's Move!; Americans for Indian Opportunity; and the National Museum of the American Indian.

Beaver will be the lead rider in the Ocmulgee to Okmulgee: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trail of Tears Bicycle Tour as he visits sites from the well known to those off the beaten path to present the history and stories of Muscogee culture in the Southeast.

Giles will be manning the mobile support vehicle and documenting the ride as they traverse the Trail of Tears. Together, they will present a "living classroom" experience that will be shared in online blogs, a website that will host information about all of the sites visited during the project, and later in the

The tour will commence June 2 at the Ocmulgee Mounds in Macon, Ga., and will conclude the weekend of June 23 at the 2012 Muscogee Festival in Okmulgee, Okla.

Some of the sites to be visited, such as the Ocmulgee Mounds near Macon, Ga., tie into ancient Mvskoke history.

The project team will also visit original tvlwv (town) sites and battle sites. One goal is to pay homage to and recognize our ancestors who

made the difficult journey of removal. Fort Mitchell is on the tour as a beginning point of the forced removals to Indian Territory.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens and the public are invited to join in the bicycle tour or to make the journey by automobile, following the itinerary and maps. For those who may be interested in riding during various parts of the tour, please be advised that most riding days will consist of a minimum of 50 mile distances in summer heat and humidity. Some days, the rides and distances covered may be longer in duration in order to meet travel itineraries. All participants are responsible for their own travel and lodging. All participants waive, release, and hold harmless the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, employees and volunteers, and all other sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims and liabilities that may arise from this event.

From the Ocmulgee Mounds, the tour will progress from Georgia to Alabama, heading west to Fort Mitchell across portions of the Old Federal Road, before continuing west to Montgomery, Fort Toulouse and Horseshoe Bend. The route will then move into Tennessee and take old military routes through Arkansas, arriving at Fort Gibson as the western terminal of the forced march.

Event planning built many inter-agency relationship bridges that Beaver and Giles believe will lead to a Muscogee presence and perspective previously lacking in the history and surrounding commentary our ancestral homelands, the removal process, and the continuity of our ancient Muscogee culture within our current day environment. This can benefit our own people as well as the general public.

"Telling our stories" has already been identified as one of the primary goals of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum, so it seems very appropriate for the museum staff to be making this journey.

"Stories can be shared in many ways," explains Beaver, "but we want to show our people and others that a museum can be about learning history through activity."

The project team has included Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism Recreation to assist with community involvement, Veterans Affairs, and the Division of Health, which is promoting the healthy eating and fitness aspect of the bike

The tour project will be part of Let's Move! In Indian Country and Let's Move! Museums as a fitness initiative and is meant to heighten awareness and promote a lifestyle that can help reduce the number of new cases of heart disease, diabetes, and childhood obesity within the Native American community.

Anyone wanting to follow the tour as it progresses can do so on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation website, the Museum website, http://www. muscogeenationmuseum. org/ and the Facebook page for the Museum.

Additional information will be added at these sites post-ride.

Confirmed Tour Stops: June 2 - Ocmulgee Mounds, Macon, Ga.

June 3 - Fort Mitchell, Alabama

*June 9 - Fort Toulouse*,

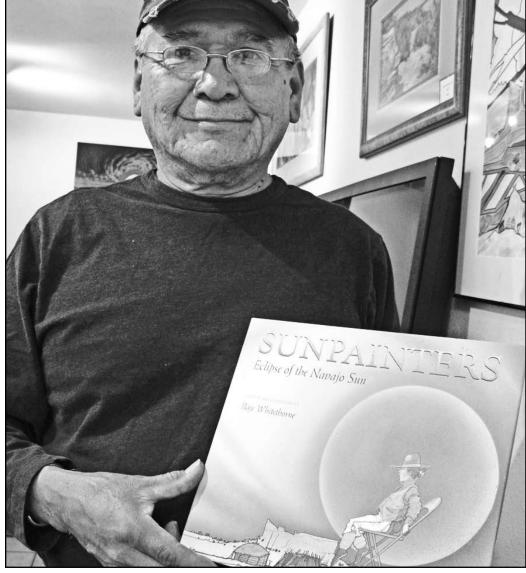
Alabama June 11 - Horseshoe Bend,

Alabama June 22 – Fort Gibson Historic Site, Oklahoma

June 23 - Okmulgee, Oklahoma A send-off for the riders

is set for May 31, 2012 at 10 a.m., at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Capitol Complex in Okmlugee.

For more information contact John Beaver at 918-549-2428 or email: jbeaver@ muscogeenation-nsn.gov or Justin Bruce Giles at 918-549-2429 or email: jgiles@ muscogeenation-nsn.gov



In this May 17, 2012 photo, Baje Whitethorne Sr. displays a book at his home in Flagstaff, Ariz., that he wrote about his experience as a Navajo boy with a solar eclipse.

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

## www.nativetimes.com

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:				
Address:				
City: State: Zip:				
Phone:				
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues				

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

■ \$1.25 single copy

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues

## Tlingit man becomes resident centenarian

Ketchikan Daily News

KETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) -Henry Neligan turned 100 recently, but he's not acting the centenarian.

You might see him out walking Tongass Avenue, riding the bus or shopping at Tatsuda's IGA.

If you're at the Ketchikan Public Library, you might have to race him to get a Robert B. Parker mystery novel from the audio book section.

And if you are fortunate enough to cross paths with him, do stop and say hello.

Carpenter, carver, fisherman, musician, world traveler and gentleman, Henry Neligan is someone to know.

He was born May 6, 1912, in Craig to Edna Coombs Neligan, a Tlingit of the Raven Clan, and Henry Neligan, an immigrant from Liverpool, England, who passed his name on to his son.

"I think my mother was pretty smart, even though she wasn't educated," said Neligan, who remembers his mother fondly. "She knew a lot - I think she was where I got my smarts. ... What I have, of

Neligan seasons his conversation with a dash of self-deprecating humor now and again. He knows humor is helpful when meeting new people.

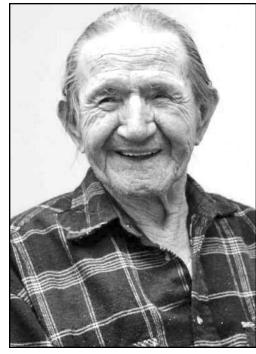
"I found out long ago (that) all strangers are a little cautious, but if you can turn something into some kind of a little joke, then that breaks the ice and gets people laughing," Neligan said. "And that gets you kind of home."

"Home" during Neligan's early childhood was Klawock until 1919, when he was sent to Kent, Wash., to attend the Briscoe Boarding School run by the Catholic Church.

Briscoe's curriculum included music. The young Henry started playing the baritone horn, but he was really interested in trumpet.

"I wanted to play the trumpet and they finally let me do it," Neligan recalls. "I have an ear for music."

Neligan credits his mom for that, too.



HALL ANDERSON I KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

In this May 3, 2012 photo, Henry Nelligan speaks to the Ketchikan Daily News in Ketchikan, Alaska. Henry Neligan turned 100 but he's not acting the centenarian.

"My mother was where I got my music," Neligan smiles. "You should have heard my dad try to sing. It sure sounded funny."

When he turned 16, Neligan went to stay with a family who had a dairy farm at Sumas, Wash., up near the Canadian border.

"They had extra room, and he had a herd of cows - 30 cows - and that meant a lot of work," Neligan said. "And, I went to school. So you see I got no pay. I had to get up in the morning, get dressed in my work clothes to milk the cows and feed the cows and shovel the, you know, and haul it and put it in a pile. It was work. Then I came in and changed clothes and went out to catch the school bus."

Neligan would stay there for three years until the onset of the Great Depression began to take its toll.

Unable to make ends meet from milk production, the dairy farmers began to sell their cows.

"Every month the price paid for the milk kept going down," Neligan said. "This was in 1929. ... Everything was going downhill."

So Neligan went up north. He

Alaska Steamship Co. steamer Alameda to Craig, where he caught a ride aboard a boat to Klawock.

"I remember when I landed in Klawock, I knew I would be welcomed," Neligan said.

His grandfather was still alive, and made arrangements for Neligan to stay with a relative who had a house with extra space in Klawock.

Neligan recalls that the area's abundance of natural foods helped blunt the Depression's impact.

"It didn't bother us up here, because the people in Klawock did a lot more living off the land than they do now, because it was there," Neligan said. "So much stuff grows. The beaches in this country ... are alive with so much food, all

kinds of stuff down there. And there are several kinds of edible bottom fish, ... and, of course, salmon."

He began learning carpentry, carving and fishing.

He began his fishing career by crewing on seine boats. After a while, he had his own rowboat, then a power boat with a small heavy-duty engine.

Neligan began building boats, too. "In my career, I built something like 52 boats, most of them small boats," Neligan said. "But I built one 44-footer. I built three power boats with engines. But lots of rowboats. ... People ordered them. In fact most of my boats were built for people that ordered one. Summertime, I fished."

Neligan built the 44-footer in 1950 at Crescent City, Calif., borrowing \$4,000 from a bank in Grants Pass, Ore., and renting a boat shop that came with a boat shed, steam box and everything else he needed for \$50 a month.

Once the boat was complete, Neligan brought it back to Southeast

"I went seining with it, but decided I didn't want to go seining anymore,

recalls sailing aboard the so I sold it for \$32,000," Neligan said.

> He continued trolling, though, just like he had continued to play the trumpet after he returned to Southeast Alaska from Washington

Neligan played in a band that included Paul Davis on trombone, Arthur Demmert on saxophone, and Neligan's cousin, Bobby Armour, who "played bass drum with a foot pedal, played the guitar, and sang, when his turn come," said Neligan.

"In Klawock, we used to play for dances," he continued, noting that people enjoyed the big-band sound of band leaders like Les Brown and Harry James back then. "People used to dance. ... We'd make a few dollars."

Neligan moved from POW to Ketchikan in 1963. He continued commercial trolling for salmon, operating mostly in the far outside water off Southeast Alaska.

"Outside," Neligan said when asked where he would go fishing. "There were several of us. But the way we fished, if you ever went straight west, you'd come to China. There was no more islands outside of us."

So, did he ever just head straight west? Well, no.

"I just decided that China could get along without me," Neligan said.

In Ketchikan, Neligan continued working in carpentry. He helped build the Veterans of Foreign Wars post on Tongass Avenue, and did some of the remodeling work on the Moose Lodge (Neligan is a life member of the Legion of the Moose).

Neligan finally obtained a driver's license when he was 70. He hadn't needed a car in the Craig-Klawock area because it didn't have roads when he lived there. He didn't get around to buying a car in Ketchikan until several years after moving here.

"Finally, I got an old Chevy," he said. "It was easy to drive, and Ketchikan is easy to drive in."

But he didn't drive for very long before the Department of Motor Vehicles ended his motoring days.

"When I went to renew my driver's license, they gave me a vision test," Neligan said. "But I failed it. I didn't really fail, but at 75, they didn't think I should be driving, and maybe they were right."

Neligan's 75th year was filled with other milestone events. He met his second wife, Susie, when he was 75, and sold his troll boat and permit.

Neligan and Susie took a roundthe-world trip that included a cross-Russia excursion on the Trans-Siberian Railway. Greece was a favorite part of the trip, and he quite enjoyed traveling by train.

But of all the places he's seen, none has bested his home state.

"They don't compare worth a darn," Neligan said.

He's kept busy in more recent years. He's carved numerous halibut hooks over time, and is currently carving an adze.

His eyesight has dimmed to the point where he can work large-print crossword puzzles, but otherwise can no longer read or write. As such, he enjoys listening to the audio books from the library.

In addition to the library, Neligan spends time at the Rendezvous Senior Day Services. And while riding the bus here and there, he occasionally finds himself in conversation with inquisitive tourists.

"You'd be surprised how many different questions a bunch of tourists can ask," he said, laughing. "Nice people."

It sounds as though Neligan has known a lot of nice folks in his 100 years. Neligan said his friends from his early days are gone, but even now, "I have to say I have a lot of friends."

He also has six children and many grandchildren and greatgrandchildren, according to the Ketchikan Indian Community.

Asked to what he attributes his longevity, Neligan smiled his smile that spreads quickly through every line in his time-creased face.

"I'll tell you," Neligan said. "If you want to live long, pick long-lived parents.

"My dad lived to be 104," he said.

























### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



#### GWY9 D36 HEROKEE NATION<sup>®</sup>

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH **POSITIONS CLOSE 6/1/2012** 

#6470 Medical Technologist/T/PT #5745 Medical Technologist/R/FT #6493 Medical Technologist II/R/FT #5998 Medical Technologist/T/PT

#5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

> **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

### **Economic Development Planner**

Taos Pueblo Enterprises is seeking to fill the position of Economic Development Planner to facilitate economic development planning and initiatives; identify and foster economic development opportunities; secure funding for economic development and promoting in order to expand economic development opportunities for Taos Pueblo. For detailed job description or to submit an application

Bernadette Lujan, Administration Taos Pueblo Enterprises, Inc. 515 Gusdorf Rd. - Suite 5 Taos, New Mexico 87571 (575)758-7100 Office (575)741-1702 Cell Closing Date: 6/8/12

OKLAHOMA INDIGENT DEFENSE SYSTEM DEFENSE COUNSEL

### **ATTORNEY**

The Oklahoma Indigent Defense System (OIDS) has an attorney position opening in our Non-Capital Trial Division, Clinton office.

Salary for these positions are commensurate with qualifications and within agency salary schedule range. Excellent benefits.

Any interested applicant should submit a letter of interest and resume by June 5, 2012 to:

Angie L. Cole, Personnel Officer Oklahoma Indigent Defense System P.O. Box 926 Norman, OK 73070

OIDS is an Equal Opportunity Employer



### **General Manager**

Cimarron Casino, located in Perkins, OK is accepting applications for General Manager. The General Manager is responsible for the successful overall direction, administration and coordination of all activities at Cimarron Casino Enterprises, in accordance with the policies, procedures and objectives established by the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, with the ultimate objective to provide the maximum profit and return on investment. The General Manager will ensure a maximum level of guest service and satisfaction throughout the property is achieved and maintained. The General Manager directly supervises all department heads, the Administrative Assistant and the maintenance department and indirectly supervises the activities of all employees who work on the property.

### Requirements:

Bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university, or four to six years related experience and/or training, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Ten (10) to fifteen (15) years experience in the gaming industry required. Minimum of five (5) years management experience on an executive level required. Must possess excellent communication skills, and effective public speaking skills.

The lowa Tribe of Oklahoma operates a drug-free workplace. The selected applicant must submit to and pass applicable drug test. Additionally, selected individual must be bondable and able to pass background check in order to obtain a gaming license from the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Gaming Commission.



Apply online at www. iowanation.org/hireme or in person at 821 W. Freeman, Perkins, Okla.

### **Check nativetimes.com for more jobs!** -New jobs posted throughout the week-

Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, OK is seeking qualified applicants for the following positions:

> **HS Academic Counselor HS Math Teacher HS Science Teacher** HS English/Reading Teacher **Special Education Teacher**

For information about these vacancies you may visit the school website www. ris.bie.edu or call 405-247-6670.

### **AMERICAN HIRING** PREFERENCE?

**NATIVE** 

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com



Cimarron Casino, located in Perkins, OK is accepting applications for Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The CFO will be responsible for the financial statements and financial activities of Cimarron Casino, its component units, and/or any other entities as

**Chief Financial Officer** 

As a key member of the Executive Management team, the CFO will report to the Cimarron Casino Enterprises (CCE) Board of Directors (aka lowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee) and assume a strategic role in the overall management of the Accounting Department. The CFO will play a critical role in developing and implementing the financial strategy for Cimarron Casino.

The CFO will directly assist the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Business Committee with all strategic and tactical matters as they relate to budget management, cost benefit analysis, forecasting needs, and securing new funding.

The CFO will establish and maintain Cimarron Casino and the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma's financial policies and procedures and provide operational and administrative direction to the accounting, budgeting, treasury, tax, and investor relations functions. The CFO directly supervises the General Accounting Manager and indirectly supervises the activities of all employees who work in the Accounting Department.

Gaming industry experience is required. Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Accounting or Finance required; MBA preferred. Mature and proactive, with evidence of having worked as a true business partner to the CEO of a multi-divisional organization.

Ten-plus (10+) years of broad finance experience, ideally beginning in accounting, followed by experience gathering and evaluating financial information and making actionable recommendations to senior leadership. Must have experience managing the accounting/finance functions (accounting, budgeting, control, and reporting) within a diverse tribal/casino-based entity.

Valid Certified Public Accountant (CPA) designation required.

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma operates a drug-free workplace. The selected applicant must submit to and pass applicable drug test. Additionally, selected individual must be bondable and able to pass background check in order to obtain a gaming license from the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma Gaming Commission.



Apply online at www. iowanation.org/hireme or in person at 821 W. Freeman, Perkins, Okla.

Check nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-



### **COMING SOON!**

### Crystal Gayle

Saturday, August 25 • 7 pm Tickets are \$25



*Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667.* Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.



End of Tisdale Parkway near Downtown Tulsa.

osagecasinos.com

(918) 699-7777

Find us on Facebook!

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.





## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

MON/WED AND THURS The Marble City Nutrition Center serves hot meals at the Marble City Community Center at 11:30 a.m. Meals are free to anyone over 50, but a small donation is suggested to help with the expense of the program. Marble City Nutrition Center, 711 N. Main, Marble City, Okla. Phone: (918) 775-2158

**YOUTH COUNCIL** The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west cherokeeartistsassociation.org of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

JUNE 2

**Tinker Intertribal Powwow in** Joe B. Barnes Regional Park in Midwest City, Okla. from 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Interested vendors or participants should contact Corene Chakenatho at (405)

734-7366.

**JUNE 1-2 Miami Nation Tribal Powwow, NEO College** Arena, Miami. The Miami Nation Tribal Powwow. one of nine annual Native American celebrations in the Miami and Ottawa County area, is a festival of American Indian dance. Call 918-542-1445.

**JUNE 4 Osage Election Day Dance** at Osage Campus Lawn, **Grandview Avenue,** Pawhuska. Gourd Dance at 2pm and 6pm. 7:00 processional, war mothers songs, social dancing until too dark to see, work in the morning!

**JUNE 8 Chilocco Powwow in the Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache Fire Dance. Contact Garland Kent, Sr at 580- 352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10 Red Earth Festival, Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

JUNE 9 **Inter-Tribal Children's** Powwow & Funfest: June 9, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. Grand entry at 7pm. A stomp dance will follow the day's festivities, beginning at contact us 918-642-3162, 11:30pm. Call 918-542-2441.

**JUNE 10-16** Jim Thorpe Native American Games at Remington Park, **Oklahoma City. Proceeds** benefit the Jim Thorpe **Bright Path Youth Programs** and Awakening The Spirit **Diabetes Prevention and Control program. Contact** Annetta Abbott: 405-208www.jimthorpegames.com

**JUNE 14** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 4th **Annual Golf Tournament** kicking off Iowa Tribal Powwow - 8am at Cimarron Trails in Perkins, Okla. Registration begins at 7am. Info call Linda Andre 405-547-5352 Ext 23

**JUNE 15-17 Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma** 27th Annual Pow Wow, Bah-Kho-Je PowWow Grounds, Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Okla Free admission, camping, contests in all divisions, arts & crafts, rations. Contact Robert Murray 580-304-6731 or Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600.

**JUNE 16** The 17th Annual Oklahoma **Indian All-State Basketball** Games at the sports center on the Oklahoma Wesleyan University campus in Bartlesville. Games will start 756-2324

at 6:00 P.M. For more info:

paradox@valornet.com

**JUNE 21-24 Muscogee Nation Festival** at Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee. For more information on the Festival, contact MCN Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7992 by e-mail at tourism@ muscogeenation-nsn. gov or online at www. muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

**JUNE 22-23** Peoria Powwow, 60610 E. 90 Road, Miami. Features a wide range of contest dancing, including gourd dancing and straight dancing, as well as grass, traditional and fancy dancing. Call 918-540-2535.

**JUNE 22-24 Tonkawa Tribal Powwow** at Fort Oakland, Tonkawa. Come out and experience the Tonkawa Tribal Powwow, an annual tribal celebration featuring Native American dancing, contests, crafts, artwork and food. Call 580-628-2561.

**JUNE 23 Creek Council House** Museum's Indian Art Festival 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918JUNE 28 – JULY 1 Pawnee Indian veterans Powwow held at the Memorial Stadium. For more info call Toni Hill (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25

**JUNE 30** 47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729 HWY 9 West, Seminole, Okla. All descendants of **London Coker and wife** Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044.

**JULY 2-4 Kiowa Gourd Clan** Celebration, Carnegie City Park, Carnegie. This event will feature the tribe's Sun Dance, held in the middle of summer during the longest and hottest days of the year. Call 580-654-2300.

**JULY 4-7 Quapaw Tribal Powwow** at Quapaw Tribal Grounds, 5681 S. 630 Road, Quapaw. An annual celebration over the 4th of July weekend that includes dancing, contests, vendors and plenty of family fun. Call 918-542-1853.

**JULY 6** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

### Nixon's role in Self Determination focus of talk

S.E. RUCKMAN Native American Times Special Contributor

TULSA, Okla. - Most of former U.S. President Richard Nixon's historical legacy hung on his political chicanery rather than his Indian policy. To help offset the perception, the Richard Nixon Foundation cohosted a seminar May 23 at the Gilcrease Museum to discuss the impact of a 1970s federal tribal policy that its proponents say altered the course of Indian history.

The day-long seminar, "Restoring the Rights for Native Americans," highlighted the contributions of Nixon's 1970 Self Determination policy. The legislation, developed during the Nixon administration in 1969 -71, had the job of building new governmentto-government relations with the tribes - a tough task, one panelist said.

Phillip Deloria, director of the American Indian Graduate Center, told the nearly 60 attendees that Nixon's Self-Determination Act was the "gold standard," of federal Indian policy.

"Not because it's perfect," he said. "Surpassing it could mean making promises that it (Department of Interior) can't fulfill. No other president is going to top it because they can't."

Deloria noted that one of the strengths of Nixon's policy started in putting Indian administrators in charge of Indian affairs. Indians trying to get help from Congress to change the limping federal policy of the early 20th Century was a nogo, he recalled.

"Congress, which is supposed to set policy, has no clue," he said. " You could tell them about federal Indian policy and they'd have no clue."

The new Nixon version of Indian policy meant to abandon decades of broken treaties, forced assimilation and other federal misinterpretations of Indian rights. The often betrayed tribes had no choice but to hope that a new day had dawned for them, proponents said.

Panelists revisited the era of Termination, Self-Determination's federal policy predecessor. That policy stripped tribes of their federal recognition and reduced the U.S. Government's trustee status with those it was designed to protect. Moderator Reid Chambers, former BIA associate solicitor, said the restoring of the Taos Pueblos' traditional Blue Lake was the symbolic doorway to Nixon's new Indian policy.

It was the first time in tribal-federal relations that an aboriginal claim to land had been upheld in court and one that restored the Taos Pueblos' Blue Lake property to them in 1970 after it had been taken by the government in 1906 to establish a park.

"This was a time when most of the Bureau (of Indian Affairs) were non-Indian," Reid said.

Before Nixon, controlling Indian lands with no tribal input was a standard practice by the government. They sidestepped tribes because lawmakers and Indian affairs officials questioned the ability of tribes to handle

their own affairs, Reid said.

In light of the favorable comments across both sessions for Self-Determination, no currently elected tribal officials were in attendance although Nixon Foundation officials said tribal leaders Oklahoma extended were invitations.

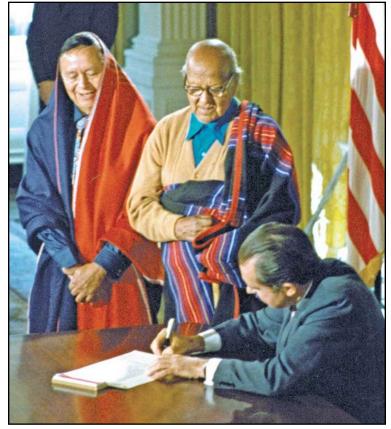
Meanwhile, Nixon Foundation officials said the 37th president favored renewing the way the federal government interacted with the tribes. Coupled with a rising tide tribal among people that the long paternalistic relationship with the U.S. Government

represented outdated thinking, a vehicle for new legislation was born. He called his new Indian policy, "a break with the past."

Because tribes had long dealt with the threat of having their federal monies cut off if they alienated federal officials, they alternated with exaggerated dependence on the same entity, Nixon Foundation officials said.

Other tenets of Nixon's policy included improving Indian education, restoring tribal lands, helping urban Indians and economic development legislation.

Since that time, Self-Determination has been evolving in other ways, other panelistssaid. The outgrowths of Nixon's enduring policy



RICHARD NIXON FOUNDATION | COURTESY

President Richard Nixon signs the Self Determination policy in 1970.

other spawned interfacing of Indian tribes with the federal government, including the Indian Gaming and Regulatory Act of 1988 and more recently, Obama's Tribal Law and Order Act.

Walter Echo-Hawk, who introduced panelists for the day, emphasized a willingness on behalf of Nixon to come to the bargaining table with more than promises to tribes, he said.

"This (act) demonstrates that Nixon got it right," he

The sessions were cosponsored by the Californiabased Richard Nixon Foundation and Gilcrease Museum and the National Archives.

Other panelists were: Robert Anderson, Director of the Native American Law Center at the University Washington; Kent Frizzell, former solicitor and Undersecretary of the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI); LaDonna Harris, Americans for Indian Opportunity founder; Wallace Johnson, former assistant attorney general for Land and Natural Resources of the Department of Justice (DOJ); Bobbie Kilberg, former Nixon staff assistant; Bradley Patterson, executive assistant to special counsel Leonard Garment; Robert Pickering, director of academic affairs at the University of Tulsa, Gilcrease Museum; Geoffrey Shepard, former Nixon staff assistant and Hilary Tompkins, current DOI Solicitor.

### **Powwow of Champions** moves to Mabee Center

Experience the beauty and richness of Native American culture when the Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa (IICOT) hosts the 35th Annual Pow Wow of Champions August 17-19, 2012. The dance is located at the Oral Roberts University, Mabee Center, 7777 South Lewis, Tulsa,

The Mabee Center will come alive in a colorful expression of dance, drum music and song as members of tribal nations throughout the country gather together to honor, strengthen and share traditions and with each other and the general public. The dance, spectator area, will be held in air conditioned comfort. Over 300 dancers will participate throughout the weekend in ceremonies and dances, including Grand Entries, intertribal dances and dance competitions.

The Pow wow of champions will also feature an Arts and Crafts Mart with an excellent selection of traditional and contemporary jewelry, artwork, beadwork, paintings, quality handcrafted items, rarely seen in one location.

Traditional foods will be a prominent part of this annual pow wow. Fry bread, corn soup, Indian tacos will be available as well as many other tempting and tasty items.

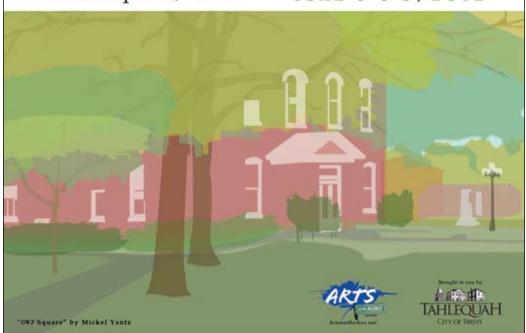
The doors will open at 5:00 pm on Friday, August 13th with dancing beginning at 6:00 pm. Saturday, August 14 and Sunday, August 15, the doors will open at 10:00 a.m. with dancing beginning at noon.

The Pow wow of Champions is a family event and is an alcohol and drug free event.

For further information, please contact (918) 378-4494 or 918-838-8276

## ARTS ON THE AVENUE

JUNE 0 & 9. 2012 • Tahlequah, OK •



Art Stroll & Artist Demonstrations • Oklahoma Wine Tasting
• Music & Entertainment • Food

For a complete list of activities, visit ArtsontheAve.net or on facebook at facebook.com/ArtsontheAve



**BEADING & CRAFT SUPPLIES CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES JEWELRY & NOVELTIES ORIGINAL ARTWORK COLLECTIBLES & BOOKS** 



2850 S. Wood Drive Okmulgee, Okla.

918-752-0040 http://oicgiftshop.com Master of Ceremonies  $\Diamond$  Frank Carson 2011 Tribal Princess 

Alexis Tanyan

2012 Tribal Princess \( \rightarrow \text{Danelle Springer} \)

Head Gourd Dance Singer \( \rangle \) Leonard Cozad Jr. Head War Dance Singer ◊ John Arkeketa

Head Man Dancer \quad George Alexander

Head Lady Dancer \( \rightarrow \text{Michelle Garcia-Holiday} \) **Head Gourd Dancer**  $\Diamond$  **John Shotten** 

Co-Host \quad Red Rock Creek

Northern Drum \( \rightarrow \text{Blackbird} \)

Arena Directors \( \rangle \) Pat Moore & Bear Murray

Water Boys \( \rightarrow Josh & Jordan Murray \)

Pow Wow Committee ◊ Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731 John "Kandie" Des Jarlait

Lori Murray

Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600

### nformation: Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731

### **FRIDAY**

5:00 PM LOWER FLAG

6:30 PM **GOURD DANCE** 

7:00 PM **REGISTRATION OPENS** 7:30 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 

10:30 PM SPECIAL "49" CONTEST

**SATURDAY** 2:00 PM

**GOURD DANCE** 5:00 PM LOWER FLAG

5:30 PM **EVENING MEAL BREAK** 

**GOURD DANCE** 6:30 PM 7:00 PM **REGISTRATION OPENS** 

7:30 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 11:00 PM

SPECIAL GEORGE GIBSON MEMORIAL STOMP DANCE CONTEST

**SUNDAY GOURD DANCE** 2:00 PM

LOWER FLAG 5:00 PM

**GRAND ENTRY** 

### American Indian Arts & Crafts/ Food Vendors

Coordinated by Iowa Tribe Enterprises Linda Big Soldier, CEO Must complete application Reservations & information: 405-547-4239 or lbigsoldier@iowanation.org

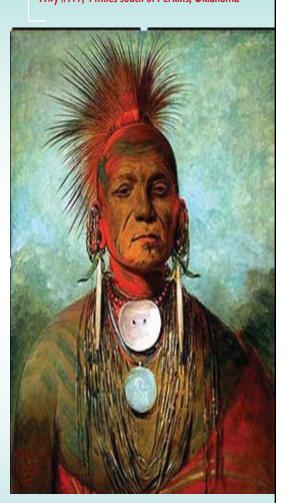


### 27th Annual Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma POWWOW

June 15-16-17, 2012

Bah-Kho-Je Pow Wow Grounds

Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Oklahoma



Contests

Committee reserves right to combine or separate divisions

Rules: Must register and be in parade in on night of contest Must be in full regalia to receive prize

Tiny Tots (0-6) - Combined boys & girls, combined divisions

Jr. Girls (7-12) - Combined divisions

Jr. Boys (7-12) - Combined divisions

Teen Girls (13-17) - Combined cloth/buckskin; fancy shawl/jingle Teen Boys (13-17) - Combined grass & traditional; straight; fancy Women (18-54) - Cloth; buckskin; combined fancy shawl/jingle Men (18-54) - Straight; fancy; combined traditional/grass

Golden Age Men (55+) - Combined divisions Gold Age Women (55+) - Combined divisions

### **Inside this issue:**

- Senate candidate told schools about heritage
- Tribal group appeals Fighting Sioux ruling
- MCN Festival features music, end of bike ride









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 23

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

JUNE 8, 2012

# Court upholds conviction in 1975 AIM Aquash slaying

CHET BROKAW
Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) – The South Dakota Supreme Court upheld a Canadian man's murder conviction and life sentence in the 1975 slaying of a fellow American Indian Movement activist, ruling that the state had jurisdiction to prosecute him

John Graham was convicted in December

2010 of taking part in the killing of Annie Mae Aquash. Prosecutors said Graham and two other AIMactivists, Arlo Looking Cloud and Theda Clarke, killed Aquash because they suspected she was a government informant.

Graham, a member of the Southern Tutchone tribe in Canada's Yukon Territory, argued that the government should not have been allowed to move his case from federal to state court after his extradition to the U.S.

However, the state's highest court ruled unanimously that the state had jurisdiction to prosecute Graham and that prosecutors presented sufficient evidence to convict him. Graham's sentence of life in prison without parole also is not

See AQUASH Continued on Page 4



ASSOCIATED PRESS | FILE

John Graham was convicted in December 2010 of taking part in the killing of Annie Mae Aquash.

## Tribes spar over proposal to kill eagles

BEN NEARY
Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) – The Northern Arapaho Tribe maintains neither the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service nor the Eastern Shoshone Tribe has the right to prevent its members from killing bald eagles for religious purposes on the central Wyoming reservation the

The Northern Arapaho Tribe filed court papers May 31 saying a permit the Fish and Wildlife Service granted it this spring to kill two bald eagles for use in the tribe's Sun Dance was meaningless because it didn't specify a place where the birds could be legally killed. The tribe has asked U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne to rule that it has a religious

own reservation.

But the Eastern Shoshone oppose the killing of eagles on the tribes' shared land.

The dispute between the tribes underscores the difficulty that can arise with two separate tribal governments coexisting on the sprawling Wind River Indian Reservation.

Andrew Baldwin, lawyer for the Northern Arapaho

e Nortnern Arapano



Trihe

The Northern Arapaho Tribe was granted the nation's first permit to kill bald eagles for religious purposes.

Olympic victory, the Jim Thorpe Native American Games honor the man who went on to lead a career in both professional football and baseball.

Jim Thorpe Native American Games
American Games

Jim Thorpe, seen here running track at Carlisle Indian Industrial School, was the first Native American athlete to receive accolades for his many achievements. One hundred years after his

## open June 10

KAREN SHADE
Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY – Athletes from across the country will gather in Oklahoma City for the first Jim Thorpe Native American Games, June 10-17. Among them are two Tulsa football players, graduates of McLain High School's Class of

When asked about Jim Thorpe, they know one thing about the legendary Oklahoma athlete – he

was a "first."

"I heard about him from my brother. He (Thorpe) was the first Native American football player," said 18-year-old Deon Jones, Choctaw. Jones played middle linebacker and running back as a McLain Titan. In the fall, he heads to Bacone College in Muskogee to play there.

Jim Thorpe "means a lot to me," he said. Jones will play in the Jim Thorpe All-Stars Football Game along with his friend Chad Davis, 19, and also a recent McLain grad.

Davis, Mississippi Choctaw, plays running back and linebacker. Although he doesn't know what to expect of this grand new event,

he is looking forward to the experience of it.

"I'm really excited to be playing," Davis said.

The pair will join the ranks of other Native American athletes from across the country playing on one of two teams – East and West. The game is a showcase for graduating high school seniors who are citizens of a federally recognized tribe.

recognized tribe.

Held for Oklahoma high school seniors and scheduled for June 15 at Putnam High School, the All-Stars Football Game is a cornerstone of the new Olympic-styled event that includes competitions in at least 10 other fields: baseball, cross country, track & field, softball, golf, wrestling, volleyball, martial arts and stickball.

More than 1,500 athletes from 70-plus tribes are anticipated to participate in the event that commemorates Thorpe and his legacy during this very special year.

Thorpe was the first Native American athlete to receive accolades for his many achievements. A member of the Sac

See GAMES Continued on Page 8



JOHN HARRINGTON | SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA

A four-person Color Guard representing the Seminole Tribe of Florida stands before the Amphitheater adjacent to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. From left to right, the Color Guard members are Tomé Roubideaux of the Rosebud Lakota Sioux Tribe, Stephen Bowers of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Theodore Scott Nelson of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, and Robert Primeaux of the Standing Rock Lakota Sioux Tribe. All are Vietnam-era military veterans. The photo was taken early on Monday, May 28, before the National Memorial Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery.

## Seminole guard posts colors at Arlington

ARLINGTON, VA – About two dozen service organizations were invited to participate in the National Memorial Day Observance May 28 at Arlington National Cemetery and the Seminole Nation Colorguard was one of them.

According to Stephen Bowers, a founding member of the Seminole Color Guard and a Vietnam War combat veteran, Seminole Tribe

participation marked only the fifth time since Arlington National Cemetery was established in 1864 that an American Indian Color Guard posted the colors there. The invitation came from the U.S. Army, which manages Arlington National Cemetery.

"It is a great honor for our Color Guard to post the colors at Arlington National Cemetery," said Bowers. "We are proud to represent our Native American brothers and sisters, especially those who have served with distinction in so many U.S. wars."

Known as the Seminole Tribe Veteran Memorial Initiative Color Guard, the 4-person team is spearheading an effort to add a sculpture of a Native American

See **COLORS** Continued on Page 4

## Tribe asks regulatory agency to reconsider casino

**JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS** Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. (AP) - A small Oklahoma tribe is asking a regulatory agency to reverse a ruling banning it from building a casino in a Tulsa suburb, even as the tribe also asks a federal judge to permit a sports bar and restaurant on the property instead.

The different tactics of the 350-member Kialegee Tribal Town has opponents of the to skin a cat," Farris said. project accusing the tribe of using a backdoor attempt to bring in a casino on the 20-acre parcel in Broken Arrow.

"It's a bit frustrating and a bit comical at the same time," said Jared Cawley, an attorney and

Neighborhood Gaming in Broken Arrow. "We see through the ruse the tribe is trying to play and I think the federal court sees through the ruse."

Joe Farris, an attorney for the tribe, acknowledged the ultimate goal is to operate a casino on the disputed site, but for the time being, the tribe is committed to building some kind of commercial development there.

"There's more than one way

The National Indian Gaming Commission ruled May 25 the Red Clay Casino couldn't be built on the land because the owners were citizens of the tribe's new request. Muscogee Creek Nation. A co-founder of Citizens Against not return a message by press U.S. District Judge Gregory K.



The National Indian Gaming Commission ruled May 25 the Red Clay Casino couldn't be built on the land because the owners were citizens of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

The ruling by the commission spokesman for the agency did mirrored a May 18 decision by

time seeking comment on the Frizzell, who found the tribe didn't have jurisdiction to build a casino. Frizzell also issued an injunction halting construction at the site.

claims the Kialegee now have pre-fabricated legal jurisdiction because the to temporarily house slot two owners of the property machines. The casino was were recently enrolled as scheduled to open around members of the tribe. Hobia has Labor Day in the conservative said building a casino would give his impoverished tribe a chance to help its citizens with the revenue from gambling.

The tribe filed a request in Tulsa federal court May 30 asking Frizzell to modify his injunction to allow developers to build a sports bar and music venue. Attorneys for the tribe argued that "additional space can be altered to be used as a venue for music and entertainment, including country western music."

the casino project late last year day and it will change."

The tribe's king, Tiger Hobia, and had trucked in several buildings community of nearly 100,000.

> The project quickly drew opposition thousands of residents, church leaders and local lawmakers. In February, Attorney General Scott Pruitt sued the Kialegee, accusing the southeastern Oklahoma tribe of moving ahead with construction without approval from the

"Nothing's surprising to me in this," Cawley said. "It's like Backers broke ground on the Oklahoma weather: Wait a

### WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

#### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment
- Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services.
Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details.
\*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details. (918) 631-1000

arvest.com



Member FDIC TENOR

### County protests fees in voting rights case

A judge ruled the county violated the federal Voting Rights Act by diluting the Indian vote.

**BEN NEARY** Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) -Fremont County is balking at paying legal fees for a group of American Indians whose court challenge forced the county to abandon its system of at-large voting for commissioners.

Five members of the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes won a ruling from U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne in 2010 that at-large voting in the county violated the federal Voting Rights Act by diluting the Indian vote. A federal appeals court early this year rejected Fremont County's appeal.

On appeal, the county didn't contest Johnson's finding that at-large voting violated the law. Instead, it challenged the judge's rejection of its proposals to remediate the violation by creating a single, Indian majority district centered on the Wind River Indian Reservation while continuing with at-large voting in the rest of the county.

In rejecting the county's plans, Johnson wrote that they "appear to be devised solely for the purpose of segregating citizens into separate voting districts on the basis of race without sufficient justification, contrary to the defendants' assertions."

Lawyers for the tribal members this month asked Johnson to award more than \$85,000 for their work on the appeal. The plaintiffs' 2010 request for more than \$880,000

for legal work through the trial is still pending with the judge.

Fremont County filed papers last week with Johnson arguing the plaintiffs' bills on the appeal are too high and should be reduced.

Laughlin McDonald, an Atlanta lawyer and head of the ACLU's Voting Rights Project, was lead attorney for the plaintiffs. He's billing for more than 134 hours of work on the appeal at a rate of \$425 an hour, for a total of more than \$57,000. The plaintiffs' three Lander lawyers are billing \$250 an hour.

Jodi Darrough, deputy Fremont County attorney, filed a response with Johnson last week saying Fremont County doesn't dispute that the plaintiffs won the case and are entitled to their legal costs and fees. However, she says they should be paid at a rate customarily charged in Wyoming courts, which she said would limit McDonald to \$300 an hour while capping the local lawyers at \$200.

Attempts to Darrough for comment were unsuccessful.

McDonald said he believes the law is clear that he's entitled to be paid at prevailing rates for lawyers in Atlanta, which are higher than in Wyoming. He said the plaintiffs were justified in hiring out-of-state

"I don't think there's any evidence that any in-state lawyer has ever filed a Section Two vote-dilution challenge on behalf of American Indians," McDonald said. He was referring to the section of the Voting Rights Act that prohibits voting practices or procedures that discriminate on the basis of race or other factors.

Fremont County was represented at trial and on

appeal by the Mountain States Legal Foundation, a Colorado law firm that typically represents conservative causes. While the foundation didn't charge the county for its legal work, the county was responsible for witness fees, other legal work and expenses that topped \$200,000 for the trial phase.

The Wyoming Government Liability Pool insured Fremont County through the trial and would apparently also be responsible for paying the plaintiffs' \$880,000 in trial legal fees. The pool collects money from some 400 governmental entities around the state to handle their collective legal expenses.

Pool Executive Director Mark Pring said this week that the pool refused to cover Fremont County when the county decided to appeal Johnson's decision.

Julie Freese, Fremont County clerk, said this week the county has no intention of appealing to the U.S. Supreme Court. "We're moving on," she said. "We've redone our districts, and we've got our elections gearing up."

Freese said she didn't know how much the county has paid for its own legal fees on the

McDonald said essentially that Fremont County faced a steep learning curve in the

"We file a lot of these Section Two cases," he said. "The problem is that this was the first one filed on behalf of tribal members in Wyoming. But in other states where we filed a lot of them, a lot of these jurisdictions realize that they're probably going to lose."

## eat better. move more. be tobacco free.

Interested in making Oklahoma a healthier place to live, work, learn and play? Consider joining a coalition in your area.

#### ATOKA AND COAL **COUNTIES**

Atoka/Coal Partnership for Change 580.380.0463

#### **BECKHAM AND ROGER MILLS COUNTIES**

Oklahoma Unified Resources (OUR) Turning Point Coalition 580.225.6247

### **BRYAN COUNTY**

Bryan County Turning Point 580.924.4285 ext 254

### **CARTER COUNTY**

Carter County Turning Point 580.223.7075 ext 314

#### **CLEVELAND COUNTY** Cleveland County

**Turning Point** 405.307.6602 **COMANCHE COUNTY** 

### Fit Kids of Southwest

Oklahoma 580.585.6686

#### **JACKSON COUNTY Jackson County Community**

Health Action Team 580.482.7308

#### **KIOWA AND CADDO COUNTIES**

Kiowa Coalition and Caddo County Interagency Coalition 580.726.3383

### **LOGAN COUNTY**

Logan County Partnership 918.282.3485

#### **LOVE AND JOHNSTON COUNTIES**

Fit Communities - Love and Johnston Consortium 580.371.2470

#### McCURTAIN, CHOCTAW **AND PUSHMATAHA COUNTIES**

Tri-County Consortium 580.298.6624

### **MUSKOGEE COUNTY**

Muskogee County Turning Point 405.683.0321

#### **OKLAHOMA COUNTY** Wellness Now Coalition 405.425.4315

#### **OKMULGEE COUNTY** Okmulgee County

Wellness Coalition 918.633.3202 **TULSA COUNTY** 

### Family Health Coalition

918.595.4039

No coalitions in your area? Find your local Turning Point Partnership and learn more at

**ShapeYourFutureOK.com**.





We proudly offer an array of services, from general dentistry to sedation, dental implants, and cosmetic dentistry - all designed expressly to meet our patient's changing needs. With four general dentists and four hygienists, we can maintain your oral health for a lifetime all at one location.

### We Accept Contract Health & Sooner Care

We serve patients in the Drumright, Cushing, Stillwater, Stroud, Ponca City, and surrounding areas with personalized service and exemplary care. Call for your appointment today.

918-352-3312 or Toll Free 877-RH Melton drumrightdentalcenter.com

## Troubled tribal police seek bigger Foxwoods role

MICHAEL MELIA Associated Press

LEDYARD, Conn. (AP) - A Connecticut tribe is moving to give its own police department a larger role inside its Foxwoods Resort Casino, but several former department employees say it can barely manage to patrol the tiny reservation, let alone the Western Hemisphere's largest casino.

Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation officers drive cruisers and carry guns, but the former employees say they resemble private security guards more than agents of the law. The department takes orders directly from tribal council members, blocks officers from pursuing investigations and has turned a blind eye to the sale of illegal drugs, ex-officers said in interviews with The Associated Press.

"The chief doesn't want tribal members to be investigated, to be prosecuted in any way, because then it comes back on him," said Steve Saucier, who worked part-time for the department until leaving in November. "If we do arrest somebody and it goes to tribal court, they throw it out. It does absolutely nothing."

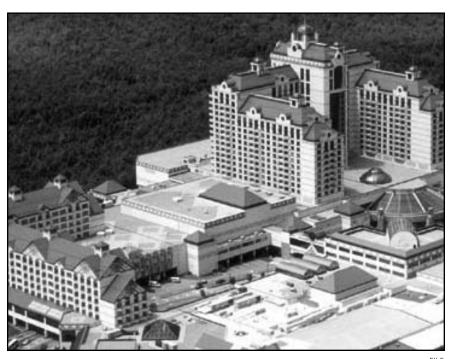
The tribe has been pressing for its own police to replace state troopers in the casino – a change that could bring millions of dollars in savings annually for the Pequots, who have to reimburse the state for security coverage and are struggling with more than \$2 billion in debt. The office of Connecticut's governor, which wants to put more troopers on the roads, has already reduced the security bill conditionally as it waits for tribal officers to obtain certifications they would need to be able to arrest non-tribal members.

The tribe's chief of police, Daniel Collins, resigned following inquiries to the tribe by the AP. His departure was announced internally on Thursday, said two tribal government employees who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss internal affairs. A spokesman for the tribe did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment about the resignation.

In response to the AP's findings, Mike Lawlor, the governor's liaison

on criminal justice policy, said the agreement depends on tribal police agreeing to abide by the state's standards. He said state attorneys are working out how to determine whether and when the tribe is ready.

say the department is stretched so thin that officers can barely cover shifts and emergency calls about fights and domestic disputes at times have to wait. Roughly 900 tribal members live in and around the Pequots' two-



The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation's Foxwoods Casino is the largest in the Western Hemisphere.

"It's definitely in their interest to get them into a position where they would have full-fledged powers," Lawlor said. "If they don't, they won't get them."

The tribal council defended its police force.

"The Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation Police force is fully trained and very competent to continue the policing of our gaming enterprise," the council said in a written statement.

One of the most pressing obstacles would be manpower.

The Pequots told the Connecticut governor's office as part of their proposal in July 2011 that they have 15 police officers, according to documents obtained by the AP through a Freedom of Information Act request.

But the tribal police have only nine officers, including the chief and two officers who recently joined from a training academy, according to two tribal government employees who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal affairs. Former officers

square-mile reservation. Some tribal officers have American Indian heritage but they are not required to be Pequot members.

"There were calls we couldn't get to right away, calls that had to wait because we didn't have any officers to send," said Robert Standeford, who left the tribal police in 2010 after a decade of service. "I always called for state backup when we needed it, but that wasn't a practice they wanted."

The tribe did not respond to requests to interview Collins, a Marine Corps veteran who required that officers salute him.

Several former officers said the chief took instructions directly from tribal members. They say he did not direct officers not to arrest certain individuals, but would classify sensitive cases as investigations and allow them to languish indefinitely.

In one case, Standeford said, the police chief told officers not to pursue what could have been a major drug bust. The tribe was holding an annual outdoor celebration about five years ago in a part of the reservation known as Stump Mountain when officers stopped a man with a large baggie full of marijuana. The man told officers he got the drugs from a white van that was loaded with marijuana. But Standeford said the chief told officers to release the man, had them dump the drugs on the ground and spoke with the van driver, who then drove off the reservation.

"You don't just dump drugs when you tell everyone in the community we're working to make it better," he

Foxwoods, which receives tens of thousands of visitors daily, currently has state troopers stationed around the clock inside the casino, where they made 181 arrests in 2010, mostly for assault or larceny. The Pequots have been required to pay \$4 million annually for the services of the state Department of Public Safety including about state 20 troopers, who are backed by tribal police and a large private security force.

In letters to state government officials last summer, tribal Chairman Rodney Butler said the Pequots would no longer pay for troopers to be stationed in the casino, and said the tribe would pursue a lawsuit if an agreement was not reached with the governor's office.

Ultimately, the state agreed to reduce assessments for the Pequots as well as the Mohegan Tribe, which owns the nearby Mohegan Sun casino. Lawlor said the Mohegan police have the certifications needed to assume a larger role as soon as the paperwork is processed, but he said it would take longer for the Pequots' police.

Tom Olsen, a police officer for the neighboring town of Ledyard who worked for Pequot police in the 1990s, said tribal officers have struggled with many of the same issues for years.

"The administration of that police department has to answer in a different way that a town's department would. They are beholden to what the council might say because they hold the purse strings," he said. "The bottom line is there are different rules there."



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers DANA ATTOCKNIE WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL

advertising@nativetimes.com

SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







## **EAGLES**

Tribe, said Friday other reservations in the country are home to more than one tribe, but those tribes share a unified government. He said the Wind River Indian Reservation is the only one he is aware of where two tribes with separate governments share a single reservation.

The Northern Arapaho sued the Fish and Wildlife Service last year over its delay in granting eagle permits. The federal government in recent years prosecuted a young tribal member who killed a bald eagle for use in the tribe's annual Sun Dance without a permit. Despite the tribe's legal support, the man wound up pleading guilty after his case was transferred to tribal off the reservation. However, permission to take eagles at of eagles by the Northern court, and he was ordered to pay a fine.

The Fish and Wildlife Service in March granted the Northern Arapaho Tribe the nation's first permit to kill bald eagles for religious purposes, but specified that it was only good outside the Wind River Indian Reservation. The agency said it had conferred with the Eastern Shoshone and learned that the Eastern Shoshone opposed killing eagles on the reservation.

In its legal filings, the Northern Arapaho point out that Wyoming law prohibits anyone from killing eagles outside the reservation.

A Fish and Wildlife Service spokesman said in March that the federal agency didn't believe state permission would be required to kill the birds

a Wyoming Game and Fish spokesman Department confirmed this week that the state takes the position that a federal permit wouldn't allow the Northern Arapaho to take

the birds off the reservation. "Defendants' permit merely invites tribal members to be arrested and prosecuted by the State of Wyoming instead of by the federal government," Baldwin and other lawyers for the Northern Arapaho Tribe wrote to Johnson this week.

Johnson last month granted a request from the Eastern Shoshone to participate in the lawsuit as a "friend of the court." In his order allowing them into the case, Johnson noted state law prohibits killing eagles outside the reservation and said the federal permit offers no "real

the Eastern Arapaho Tribe stated it has an indivisible, one-half interest in all wildlife on the reservation. It said killing eagles goes against its cultural beliefs and also would violate the joint Shoshone and Arapaho Law and Order Code.

However, the Northern Arapaho assert in their filing this week that the Eastern Shoshone Tribe has its own tradition of killing eagles.

"The administrative record does not support the conclusion that taking

Arapaho Tribe is in fact In its request to intervene, offensive to Eastern Shoshone Tribe or to their religious ceremonies," Baldwin and the other lawyers wrote. They said members of both tribes killed eagles historically for religious purposes before the federal government established a repository that dispenses eagle carcasses and feathers to American Indians.

> Kimberly Varilek, attorney general for the Eastern Shoshone, said Friday she had no immediate response to the Northern Arapaho claims. She said the tribe will file a written response in court.

Stickball · Drawing



· Fancy dancing · Beadwork Big Brothers Big Sisters Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

## PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

> **INDIAN LAW PROBATE ADOPTIONS**

RESTRICTED LAND **ISSUES** 

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY** 



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

### Warren says she told schools of Native heritage

The Senate candidate previously has said she was unaware that Harvard had listed her as a minority until she learned of it in a report in the Boston Herald last month.

BOB SALSBERG
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) – Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Elizabeth Warren has acknowledged for the first time that she told officials at Harvard University and the University of Pennsylvania that she had Native American heritage.

The Harvard Law School professor's campaign said in a statement that she gave that information to the schools only after she had had been hired for faculty positions. She had previously confirmed that she had allowed herself to be listed as a minority in a national directory of law school faculty.

"At some point after I was hired by them, I also provided that information to the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard," Warren said. "My Native American heritage is part of who I am, I'm proud of it and I have been open about it."

Warren grew up in Oklahoma and has provided no documentation of the ancestral claims. She has said her heritage is part of family lore.

Warren is running for the Massachusetts Senate seat held by Republican Scott Brown.

The statement was released as The Boston Globe reported Thursday that documents obtained from Harvard's library show its law school first reported a Native American female professor in federal statistics in 1992, when Warren was



ELIZABETHWARREN.CO

Elizabeth Warren grew up in Oklahoma and has provided no documentation of the ancestral claims. She has said her heritage is part of family lore.

a visiting professor.

She returned to Penn before returning to Harvard Law School as a tenured professor in 1995, when the school resumed its listing of a Native American faculty member, the Globe reported.

Warren previously has said she was unaware that Harvard had listed her as a minority until she learned of it in a report in the Boston Herald last month.

The Democratic candidate noted in her statement that people involved in recruiting her for teaching jobs have stated that they were unaware of her claims of Native American heritage, including Harvard Law School professor Charles Fried. Fried served as U.S. Solicitor General in the Reagan administration and has said he voted for Brown for Senate in 2010.

"Documents that reporters have examined also show I did not benefit from my heritage when applying to college or law school," she said.

In a separate statement Thursday, Warren demanded an apology from Brown for what she claimed was an attack on the integrity of her parents, the late Don and Pauline Herring.

During a visit Thursday to Springfield, Brown again called on Warren to release her employment records. Asked about her claim that she learned about her Native American ancestry from her mother, The Republican newspaper quoted Brown as responding: "My mom and dad have told me a lot of things, too, but they're not always true."

Warren said her parents should be left out of the campaign.

"Scott Brown's comments about my parents are totally out of line," she said. "I resent him questioning their honesty. My mother and father are not here to defend themselves and should be off limits."

### Pine Ridge Boys & Girls Club celebrates 20 years

KRISTI EATON

Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – SuAnne Big Crow dreamed of a "Happytown," a safe place where young people could take pride in their accomplishments and support each other, away from the poverty, alcoholism and violence endemic on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

In 1992, when the 17-year-old honor student and star athlete was killed in a car accident, SuAnne's mother pledged to honor her vision, batting aside obstacles to launch the first Boys & Girls Club in Indian Country.

"Nothing in Pine Ridge ever lasts that long," Leatrice "Chick" Big Crow told The Associated Press. "It opens with government funding. When the government funding goes away, it closes. We have been there without government funding, without tribal funding, and we have made it."

Members and supporters of the SuAnne Big Crow Boys & Girls Club gathered in Pine Ridge June 2 to celebrate its 20th anniversary with a traditional ceremony and a Lakota lunch. Guest speakers included Leroy "JR" LaPlante, Secretary of Tribal Relations for South Dakota, Bureau of Indian Affairs officials and representatives from nonprofits that have helped with funding and support.

Big Crow, executive director of the club, said SuAnne had hoped for a drug- and alcohol-free sanctuary for youth on the reservation, where they could meet with no fear of racism or judgment. Soon after the teen's death, and with the support of community members and a donated tribal warehouse building, the club opened.

"To experience that coming together was something few people get to experience in Indian Country. It was just working together for one common goal. It was just people who never got along," Big Crow said. "They were working side by side."

In 1999, President Bill Clinton visited Pine Ridge and directed \$6 million in federal grants to create a 30,000-square-foot building for the reservation's youths. That opened in 2002.

Today, the club serves about 500 kids aged from 5 to 18 years, and is one of nearly 200 clubs in Indian County that serve a total of 88,000 young people.

The center in Pine Ridge runs a job readiness program that teaches teenagers what to expect when they are looking for work, including how to dress and write a resume, while some kids gain experience working at the club's restaurant. A daily homework hour helps members focus on schoolwork, while a diabetes prevention program educates them on how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The club also includes a skate park and a sweat lodge.

Former Boys & Girls Club of America senior vice president Robbie Calloway, who helped bring the organization to Pine Ridge, said the club gives kids on the reservation hope for the future.

"What we try to do, the reason we wanted more clubs was so that they could connect and be part of something bigger than their immediate community," he said.

### Tribal group appeals ruling on Fighting Sioux suit

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) – A tribal group that's hoping to save the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux nickname says it will appeal a judge's decision to throw out its lawsuit against the NCAA.

The suit was filed by members of the Spirit Lake and Standing Rock Sioux tribes in North Dakota. It asked for at least \$10 million and a reversal of the NCAA policy banning the use of American Indian imagery. U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson dismissed the case on May 2. He says the tribal members are not part of the market controlled by the NCAA.

The group on Thursday filed notice for appeal with the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Voters will decide in the June 12 primary election whether UND must continue using the Fighting Sioux moniker.



## **AQUASH**

Continued from Page 1

grossly disproportionate to his crime, the justices said.

"Indeed, the evidence reflects that Graham was involved in Aquash's initial kidnapping, in ensuring that she was kept in captivity, in transporting her to her place of death, and in the ultimate shooting," Justice Steven Zinter wrote for the court.

Graham's lawyer, John R. Murphy of Rapid City, said he and Graham are disappointed in the ruling but will pursue secondary appeals.

"We are going to continue to pursue relief both in the courts in the United States as well as seeking to address certain matters regarding the propriety of the extradition in Canada," Murphy said.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley said state, federal and tribal authorities have cooperated for 35 years to bring justice for Aquash and her family.

Asked if authorities are still investigating other suspects for possible involvement in Aquash's murder, Jackley said: "This remains an ongoing, open investigation."

Aquash's body was found in a remote area in southwest South Dakota in February 1976. She was a member of the Mi'kmaq tribe of Novia Scotia. Federal agents investigated the case for years but didn't bring an indictment until March 2003, when Denver police arrested Looking Cloud.

Looking Cloud w

convicted in federal court of first-degree murder in 2004 and sentenced to life in prison. A federal judge signed an order in August reducing Looking Cloud's sentence to 20 years.

Clark, who was never charged, died in October.

Graham was arrested in December 2003 in Vancouver, British Columbia, on federal charges in Aquash's killing. Two courts ruled that the U.S. government lacked jurisdiction to try Graham because he is not an American Indian. The case was eventually moved to state court.

Graham was acquitted of premeditated murder in the state trial, but was convicted of felony murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole. The felony murder charge alleged he was involved in a killing while engaged in another felony, kidnapping.

Graham argued that the state lacked jurisdiction to prosecute him for felony murder because he was extradited from Canada on a different charge, premeditated murder. He contended that his conviction should be overturned and he should be allowed to return to Canada to challenge his extradition.

But the Supreme Court said Canada consented in February 2010 to Graham's prosecution for felony murder.

"Graham has not argued that Canada did or would object to Graham's prosecution for felony murder. On the contrary, the only record evidence reflects Canada's express consent to the prosecution," the court

said.

Graham also contended that several witness statements should not have been allowed at his trial, including those made by Looking Cloud about an alleged 2002 telephone conversation between Looking Cloud and Aquash's daughter, Denise Maloney, in which Looking Cloud said Graham shot Aquash with Looking Cloud and Clarke present.

Graham said Looking Cloud changed his story to negotiate a reduced sentence.

The Supreme Court said Looking Cloud's testimony was admissible because it was consistent with his prior statement to Maloney in the telephone call.

The appeal also questioned the inclusion of another person's testimony about a conversation in which Leonard Peltier - who is serving a life sentence after being convicted in 1977 of shooting two FBI agents accused Aquash of being an FBI informant. The Supreme Court said that person's testimony was impermissible hearsay, but that its inclusion in the trial was a harmless error because it would not have affected the verdict.

AIM was founded in the late 1960s to protest the U.S. government's treatment of Indians and to demand the government honor its treaties with Indian tribes. The group grabbed headlines in 1973 when it took over the village of Wounded Knee on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, leading to a 71-day standoff with federal agents that included the exchange of gunfire.

## **COLORS**

ontinued from Page

Per capita, more American Indian warriors served in Vietnam than any other ethnic group.

soldier to the statues of Three Servicemen at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. Per capita, more American Indian warriors served in Vietnam than any other ethnic group. Supporters of the project say the addition of an American Indian would correct an oversight that has existed since the Vietnam Veterans Memorial opened in 1982 and the Three Servicemen statue was added in 1984. The Vietnam wall will celebrate its 30th Anniversary in November,

and has over three million visitors every year.

The first burial at Arlington National Cemetery took place on May 13, 1864, when William Henry Christman of the 67th Pennsylvania Infantry was interred, one month before the property was appropriated as a military cemetery. The 624acre cemetery honors fallen men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed On average, 27 Forces. funerals are conducted each day, and more than four million people visit the cemetery each year.

### In Memoriam®

Dorothy Jean Narcomey, 81 year-old, lifelong Seminole County resident passed from this life May 29, 2012 of natural causes at Seminole Care and Rehabilitation Center. She was born November 1, 1930 in Seminole County to Moses and Martha Bean, She attended Pleasant Grove High School graduating in 1947.

Dorothy married Willie Narcomey and he preceded her in death in 1996.

Dorothy lived in the Seminole and Bowlegs area all of her life. She was a full time homemaker for 8 children, working for a few years at a tool factory in Seminole.

Dorothy was a member of the Cedar Creek Indian Baptist Church, and she has also attended the All Nations Baptist Church in Seminole. She was proud of her Seminole heritage and maintained tribal traditions by attending the local Seminole Stomp Dance ceremonies as a participant in the summer time until poor health prevented her from participating.

She will always be known for her caring, giving nature to her family. Always "giving" more of herself and giving to the last.

As the Matriarch of her family, she always did the best for her children and grandchildren.

Funeral services were 1:00 p.m., Friday, June 1, 2012 at Swearingen Funeral Home Chapel in Seminole, Oklahoma. Internment followed at Little Cemetery.



## Money challenge to tribes' sentencing authority

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) American Indian tribes authorized to triple the amount of time tribal members can spend in jail say they're challenged by a lack of funding.

The increase in tribal courts' sentencing authority from one year to three years for a single crime came two years ago under the federal Tribal Law and Order Act. But a U.S. Government Accountability Office report released Wednesday showed that none of the 109 tribes who responded to a survey about the sentencing increase were taking advantage of it.

Nearly all of those tribes said they need more money and technical help from the federal government to provide public defenders, establish or update criminal codes, and have sufficiently trained judges as the law requires.

The report shows 36 of the tribes surveyed are working toward the new authority. Another 34 tribes

were unsure whether they would go in that direction, while 31 said they had no plans to do so, the report said. The enhanced sentencing isn't mandatory for tribes.

Troy Eid, chairman of the Indian Law and Order Commission born out of the Tribal Law and Order Act, said tribes across the country are exploring the authority but it will take time to get all the elements in place if that's the path they choose.

"My impression is that within the next year, you'll start to see some tribes actually implementing the system," he said. "Tribes are being super careful. No tribe wants to get this issue wrong; it has to be legally

The GAO cautioned the report isn't representative of all tribes. Congressional investigators identified 171 of the 566 federally recognized tribes that received federal funding for tribal courts to include in the survey, but not all of them responded.

Tribal leaders have said a year in jail for any crime under tribal law, including homicide, hasn't served as much of a deterrent on reservations. Members of the Navajo Nation Council have been debating whether the enhanced sentencing provision would help send a message that tribal officials are serious about combatting

"The bad guys are saying they could get away with anything on the rez, which now pretty much is true," said Edmund Yazzie, chairman of the Navajo Nation Council's Law and Order Committee, and a former sheriff's deputy. "But now the committee is trying to take another

Seventy of the tribes surveyed said they had at least half the requirements in place to hand down lengthier sentences, but some are choosing not to because of associated costs, like probation. One unnamed tribe said it has had an effective criminal and civil justice system for 40 years without the requirement of a lawtrained judge, and that hiring one from outside the community would be unreasonable.

The Hopi Tribe in Arizona set aside funds from its own budget to hire law-trained judges and a prosecutor last year to meet the requirements of the tribal law and order act, said tribal Chairman Le Roy Shingoitewa. The tribal council is expected to vote on an updated criminal code next month that Shingoitewa says could help ensure that victims get justice.

"Now we have some teeth in enforcing our laws. Previous to this, all we did is slap the hands of perpetrators," he said.

Tribes receive funding, training and other assistance through the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Department of Justice, but it's not always enough.

The BIA said it has provided more than 60 recording devices to tribes to help them meet another requirement that they maintain a record of criminal proceedings. The agency said it has plans to give 15 more to tribes that request them and also has asked for \$1 million more in funding for tribal courts in its 2013 budget justification.

The GAO recommended that the federal government clarify to tribes the funding sources available to help them pursue the enhanced sentencing.

Mato Standing High, attorney general of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota, said the tribe is fortunate in that it has the financial resources to meet many of the requirements under the Tribal Law and Order Act. The only thing missing is an updated tribal code that would reflect a new class of crimes, like rape, arson or homicide, with lengthier sentences, he said.

The tribe hasn't decided officially whether to move forward with the enhanced sentencing authority, he said, but is considering how to classify crimes after comparing them to state and federal crimes and penalties.

"Tribes really need to see it as an opportunity to exercise sovereignty and have more local control," Standing High said. "That's the goal of it, and I understand also that it takes a lot of resources that a lot of tribes don't have."

## COMMENTARY

## 'Divide and rule' was the unwritten goal of the Indian agents



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

government, ask an Indian."

Last week marked the 88th anniversary when the Administration United States of America declared Native Americans to be citizens of this country. That's right; it was in 1924 that Indians became U. S. citizens and finally gained the right to vote. Ironically, the white the right to vote in August of 1920, four years before Indians were made citizens and gained the same right to vote.

to practice those rights once Constitutions many residents of Pine Ridge IRA forms of government. Corps or CCC.

women of America were given early life, was a clerk at or control the tiospayes the different trading posts on the feds often created hostilities reservation, primarily at Kyle between the different tiospayes and at Wounded Knee.

Politics has never been state of turmoil. My father, Tim, was 30 years far from the minds of most

whether he exercised that them at the trading posts. right in any election after 1924 Local politics never really is debatable. Sometimes it became externalized until is very hard for one who has the Indian Re-organization been denied certain civil rights Act was passed in 1934 and mimicking they are given. But I know he those of the United States Delano Roosevelt and like Indian tribes that voted for the

programs different districts on the initiated by Roosevelt and he reservation were ruled by life the job opportunities and extended families. Without training provided for Indians formal elections on paper by the Civilian Conservation the headmen were chosen by their good deeds, wisdom My dad, for most of his and courage. In order to rule and tried to keep them in a

born and raised on the Pine father, whose first language have been passed down local residents and getting the America do not come first. Ridge Indian Reservation in was Lakota, often engaged through the generations and financial support from the Even a simple idea and place South Dakota, he had never in political discussions with in some communities they tribe that the boys and girls of like a Boys and Girls Club on had the right to vote. Now customers as he waited on are still prevalent. It lends the reservation deserved was an Indian reservation has to credence to the old story of often very iffy. two fishermen, one white and a bucket, but they would still a literal lifesaver. It was a safe manage to climb out of the haven for the kids with nothing spoke very highly of Franklin were drawn up by the different bucket. He noticed that the to do. And although it did so Indian's crabs stayed in the much good for the children, bucket. He finally asked, "How it still had to fight different he leaned toward the politics of In the early days the U.S. come the crabs you catch stay factions on the reservation to make this happen. the Democrats simply because government, with very few in the bucket." The Indian just to survive. of the things he witnessed that people to control the large replied, "Those are Indian But 20 years later there it they were doing for his people. Indian reservations such crabs; every time one tries to stands as a beacon to hard The old saying goes, "If He saw the construction of the as the Pine Ridge, had an climb up, the other reach up work, perseverance and the fraction of the money it sends you think you can trust the roads, schools and bridges unwritten law of "divide and and drag him back down." The tenacity shown by the Big out every year in foreign aid on the reservation under rule." Under the traditional success of the "divide and rule" Crow family to keep it alive to help its own indigenous the WPA or Works Projects form of government the concept still has weight in the in the name of SuAnne, a minds of some.

saw for the first time in his headmen of the tiospayes, or Anniversary of the SuAnne automobile accident when she Big Crow Boys and Girls was just 17 years old. Club celebration at Pine Ridge on Saturday. I recalled reason I mentioned the vividly the struggles endured federal government at the These internal frictions the targets of vicious rumors where else, we often wonder be reached at UnitySoDak1@

basketball champion and hero I was a speaker at the 20th to many who was killed in an

And herein stands the old in 1924 and having been residents of Pine Ridge. My created by the Indian agents and unfounded gossip by some why the indigenous people of knology.net

sweat blood just to keep its Without the businesses on doors open. The SuAnne Big one Indian, sitting on a dock. the reservation to provide Crow Boys and Girls Club was The white fisherman would summer jobs for the youth, the first such establishment catch crabs and put them into the Boys and Girls Club was on an Indian reservation and it led the way so that there are now 200 Boys and Girls Clubs on Indian reservations across America. It took a lot of food people and a lot of donations

> If the United States government had used only a people, what would life be like on the Indian reservations today? The answer to that is; ask an Indian.

Tim Giago, an Oglala by the founders and current beginning. When many of Lakota, was born and educated managers of the club, Chick, us from Indian reservations on the Pine Ridge Indian Cee Cee and Pigeon Big see the United States send Reservation. He was the founder Crow, not only financially, billions of dollars in foreign of The Lakota Times, Indian but politically to keep it going aid to Egypt, Israel, Pakistan, Country Today, Lakota Journal these 20 years. They were often Afghanistan and God knows and Native Sun News. He can

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

### SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY** Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

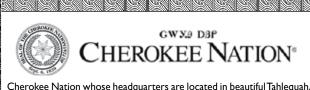
VATIVE	AMFR	ICANI	TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## CLASSIFIEDS

### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

> **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH #6584 Inpatient RN/R/PT/ER #4930 Inpatient RN/PRN/T/FT/ER **POSITIONS CLOSE 6/5/2012**

#6481 Phlebotomist Technician/R/PT **POSITION CLOSES 6/8/2012** 

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

### **Faculty Chair**

Position Summary: Serve as ONLI full-time Faculty Chair; is responsible for carrying out instructional duties, which requires an individual who has the ability to:

• Teach college-level and career and technical educations classes in a culturally diverse and historic setting • Engage in professional activities such as publishing and present conference papers • Ability to represent PNC in various public settings Assist in designing and implementing curriculum, supervise book/textbook orders as required for faculty • Serve on various committees, as assigned • Serve the College and its students in an ethical, enthusiastic, and visionary manner • Ability to lead accreditation process and participate fully on such committee.

Qualifications: Masters Degree required; PhD preferred. Two to four (2-4) years experience in progressively responsible professional position is also required. In addition, full-time faculty must have a proven track record with concern to: providing vision and guidance in helping establish an academic department and or program, carry out instructional responsibilities (including developing syllabi and lesson plans, supervise implementation on MOODLE/CAMS portals), working with both internal and external organizations, developing a professional dossier that clearly demonstrates advancement and activity, teaching life-skills to students, and serving the College by assisting with extracurricular activities, when necessary.

Other Requirements: Full-time faculty must be able to travel to attend meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. as deemed necessary by the project director's office.

### **Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Ensure the academic integrity and rigor of the classroom,
- Author and submit syllabi to the project director, Chair faculty committee
- Attend regular department meetings, as required by the project director, Assist in fund raising efforts that impact the proposed project,
- Relate to a wide diversity of people, including traditional and nontraditional students, in various cultural settings.
- Work in a professional and collegial manner with other faculty, staff, and students,
- Demonstrate excellent verbal, interpersonal, and written communication skills, Perform other duties as assigned by the project director/supervisor.
- Send resumes to Dr. Joseph Bohanon at jbohanon@pawneenationcollege.org, fax

918-762-3467, or mail to 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058.

#### **Admissions Assistant/** Recruiter

Position Summary: Serving the ONLI program; responsible for carrying out a wide variety of duties that allow the Director of Admissions/Project Coordinator to plan, organize, direct, and control organizational functions of the Admissions Office, which requires an individual that has the ability to:

- Multi-task in a vibrant and active environment,
- Compile, compose, and distribute various written documents and correspondence in a timely manner, Operate numerous software programs and learn new (or updated) programs as they become available, including Microsoft Office: Word, MS Excel, and
- · Execute directives in a timely manner,

PowerPoint,

 Act in a professional and courteous manner to students, other staff, and

 Maintain both official and document files.

Qualifications: An earned associate's degree is required, a bachelor's degree is preferred; experience in a progressively responsible position is required; experience in tribal programs is preferred. In addition, the Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must have a valid driver's license, a clean driving record, and a reliable vehicle for traveling to and from recruiting events; as well a proven track record with concern to: completing assigned tasks in a timely manner, working with office machines such as photocopiers, calculators, recorders, etc., working with both internal and external organizations, and serving the College by expected presence with extracurricular activities, when necessary.

#### Other Requirements:

The Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must be able to travel to attend meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. as deemed necessary by the appropriate project office.

Send resumes to Staci Rowton at srowton@pawneenationcollege.org, fax to 918-762-3303, mail to 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs!

-New jobs posted throughout the week-



#### **NOW HIRING**

TransCanada is seeking talented people who have energy for change, can build powerful partnerships and deliver sustainable results. We offer challenging work and industry-leading projects that create diverse opportunities for your

TransCanada is currently recruiting for the following positions nationwide:

- Controls/Measurement Technician- Eaton Rapids, MI
- Mechanic- Yankton, SD
- Electrical Instrumentation & Controls Technician- Brookings, SD
- . Mechanic- Wichita, KS
- Mechanic- St Joseph, MO
- Electrical Instrumentation & Controls Technician- Columbia, MO
- Electrical Instrumentation & Controls Technician- St Joseph, MO

Reporting to the Regional Manager, the successful candidates will apply their skills and aptitude to install, operate and perform planned maintenance and corrective repairs on natural gas pipeline systems. These roles require a motivated individual with related pipeline, facility construction or maintenance experience within the Oil & Gas industry. Previous experience working with high pressure natural gas would be considered an asset. All positions are eligible for domestic relocation.

TransCanada is an equal opportunity employer. For more information and to apply to this position, please visit our website at www.transcanada.com/ careers.

Everything you do at TransCanada contributes to everything we do across North America.

Make more of your career. Help us build long-lasting energy solutions that matter.





NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone

College, Muskogee, Okla.

11:30 a.m. at Benjamin

Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** 

**Modoc Tribal Citizens** 

**Meeting at Wyandotte** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530. Indian Taco Sales - from 11-

2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west cherokeeartistsassociation.org of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

> JUNE 8 Chilocco Powwow in the **Event Center of the First** Council Casino, seven miles north of Newkirk, OK. Gourd

dance begins at 2:00 p.m. with grand entry at 6:30. Featured will be the Apache **Fire Dance. Contact Garland** Kent, Sr at 580- 352-2670.

**JUNE 8-10** Red Earth Festival, Cox **Convention Center, Oklahoma City** 

JUNE 9 **Inter-Tribal Children's** Powwow & Funfest: June 9, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. Grand entry at 7pm. A stomp dance will follow the day's festivities, beginning at 11:30pm. Call 918-542-2441.

**JUNE 14** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 4th **Annual Golf Tournament** kicking off Iowa Tribal Powwow - 8am at Cimarron Trails in Perkins, Okla. Registration begins at 7am. Info call Linda Andre 405-547-5352 Ext 23

**JUNE 15-17** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 27th Annual Pow Wow, Bah-Kho-Je PowWow

Grounds, Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Okla Free admission, camping, contests in all divisions, arts & crafts, rations. Contact Robert Murray 580-304-6731 or Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600.

**JUNE 16** The 17th Annual Oklahoma **Indian All-State Basketball** Games at the sports center on the Oklahoma Wesleyan University campus in Bartlesville. Games will start at 6:00 P.M. For more info: contact us 918-642-3162, paradox@valornet.com

**JUNE 21-24 Muscogee Nation Festival** at Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee. For more information on the Festival, contact MCN Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7992 by e-mail at tourism@ muscogeenation-nsn. gov or online at www. muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

**JUNE 22-23** Peoria Powwow, 60610 E.

90 Road, Miami. Features a wide range of contest dancing, including gourd dancing and straight dancing, JUNE 30 as well as grass, traditional and fancy dancing. Call 918-540-2535.

**JUNE 22-24 Tonkawa Tribal Powwow** at Fort Oakland, Tonkawa. Come out and experience the Tonkawa Tribal Powwow, an annual tribal celebration featuring Native American dancing, contests, crafts, artwork and food. Call 580-628-2561.

**JUNE 23 Creek Council House Museum's Indian Art Festival** 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918-756-2324

**JUNE 28 – JULY 1 Pawnee Indian veterans** Powwow held at the Memorial Stadium. For more info call Toni Hill (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25

47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729 HWY 9 West, Seminole, Okla. All descendants of **London Coker and wife** Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044.

**JULY 2-4 Kiowa Gourd Clan** Celebration, Carnegie City Park, Carnegie. This event will feature the tribe's Sun Dance, held in the middle of summer during the longest and hottest days of the year. Call 580-654-2300.

**JULY 4-7 Quapaw Tribal Powwow** at Quapaw Tribal Grounds, 5681 S. 630 Road, Quapaw. An annual celebration over the 4th of July weekend that includes dancing, contests, vendors and plenty of family fun. Call 918-542-1853.

## Children permitted at Washington prison powwows

**SARA JEAN GREEN,** *The Seattle Times* 

WALLA WALLA, Wash. (AP) - Graysun Sherwood lay sprawled across his grandmother's lap, a red Kool-Aid stain ringing his mouth.

A 3-year-old napping amid the sounds of powwow - the drumming, the singing, the jingling of bells that accompany a dancer's every step or stomp - would be unremarkable anywhere else in Indian Country.

But in the visitors' room at the Washington State Penitentiary, the mere presence of a sleeping toddler, along with a handful of other children, was like a spiritual salve, providing a rare dose of normalcy to the 15 or so maximumsecurity inmates who belong to one of four Native-American "circles" at the prison. Last week's powwow, hosted by an inmates' circle, marked the first time in years children were in attendance.

"Oh, man, forget about it. It was awesome, that feeling, I don't even have words," inmate Herbert Rice - known as "Chief" - said of watching the youngsters, dressed in their dance regalia, step through the thick, metal security doors. "It's inspiring to us that they're dancing and involved inmates and cooked by prison staff. in their culture at such a young age ...

"If I would've paid more attention to that, I wouldn't be here," said Rice, 41, who is serving two life sentences for the slayings of an elderly Yakima County couple during a 1988 robbery when he was 17.

Until recently, such a scene would have been impossible inside the walls of the state's prisons. In Washington, an estimated 750 Native Americans are incarcerated - though Minty LongEarth, a prison program director for the Seattle-based United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, believes the number is much higher, possibly double, given that many inmates don't identify themselves as Native to prison officials. After months of discussions between tribal leaders and the Department of Corrections, Native-American inmates now can request that children be allowed to participate in significant, yearly religious or cultural events such as powwows.

Powwows - usually three-day events held during summer months - generally are loud, joyous social gatherings where song, dance and food reunite family members and old friends. Dancers often compete in various categories, such as traditional or fancy, each with a distinct style and dress. Dancers are accompanied by drum groups, and drummers take turns singing and beating out songs usually handed down through families or clans.

The inclusion of children is vital because they represent the future and are key to transmitting culture and identity through the generations.

During powwow, Rice said, "we let go of our masks that we wear in here."

"People die inside themselves in here," said Rice, who remembers teaching his son, now 20, how to grass dance in a prison visiting room. "These elders here today remind us of who we are, they bring us back to who we are. And the kids, for us, remind us of what we used to be, and they remind us what tomorrow is going to be, especially these young kids here dancing."

Most members of the circle to which Rich belongs are Native American, but the group also includes a handful of Pacific Islanders, who share similar cultural and spiritual beliefs, and Roy Towsend, 41, a Puerto Rican serving a 66year prison term for first-degree murder.

"I was raised around the Native way, and I have family members who are Native," including a younger brother who is also incarcerated, Towsend said as he set up a buffet table that would be laden with grilled salmon, wild rice, buffalo stew and fry bread – food paid for by the

"I've been down (incarcerated) 17 years, and I've been through every circle where I've landed," he said, referring to the usual movement of prisoners to various facilities over the course of their sentences. "Most of these older cats, like Rice, he's like a big brother to me. He runs the circle like a family."

It had been at least five years since some prison superintendents - each one decided individually - last allowed minors to attend correctional facilities. And it's been two years since the Department of Corrections (DOC) contraband the "sacred tobacco" used in Native American ceremonies, authorized hands-on property searches of ceremonial items that were reclassified as "nonsacred," and curtailed sweatlodge ceremonies due to the cost of firewood. As part of the change, barring children from religious or cultural events was codified in DOC

While smoking tobacco was banned in state prisons in 2004, Native Americans still could burn tobacco during sweat-lodge ceremonies until the changes took effect.

"DOC, with basically a sweep of a pen, erased all these religious, tribal, spiritual and ceremonial rights," said Gabe Galanda, a Seattle attorney who worked on behalf of Native inmates.

two tribal leaders met with then-state prisons a table with an inmate and other adults. Director Eldon Vail and other DOC brass in the spring of 2010 to discuss what they saw as cultural rights behind the razor wire.

political position, Director Vail simply said he said. was sorry, the state had screwed up and they were committed to correcting the mistake," recalled Galanda, a member of the Round Valley Indian Tribes of Mendocino County, Calif. Last June, almost everything that had been stripped away was signed back into DOC policy, not only for Native-American inmates, but for those who practice other minority faiths, such as Buddhists and Wiccans.

"It's taken us two years, through a lot of diplomatic effort and patience, to get everything back," Galanda said. The one thing still missing, however, was the inclusion of children - often referred to as "shorties" - at powwows.

Rice started writing and calling Galanda early last year, galvanizing the effort to bring children back to powwow. Originally from the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Rice said his exposure to traditional spiritual practices inside prison changed his life.

"It brought the good person out of me," Rice said. In turn, he has become a teacher to other incarcerated young men who, like him, grew up on the reservation amid dysfunction and alcoholism and then lost themselves to drugs, booze and crime. "Our culture changed me; it helped me face my scars in life."

A few weeks ago, the DOC - after months Native American powwows inside the state's 12 of discussions about security and the need to protect children, especially from incarcerated sex offenders - decided to allow children to powwow. His movements weren't as fluid as implemented sweeping changes that deemed as attend the first powwow of the summer season those of the other men, and he leaned forward as at the prison in Walla Walla. As a result of tribal he danced, as though watching his feet. leaders' efforts, other religious groups - be they Catholics or Muslims - now can also request that praying on our ancestors," said Carson, 32, children be allowed to participate in their annual also from the Colville Reservation. "It's a real religious or cultural events, Galanda said.

> Scott Frakes, the deputy director of prisons who oversees six of the men's prisons, including of a 20-year sentence for second-degree murder, the Washington State Penitentiary, said DOC changed its policies to comply with the federal Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000, which requires U.S. prisons to provide "equal and reasonable religious practices to all prisoners."

> Frakes, who was initially against the idea of allowing children to attend religious events, said my road. I'm on a natural high right now. Creator it is far easier for corrections officers to ensure gives me happiness."

Galanda was expecting a battle when he and the safety of child visitors when they are seated at

Powwows, though, are far from static visiting sessions, and require additional security, said violations of Native Americans' religious and Frakes, noting that inmates and community members now pay for the extra staffing. Tuesday's "Before we could basically take a legal or event, for instance, cost the circle about \$250, he

> The DOC decision didn't come in time for the inmates of the Zone 2 circle – the prison is divided into four zones - to meet the 45-day clearance requirement to invite their children, nieces and nephews to last week's powwow. But Kalispel elder Francis Cullooyah, a spiritual adviser who has been working in the state's prisons since the early 1990s, brought four of his 18 grandchildren. And Nora Numkena, a Spokane tribal member who has been volunteering at the state penitentiary for the past three years, brought her two grandchildren - Graysun and 9-year-old Amelia Seyler, who spun with her purple-and-pink shawl as she danced across the linoleum.

> Though the smell of wood smoke and burning sage was absent, the powwow inside the Walla Walla prison had all the same energy - the excited greetings, the easy laughter - of a powwow on the outside. Six of the Pacific Islander men performed a warrior dance, stripping off their prison T-shirts and slapping their tattooed chests, thighs and biceps to howls from the crowd of about 70 people.

> After the inmates had served their guests with paper plates piled high with traditional foods, Donald Carson began calling people one by one, handing out gifts that the men had made: hand drums, beadwork, moccasins, leather pouches.

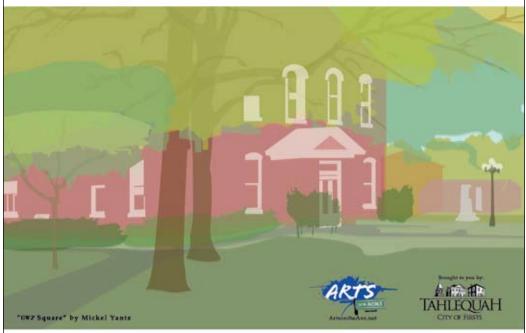
Earlier in the day, Carson had danced his first

"It's real spiritual, you know. I did a lot of humbling feeling, being able to dance."

A former drug user who has served six years Carson is now a follower of Red Road, a spiritual tradition in which practitioners dedicate themselves to keeping their bodies, minds and souls pure through prayer and ceremony.

"I have 14 more years, but that's 14 more years I can learn" about his traditions, Carson said. "I guarantee you I won't be back here, because of

JUNE 0 & 9, 2012 · Tahlequah, OK ·



Art Stroll & Artist Demonstrations . Oklahoma Wine Tasting Music & Entertainment
 Food

For a complete list of activities, visit ArtsontheAve.net or on facebook at facebook.com/ArtsontheAve



**BEADING & CRAFT SUPPLIES CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES JEWELRY & NOVELTIES** ORIGINAL ARTWORK **COLLECTIBLES & BOOKS** 



2850 S. Wood Drive Okmulgee, Okla. 918-752-0040 http://oicgiftshop.com

Master of Ceremonies  $\Diamond$  Frank Carson 2011 Tribal Princess 

Alexis Tanyan 2012 Tribal Princess \(\frac{1}{2}\) Danelle Springer Head Gourd Dance Singer \( \Quad \) Leonard Cozad Jr.

Head War Dance Singer \( \rightarrow John Arkeketa \) Head Man Dancer ◊ George Alexander

Head Lady Dancer \( \rightarrow \) Michelle Garcia-Holiday

**Head Gourd Dancer**  $\Diamond$  **John Shotten** Co-Host ◊ Red Rock Creek

Northern Drum & Blackhird

Arena Directors \( \rangle \) Pat Moore & Bear Murray

Water Boys \( \rightarrow Josh & Jordan Murray \)

Pow Wow Committee ◊ Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731

John "Kandie" Des Jarlait

Lori Murray Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600

Information: Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731

### **FRIDAY**

5:00 PM LOWER FLAG 6:30 PM **GOURD DANCE** 

**REGISTRATION OPENS** 7:00 PM

7:30 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 10:30 PM SPECIAL "49" CONTEST

**SATURDAY** 

2:00 PM **GOURD DANCE** 5:00 PM LOWER FLAG

**EVENING MEAL BREAK** 5:30 PM 6:30 PM **GOURD DANCE** 

**REGISTRATION OPENS** 7:00 PM

7:30 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 11:00 PM SPECIAL GEORGE GIBSON MEMORIAL

STOMP DANCE CONTEST

**SUNDAY** 2:00 PM **GOURD DANCE** 

5:00 PM LOWER FLAG

**GRAND ENTRY** 

#### American Indian Arts & Crafts/ Food Vendors Coordinated by Iowa Tribe Enterprises Linda Big Soldier, CEO

Must complete application Reservations & information: 405-547-4239 or lbigsoldier@iowanation.org

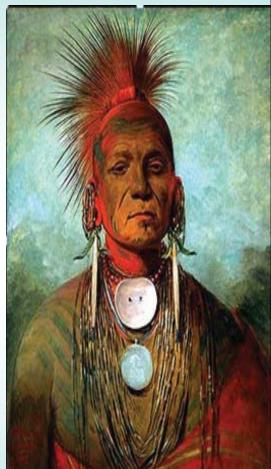


### 27th Annual Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma POWWOW

June 15-16-17, 2012

Bah-Kho-Je Pow Wow Grounds

Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Oklahoma



### Contests

Rules: Must register and be in parade in on night of contest Must be in full regalia to receive prize

Committee reserves right to combine or separate divisions

Tiny Tots (0-6) - Combined boys & girls, combined divisions

Jr. Girls (7-12) - Combined divisions

Jr. Boys (7-12) - Combined divisions

Teen Girls (13-17) - Combined cloth/buckskin; fancy shawl/jingle Teen Boys (13-17) - Combined grass & traditional; straight; fancy Women (18-54) - Cloth; buckskin; combined fancy shawl/jingle

Men (18-54) - Straight; fancy; combined traditional/grass Golden Age Men (55+) - Combined divisions

Gold Age Women (55+) - Combined divisions

### **Former UKB** citizens can request reinstatement

M. THOMAS JORDAN UKB Communications Office

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is giving former tribal members a one-time opportunity to be reinstated into the tribe.

As the UKB Membership Ordinance does not have a provision for relinquished members to come back to the tribe, this is a one-time chance to come back.

Chief Wickliffe said some members were coerced into relinquishing from the tribe to receive medical care or job opportunities that were not available to them while they remained members of the UKB and now they have one chance to return to the tribe.

The idea for reinstatement was discussed in council for at least the last seven years. The council took formal action in the January council meeting by appointing a five-member ad hoc committee to process reinstatement requests for approval by the full council.

Requests can be up to one page handwritten or half a page typed.

The requests should state why the former member relinquished and why they want to be reinstated with the UKB. The former member must provide a good reason for being reinstated and must have a good attitude.

The actual requests must be turned in at the enrollment office in the UKB Community Services Building at the tribal complex or mailed to the enrollment office.

Former members can, also, request that a reinstatement form be mailed to them.

Mail reinstatement requests to C/O UKB Enrollment Department P.O. Box 746 Tahlequah, OK 74465.

For more information, call the enrollment department at 918-453-9375.

## MoTown stars to headline MCN Festival, Ocmulgee to Okmulgee bike ride finishes

**GARY FIFE** Muscogee Nation News

OKMULGEE, Okla. - Stars of MoTown will be headlining the 38th annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival this June. Gladys Knight and The Temptations will be sharing their respective lists of hits for festivalgoers June 23 at the Claude Cox Amphitheater.

Knight has enjoyed a musical career spanning more than 50 years and has eight Grammy Awards to her name. Knight, known for chart-topping hits such as "Midnight Train to Georgia" has produced 38 albums, worked with top musical artists and appeared in a number of movies. She has also won a long list of awards for her humanitarian work. Knight recently completed appearances on the TV program. "Dancing with the Stars."

The Temptations have long been a fixture on the musical scene with chart crossover hits like "My Girl," "Papa was a Rolling Stone," and dozens of others. The five member vocal/dance group has been performing since 1961 and delighting audiences around the world.

Besides the entertainment, this year's festivalgoers will see the completion of the "Ocmulgee to Okmulgee" bike ride that commemorates the tragic journey of the Muscogee people on the Trail of Tears. The tour will commence June 2 and is expect to arrive in Okmulgee on June 23 at the Festival.

MCN Cultural Center Director John Beaver will be serving as the lead rider for the bicycle tour. His aim, he said, was to bring attention to the Muscogee removal and remember those who made the journey, "We want to pay homage to that. Not only do we have a history here in Oklahoma, it extends to both Georgia and Alabama. We have a long proud history there."

The riders will be making stops at historically significant places, presenting 'living classrooms' to educate residents and visitors along the way. The ride will be filmed for a documentary by the staff of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum.



MCN CULTURAL CENTER I COURTESY

MCN Cultural Center Director John Beaver is the lead rider for the Ocmulgee to Okmulgee bicycle ride that commemorates the Muscogee (Creek) Trail of Tears.

### **SHS seniors named Gates Scholars**

**CHEROKEE NATION** News Release

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - Four Sequoyah Schools seniors have been named Gates Millennium Scholars by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This honor entitles them to one of the most prestigious scholarships in the country – a scholarship that includes college tuition, books, fees, and room and board for up to eight years' worth of higher education.

"Our scholars this year are four young men who are very deserving of this honor," said Augusta Smith, college prep class teacher. "Each year, it becomes more difficult than the previous year because the pool of applicants increases. It requires hours and hours of writing and collecting data for the application. The preparation actually commences in their freshman year of high school, keeping focus on their goals to attend

Sequoyah's

Millennium Scholars this year include Geoffrey Little, Tyler Stroth, James Wagnon and Dillon Wade.

"These young men could not have attended the college of their choice without the scholarship," Smith said.

The Gates Millennium Scholarship is a scholarship awarded to minority students show outstanding community involvement, academic achievement and leadership abilities. A total of 1,000 scholarships are awarded annually, with 100 scholarships specifically identified for Native American youth. Forty-four students from Sequoyah have been named Gates Millennium Scholars in previous years. The addition of these four brings the school's total to 48 since 1999, a tremendous accomplishment for a small school. Sequoyah was named an outstanding college preparatory academy by the Gates Foundation.

Little, 18, of Tahlequah, is the son of Ellis and Nancy Little. He is a citizen of the Seminole Nation and was an outstanding member of the school's basketball and track teams. He plans to attend Northeastern State University.

Stroth, 18, of Broken Arrow, is the son of Lori Mangels and the grandson of Carol Mangels. He is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, was active in student council and was on the football and track teams. Stroth has signed a letter of intent to run track at the University of Tulsa.

Wade, 19, of Oaks, is the son of Kim and Kip Wade. He is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and is active in FCA, student council, football, basketball, track and baseball. He was accepted to the Stanford LEAD program and plans to major in medical engineering at Oklahoma State University.

Wagnon, 18, of Tahlequah, is the son of Tammy and James Wagnon Sr. He is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and has attended Sequoyah since he was a freshman. He was a member of the football team and plans to attend the University of Oklahoma and major in pre-

### Little Ambassadors sought to represent Cherokee Nation

11 at Sequoyah Schools' 4 p.m. The competition is held in conjunction with the 60th Cherokee National Holiday that takes place over Labor Day weekend.

"The event is a great opportunity for young ones to gain confidence and leadership skills," said Mandy Scott who coordinates the Little Cherokee Ambassador event. "It helps our younger generation community."

between the ages of 4 and scott@cherokee.org.

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. 12. Competitors will be - The Cherokee Nation divided into three separate is accepting applications age groups, 4-6, 7-9 and for the Little Cherokee 10-12. A male and female Ambassador Leadership winner will be chosen Competition that will be from each age group to held on Saturday, Aug. represent the tribe as goodwill ambassadors Place Where They Play promoting the values, in Tahlequah starting at culture and heritage of the Cherokee people.

> Complete applications should be submitted by Wednesday, July 11, and should include a copy of the contestant's tribal citizenship card and a brief biography. Those who have previously been chosen as the lead ambassador for their age groups are not eligible to compete.

Everyone is invited to become more involved attend the competition in their culture and gives and cheer on their favorite them a better sense of contender. For more how to represent his/her information or to request an application please Participants must be a contact Mandy Scott at Cherokee Nation citizen 918-207-3841 or mandy-

## GAMES

& Fox tribe, Thorpe was born near present-day Prague in Indian Territory in May 1887 or 1888 (no birth certificate exists). He attended Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, before moving on to Carlisle Indian Industrial School in Carlisle, Penn. There, he quickly made a name for himself in track and field as well as baseball and lacrosse.

The track star turned his attention to football. In 1912 he led his school to the national collegiate championship with 25 touchdowns and 198 points. That same year, he competed at the Olympics in Stockholm, Sweden, in the pentathlon and decathlon, winning gold for both. As Sweden's King Gustav V presented his decathlon medal, he reportedly told Thorpe, "You, sir, are the greatest athlete in the world." "Thanks, King," Thorpe

replied.

"Back when I was in kindergarten, we had plays where we had to find out information about famous athletes or someone we looked up to. I played Jim Thorpe," said Jake Roberts, who is coordinating the stickball competition in the games. "I think it's unique that were are representing, honoring what he did being a Native American and an athlete. I think it's a testament that we're still here and competing at a high level in sports."

One hundred years after his Olympic victory, the Jim Thorpe Native American Games honor the man who went on to lead a career in both professional football and baseball. But these games also honor all Native athletes who have endured the trials of sports, said Annetta Abbott, executive director of the

"That's kind of our mission statement," she said. "We realize that youth sports not only teaches youth to ... make positive choices in life, but by participating in sports, sometimes it provides that mentor kids are needing that they might not be getting in their home life."

Participating in sports tends to keep kids involved in school and in other positive, healthy activities, Abbott added.

"That's one of the really rewarding things for us that we see, these stories from coaches and kids about how they're making changes and positive choices in their lives," she said.

In creating the games, organizers studied other including the U.S. Indigenous Games held every other year in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, (the last games were in 2011). The Jim Thorpe games will also be held biannually, but they differ because they are open to anyone who is a member of an American Indian tribe or band. Athletes will not be required to make a state or regional team in order to register. Some tribes (Choctaws, Florida Seminoles) and groups, however, are creating teams to take, she said.

Native athletic events.

The games have sponsorship from Nike and National Coalition of Native American Athletes. All events are free to the public and will take place in several venues around the Oklahoma City area.

"We're able to offer first class venues," Abbott said. "If you're a 12-year-old softball player, getting to play at ASA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium - the same field where the women's college softball world series play - that's a big deal."

During the games, there will also be a basketball tournament, college

career fair, a health fair, U.S. Tennis Association clinic and an obstacle course and rock-climbing wall set up by the National Guard. Special events include the NFL Punt, Pass and Kick and a 5K run, both of which take place June 16 and are free to kids 6-15 years to participate.

Heisman Trophy winner and NFL quarterback Sam Bradford of the St. Louis Rams is scheduled to do the coin-toss at the start of the allstar football game. Bradford is from Oklahoma and played for the University of Oklahoma before being drafted into professional football.

Organizers hope to expand the field of competition with more categories in succeeding years and creating many more "firsts" to come.

Proceeds from the games will go to the Jim Thorpe Association's Bright Path program created to build healthy, positive self-esteem in youth.

The Jim Thorpe Native American Games take place June 10-17 at various locations in Oklahoma City, including Oklahoma City University, the ASA Hall of Fame Stadium and Oklahoma City Tennis Center.

Events begin with the Parade of Nations Opening Ceremony on June 10 at Remington Park, 1 Remington Place, Oklahoma

For a schedule of events and location information, call (405) 208-9253 or go online to www. jimthorpegames.com.



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Friends Deon Jones, Choctaw, left, and Chad Davis, Mississippi Choctaw, have played football together since they were Tulsa Mighty Mites as children. The recent graduates of McLain High School play June 15 during Jim Thorpe Native American Games, scheduled to run June 10-17 in Oklahoma City.

### **Inside this issue:**

- Okla. AG signs enforcement papers on casino
- Choctaw Days festival at DC museum
- Former Miss Indian Okla. to portray storyteller









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 24

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**JUNE 15, 2012** 

AP PHOTO I SURVIVAL INTERNATIONAL

In this Nov. 2011 photo released in 2012 by Survival International, an Awa Indian girl plays over a river in Maranhao state, Brazil. For generations, the Awa lived far away from the rest of humanity, following the seasons' rhythms in the lush Brazilian Amazon rainforest. Then the rest of the world found the Awa. Two bills now working their way through Brazil's Congress would further open indigenous territory to development and potentially weaken tribes' hold on their land.

## **Development push puts** Brazil's indigenous at risk

**MARCO SIBAJA** Associated Press

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) - For generations, the Awa lived far from the rest of humanity, picking fruit, hunting pigs and monkeys and following the seasons' rhythms in their patch of the lush Brazilian Amazon rainforest.

Then the rest of the world found

the Awa. Loggers and ranchers came, cutting into the tribe's ancestral lands in search of profits. So did a rail line where trains shuttle tons of iron ore through the forest, from mines in the heart of the Amazon to Atlantic Ocean ports, with much of it headed for Chinese steel mills.

See **DEVELOPMENT** Continued on Page 4

## **Tribe argues about** \$193 million settlement

■ Among the largest recipients so far: the Osage Nation in Oklahoma at \$380 million, Montana's Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes at \$150 million, and the Colville tribe at \$193 million.

SHANNON DININNY Associated Press

TOPPENISH, Wash. (AP) -The money hasn't arrived yet, but some citizens of a tribe in Eastern Washington disagree about how best to disburse a \$193 million settlement from the federal government over mismanaged land royalties and accounts.

Hundreds of citizens of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation have signed a petition pushing for tribal citizens to receive

50 percent of the money, but the tribe's business council has proposed giving 20 percent to tribal members. The rest would go toward rehabilitation of timber and other lands, which supporters say would put many tribal citizens back to work following an economic downturn that forced the closure of its timber mills.

The spat is likely to play a role in the June 16 election for seven open seats on the 14-member council – a point made clear at an open session for tribal members living off the reservation to hear from the candidates.

"We're tired of not being heard and the council doing what they want with it. It's not about the money. It's about being heard," said Joanne Sanchez of Moxee, who organized the petition

More than 1,200 people have signed the petition so far, including 370 collected by one supporter who went door-to-door on the reservation, Sanchez said.

The Colvilles were among 114

tribes that filed suit against the federal government to reclaim money lost in mismanaged accounts and from royalties for oil, gas, grazing and timber rights on tribal lands. The government announced in April that it had agreed to pay more than \$1 billion to settle some of those cases, but negotiations continue on dozens of other cases.

Among the largest recipients so far: the Osage Nation in Oklahoma at \$380 million, Montana's Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes at \$150 million, and the Colville tribe at \$193 million.

Twelve Indian bands comprise the Colville tribe, whose reservation covers 1.4 million acres of northcentral Washington's Okanogan Highlands. The Colvilles have about 9,700 citizens, though as many as half have moved away from the reservation to find work or seek opportunities

About 100 people turned out at

See **SETTLEMENT** Continued on Page 2

### Lawyers sue DSS over Cherokee girl's death

**MITCH WEISS** Associated Press

15-month-old girl's life was in danger North Carolina county. but failed to take action on complaints in a North Carolina court.

lawyer on behalf of Aubrey Kina-Marie Littlejohn's estate told The Associated Press. "And once we do that, we want immediately returned Wednesday. to hold those people accountable for their actions."

by Wijewickrama in connection with Aubrey's Jan. 10, 2011 death. The earlier one was filed in February with the North Carolina Industrial Commission, which handles wrongful death claims involving state agencies. That case is pending.

county DSS as a defendant along with seven current and former social the agency, Tammy Cagle.

The lawsuit asks for more than \$10,000 in damages. It also accuses found that police and social workers was not given proper hydration."

County social workers knew that a has a reservation in the rural western

"The failure to properly investigate Aubrey behind. that could have prevented her death, and act on complaints of abuse and according to a lawsuit filed Wednesday neglect of Aubrey...represents a systemic failure of the Swain County "We're trying to find out who was DSS to fulfill its legal obligations with responsible," David Wijewickrama, a respect to children" who are Cherokee, the lawsuit said.

Calls to Swain County DSS were not

According to the lawsuit, there were three separate reports that This is the second complaint filed Aubrey was being abused by her great aunt, LadyBird Powell, between September and November 2010. One time, a family member reported that Powell had disciplined the toddler by "smacking her in the mouth."

But social workers ignored the complaints and continued to allow The new complaint filed in Swain Aubrey to live with Powell. Aubrey County Superior Court names the died the following January after being taken to a nearby hospital.

Powell was arrested and charged

An Associated Press investigation

Swain County of not doing enough had been aware of reports Aubrey was to protect Native American children. being mistreated while she was staying Aubrey was a member of the Eastern with Powell. Two months before CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) - Swain Band of Cherokee Indians, which Aubrey died, authorities removed a different child from Powell's home because of unsafe conditions, but left

> Two Swain County social service workers have been charged with falsifying records and indicted on obstruction of justice charges in Aubrey's death. They are accused of falsifying records to make it appear as though the department had done a thorough investigation into allegations that Aubrey was being abused.

> Wijewickrama said he doesn't want to do anything to obstruct the criminal cases pending Powell or the social workers.

"But evidence based on the warrants show that some employees have engaged in bad behavior," he said. "And we want to find out how high up the food chain that goes."

According to the lawsuit, Powell "willfully neglected and abused" Aubrey. On the day she died. Powell workers, including the former head of with second-degree murder in January left the toddler in a car seat for 12 2012 – a year after the toddler's death. hours "during which time she was not cared for or monitored, was not fed,

## Tribal VP says alcohol-fueled arrest had upside

■ Just weeks after his tribe filed a lawsuit against some of the world's largest beer makers and distributors, Tom Poor Bear was arrested in an alcoholrelated incident.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) - As vice president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Tom Poor Bear has been tapped by his people to advocate for their rights, their land and their health. Yet, Poor Bear is also one of his people, not immune to the problems facing the dry Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota.

Just weeks after the tribe filed a lawsuit against some of the world's largest beer makers and distributors, Poor Bear was arrested in an alcoholrelated incident that he believes was, in some ways, a good thing. It showed who really believed in him.

"People came to me and said, 'Tom, we don't care what they write about you. We know who you are. We know where your heart's at and your commitments at," said Poor Bear, speaking candidly about the February arrest for the first time.

"I tell you, it makes a man's heart beat good to hear his people commend me instead of condemn me," he said.

Poor Bear, 57, was arrested Feb. 19 on a charge of obstructing government function while receiving treatment at a hospital. A police report not subject to public records laws but obtained by The Associated Press listed Poor Bear's blood-alcohol content at .306, nearly quadruple the legal limit for driving.

While Poor Bear said the charge has been dropped, tribal law prevents non-tribal members from obtaining information about cases, so the AP could not independently confirm

Poor Bear's assertion.

In early February, the Oglala Sioux Tribe filed a high-profile lawsuit alleging that several beer makers are knowingly contributing to the devastating alcohol-related problems on the Pine Ridge Reservation, which has banned alcohol since 1832.

The lawsuit, filed in the U.S. District Court of Nebraska, seeks \$500 million in damages for the costs of health care, social services and child rehabilitation caused by chronic alcoholism on the reservation, located in one of the poorest regions in the United States. Approximately 40,000 people live there, half of

See ARREST Continued on Page 2



KRISTI EATON | ASSOCIATED PRESS Oglala Sioux Vice President Tom Poor Bear stands during May 21, 2012 protest in Rapid City, SD.



The United Keetoowah Band opened their casino in 1986 before the federal government determined whether the land was Indian land.

### Okla. AG signs enforcement papers on UKB casino

AP and STAFF REPORTS

OKLAHOMA CITY Attorney General Scott Pruitt has signed an enforcement agreement with the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians over a tribal casino in Tahlequah.

The agreement signed June 8 requires the tribe to pay \$2 million in damages and secure federal acceptance of the casino's land into trust by the end of July or cease gaming operations.

The Cherokee Nation, also based in Tahlequah, released a statement that afternoon that expressed disappointment by "what appears to be a deal cut" between the state and the UKB.

The tribe has actively opposed placing land into trust for other tribes within Cherokee Nation jurisdiction.

"Our position remains steadfast and unchanged,"

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker stated. "I took an oath to protect and defend the sovereignty of the Cherokee Nation and I will never waiver from my oath. This is not a business issue or a gaming issue. This is an issue of sovereignty and our authority to govern our land."

The Keetoowah tribe opened the casino in 1986 before the federal government determined whether the land was Indian land. Under state law, casinos on non-Indian land are illegal.

But state and federal courts issued injunctions to prohibit enforcement of state gaming laws because of questions about whether the Keetoowah's casino was on Indian land.

The National Indian Gaming Commission concluded last year that the casino land was not Indian land and not eligible for gaming.

## Fort Sill Apache casino proposal ignites turf wars in New Mexico

JERI CLAUSING Associated Press

AKELA FLATS, N.M. (AP) - It's a 30-acre tract along Interstate 10 with a temporary building where travelers can stop for a burger and beer. It's also the nation's newest Indian reservation, designated as such last year for the Fort Sill Apache.

But as the tribe moves forward with controversial plans to use the reservation to build a casino that could capture truckers and drivers ready for a break halfway between Los Angeles and Dallas, it has reignited old turf wars with the state and with other tribes concerned about competition gamblers.

The tribe recently won a first hurdle in its quest to build the casino with a ruling from the Bureau of Indian Affairs that the 30 acres the tribe has been trying to develop into a gambling operation for years is indeed eligible.

But the roadside reservation is only big enough for a casino and possibly a hotel, raising questions about the tribe's sincerity in seeking the reservation status as part of its quest to return to its New Mexico homelands.

Fort Sill Apache Tribal Chairman Jeff Haozous says it's a bit of chickenand-egg question. The tribe, currently based in southwest Oklahoma, needs the casino to get income to buy more land to help its members return, he said.

"The goal is to repatriate the tribe," Haozous said. "Obviously that would require more than 30 acres. But that would also require more economic resources. With more resources, we can buy more land and develop more businesses."

The Fort Sill Apache Tribe has roughly 685 members.

Gov. Susana Martinez opposes the casino, saying the tribe agreed it would not attempt to build a casino in Akela Flats when the land was put into trust about 10 years ago.

The head of the BIA office in Albuquerque last month sent a letter seeking comment on the proposed casino from the governor and local elected officials in southern New Mexico, as well as the Mescalero Apache tribe and the Isleta Pueblo, which operate the two Indian casinos closest to Akela Flats.

Frank Lujan, governor of the Isleta Pueblo south of Albuquerque, said he is unsure whether his or other New Mexico tribes will support the Fort Sill Apache proposal.

"Everybody has a different take on it," he said. "In a sense yes, in a sense no. It's kind of like one of these things where we want all Native Americans to succeed. At the same time, we are in competition."

Lujan said the casino is far enough south of Albuquerque, about 200 miles, that it's not as big of a concern for his tribe as it likely is for the Mescalero



Jeff Haozous, Fort Sill Apache Tribal Chairman

Apache, who run the Inn of the Mountain Gods hotel and casino in Ruidoso. That casino is the only tribal casino in southern New Mexico, and draws heavily on Texas gamblers.

Mescalero Apache officials did not return calls from The Associated Press, though the tribe has in the past opposed a separate attempt by the Jemez Pueblo to build an off-reservation casino in Anthony, N.M., which is close to El Paso, Texas.

Lujan, however, said he does not dispute the tribe's right to a reservation in Akela Flats, about 20 miles east of Deming.

"That is a good thing for them," Lujan said. "That is their homeland. That's where they came from. Any time you get back what you had, that's primary."

Bob Haozous, a Santa Fe artist who is the Fort Sill Apache chairman's cousin, has held a number of meetings around the state in recent months. He's hoping to get the governor,

the other tribes and nearby communities to support the casino. Officials in Deming, which has one of the state's highest unemployment rates, have been supportive. But a spokesman for Martinez this week said her position has not changed.

Still, gaming officials say it's possible for the BIA to grant the reservation permission to operate a casino without Martinez's approval. Likewise, the state could go to court to fight the BIA if it does. That means the dispute, which first erupted when the tribe unsuccessfully tried to put gambling in its roadside trailer in the late '90s, could drag on for years.

Bob Haozous said the casino is overshadowing the real issue for the Fort Sill Apache Tribe, which is the legal successor of the Chiricahua, Warm Springs, Nednais and Bedonke bands of Apache Indians. They lived in southwestern New Mexico and Arizona until they were removed and made prisoners of war when Geronimo surrendered.

They were first taken to Florida, then to Alabama and finally Oklahoma, Bob Haozous said. He refers to the tribe's Oklahoma trust lands as their "prison camp."

"We haven't had a homeland since 1886," Bob Haozous said. "Before that, the whole area West of the Rio Grande was ours. ... My dream is that we get some economic incentive to start purchasing land and bringing people back."

### SETTLEMENT

the session last Wednesday at the Yakama Nation's tribal headquarters in Toppenish, 20 miles south of Yakima and 190 miles from the Colvilles' tribal headquarters in Nespelem.

In addition to making the case for more money for individual tribal members, many argued for better educational opportunities and job training, improved services for seniors and veterans and health care coverage.

Most tribal citizens receive health care at Indian Health Service clinics, but those aren't as available for people who leave the reservation, said Larry White, 61, a retired veteran who lives

"It's kind of shameful," he said. "We move and live and travel. This health care issue needs to be addressed."

Two incumbents and two challengers for the seven seats were on hand to share their thoughts. All said they would support a 50 percent share of the settlement for tribal citizens.

Councilman Harvey Moses Jr. acknowledged that he had changed his position after receiving a "whole bunch of calls" from people who need the money, but said the rest of the money would have to go toward rehabilitating the isolated reservation's natural resources.

"We talk about education - we pay for that through our natural resources. Other tribes are closer to the population centers. We're not," he said. "There are ideas out there to diversify our resources. We need to look at those."

The tribes filed suit after Elouise Cobell, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe from Browning, Mont., brought a similar claim on behalf of thousands of individual Indians over the government's mismanagement of their trust

## eat better. move more. be tobacco free.

Interested in making Oklahoma a healthier place to live, work, learn and play? Consider joining a coalition in your area.

#### ATOKA AND COAL **COUNTIES**

Atoka/Coal Partnership for Change 580.380.0463

#### **BECKHAM AND ROGER MILLS COUNTIES**

Oklahoma Unified Resources (OUR) Turning Point Coalition 580.225.6247

### **BRYAN COUNTY**

Bryan County Turning Point 580.924.4285 ext 254

#### **CARTER COUNTY** Carter County Turning Point

580.223.7075 ext 314

#### **CLEVELAND COUNTY** Cleveland County

**Turning Point** 405.307.6602

#### **COMANCHE COUNTY** Fit Kids of Southwest

Oklahoma 580.585.6686

#### JACKSON COUNTY **Jackson County Community** Health Action Team

580.482.7308 **KIOWA AND CADDO** 

### **COUNTIES**

Kiowa Coalition and Caddo County Interagency Coalition 580.726.3383

#### LOGAN COUNTY Logan County Partnership

918.282.3485

#### **LOVE AND JOHNSTON COUNTIES**

Fit Communities - Love and Johnston Consortium 580.371.2470

#### McCURTAIN, CHOCTAW **AND PUSHMATAHA** COUNTIES Tri-County Consortium

580.298.6624

#### **MUSKOGEE COUNTY** Muskogee County

**Turning Point** 405.683.0321

#### **OKLAHOMA COUNTY** Wellness Now Coalition

405.425.4315 **OKMULGEE COUNTY** 

#### Okmulgee County Wellness Coalition

918.633.3202 **TULSA COUNTY** 

#### Family Health Coalition 918.595.4039

Point Partnership

No coalitions in your area? Find your local Turning

and learn more at ShapeYourFutureOK.com.



## ARREST

Poor Bear knows how his alcohol-fueled arrest looks to those within and outside the reservation.

whom are tribal citizens.

The lawsuit also targets four beer stores in Whiteclay, Neb., a town near the reservation's border. The town has only about a dozen residents but sold nearly 5 million cans of beer in 2010, according to the

Poor Bear knows how his alcohol-fueled arrest looks to those within and outside the reservation.

"They think I'm a hypocrite because I filed a lawsuit against the alcohol companies and then I go and have a few myself," he said.

It wasn't, however, his decision to file the lawsuit, but the tribe's Law and Order committee. He does support the lawsuit, and believes alcohol should be legalized on the reservation to help

increase revenue, but only if there is a referendum vote and proper laws are in place.

"I don't drink every day. I'll maybe have a beer once or twice a month, if that, especially during the summer, and I'll go to good Indian rodeos," he said.

Poor Bear's battle against Whiteclay is a personal one: The bodies of his brother, Wally Black Elk Jr., and cousin, Ron Hard Heart, were discovered June 8, 1999, near Whiteclay. Their deaths are unresolved.

Each June, Poor Bear organizes a Justice March, a two-mile trek from Pine Ridge to Whiteclay. This year's march is scheduled for Saturday.

Poor Bear said his original intent for the march was to "find justice" for his relatives' deaths, but that the media discussion about Whiteclay seems only to focus on alcohol.

Poor Bear and James Toby Big Boy, chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the tribe, also wrote a letter to U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson, asking him to re-open and reinvestigate 39 deaths in and around the reservation, dating back to the 1970s. Johnson has said he will re-examine the

Poor Bear believes his activism sets him apart from other tribal council members, past and present. He has argued in front of a United Nations special rapporteur that the Black Hills should be returned to the Lakota people, and regularly protests the proposed Keystone XL pipeline.

An Oglala Sioux flag pinned to Poor Bear's trademark black vest bears witness to his leadership lineage - his father, Enos Poor Bear, was president of the tribe in the 1960s and designed the flag.

Tom Poor Bear is unsure if he'll run for re-election in the fall. He's been involved with the American Indian Movement since the 1970s and tribal government since 1998.

"You have to have thick skin to be in tribal government. You get attacked," he said.

His mission, though, remained at the front of his mind: "I want to give my people hope of a better tomorrow."

## Standing Rock drug case prosecuted in 2 courts

■ The defendants who are being prosecuted in tribal court face misdemeanor charges, which would likely have to be bumped up to felonies in federal court or dropped altogether.

DAVE KOLPACK Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) – Authorities say a drug trafficking case on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation in North Dakota and South Dakota is unique because it will be prosecuted in both federal and tribal courts.

Seventeen people were arrested in the case known as Operation Prairie Thunder. Prosecutors say 10 defendants were scheduled to appear in federal court in North Dakota, two

in federal court in South Dakota, and five in Standing Rock tribal court.

Timothy Purdon, U.S. attorney for North Dakota, and Brendan Johnson, U.S. attorney for South Dakota, say such cooperative efforts between the two courts are unique but necessary.

"Cooperation like this means better law enforcement, better prosecutions and safer communities," Purdon said.

Said Johnson, "These indictments illustrate the progress that is being made in Standing Rock and throughout Indian country in South Dakota and North Dakota."

The defendants who are being prosecuted in tribal court face misdemeanor charges, which would likely have to be bumped up to felonies in federal court or dropped altogether.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Charles Miller of North Dakota made a rare visit to Standing Rock to handle initial appearances.

"Providing adequate representation

for tribal members often involves big challenges of geography for indigent clients," said Neil Fulton, who heads the federal public defender's office in the Dakotas. "Bringing the courthouse to the defendants in certain cases is a creative way to respect tribal sovereignty and facilitate adequate and timely representation for all persons charged with crimes."

He had no specific comment about the case.

The federal court defendants are charged with possession with intent to distribute drugs. At least six people are charged with dealing prescription drugs. The tribal court charges are for criminal sale of drugs, criminal possession of drugs and criminal possession of drug paraphernalia.

Defendants charged in federal court in North Dakota are Casev Dogskin, Donald White Lightning, Francis Lester, Bryan See Walker, Paul Miner, Sage Claymore, James Grant, Muriel Long Feather, Winfield Kills Crow and Allen Siegfried. Chaske Little Bear and Francine Jensen are charged in federal court in South Dakota.

Tribal court defendants are Lance Summers, Chad Yellow Lodge, Odette Elk, Rodney Claymore and Claude Ramsey.

Grant Walker, the Standing Rock chief prosecutor, said it's important for the tribe to participate in the

"By being a partner in this operation, the Standing Rock Tribe is able, through the exercise of its own sovereignty, to make its own important contribution to the safety of its community," Walker

The investigation took 14 months and was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services on the Standing Rock

**Ex-Delaware housing head** 

TULSA, Okla. (AP) – The former executive director of the

Delaware Tribe's housing authority will be formally sentenced

Sept. 6 after pleading guilty to a federal charge of embezzling

admits embezzlement



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL

editor@nativetimes.com Contributing Writers

Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON

BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

prohibited.

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







www.twitter.com/nativetimes

## NY offers \$3M to settle Onondaga protesters' suit

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) -New York state has agreed to pay nearly \$3 million to scores of people beaten, arrested or chased away by state police during a protest on the Onondaga Indian Nation 15 years ago, the attorney for dozens of the plaintiffs said.

Terrance Hoffmann told the Post-Standard of Syracuse in a story published Sunday that the state and another lawyer representing others in the lawsuit have agreed to settle the case for just under \$3 million. Hoffmann represents about half of the 98 people involved.

The settlement won't be final until all plaintiffs sign it,

their dreams.

Hoffmann said.

State officials wouldn't comment on the settlement. The state would admit no wrongdoing, Hoffmann said.

Troopers and more than 100 protesters, mostly American Indians, clashed on May 18, 1997, on Onondaga land just south of Syracuse. The lawsuit accused troopers of using excessive force in breaking up a peaceful protest.

long after confrontations between state police and Seneca Indians on one of the tribe's western New York reservations south of Buffalo. Seneca demonstrators had shut down the New York

AICCOK OKC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Help a deserving Native American student reach for

OVERVIEW

The OKC Chapter has historically provided scholarships for

many years. Typically one acholarship is awarded to the top

male and female entrants, as decided by the OKC Chapter

Board of Directors. In 2012, we plan to notify the recipient

student(s) by May 10 to allow them to list their scholarship

SPONSORSHIPS

in their graduation materials. We will present the actual

There are 2 ways that your organization can help:

2. Contribute to the AICCOK-OKC Chapter General

1. Sponsor a branded, stand-alone scholarship. (Minimum

award \$250). Special emphasis can be requested (e.g. math

scholarship award at the August luncheon.

or science, healthcare, etc).

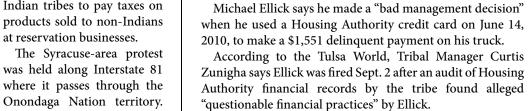
Scholarship Fund.

The protest was held not

Thruway where it passes through reservation land to protest the state's efforts to get Indian tribes to pay taxes on products sold to non-Indians

The Syracuse-area protest was held along Interstate 81 where it passes through the Onondaga Nation territory. State police officials have said the troopers broke up the demonstration out of concern

Under the settlement, payments would range from \$8,000 for protesters who were chased away by police to \$200,000 to two men who were beaten by baton-wielding troopers, Hoffmann said.



tribal funds.

Ellick pleaded guilty June 7 only to the June 2010 transaction but agreed that he owes an additional \$1,373 in restitution. Assistant Federal Public Defender Stephen Greubel said for the public's safety. that amount is for other personal transactions Ellick made using tribal funds.

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

## **Keeves Kenovations**

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties



**Big Brothers Big Sisters** Traditional language of Oklahoma

 $\cdot$  Fancy dancing  $\cdot$ **Beadwork Shooting hoops** 

Stickball · Drawing

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

### CONTACTS

To sponsor a scholarship, contact: James Lambertus, OKC Chapter Chair, aiccokc@earthlink.net, 405-650-5996 or Fran Smith, Treasurer, fran.smith@bank2online.com 405-946-2265.

To make a contribution to the Fund online, please click: http://tiny.cc/aiccokc\_scholarshipfund

### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 

### **New Mexico education chief** rejects school district split

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) -New Mexico's top education official has rejected a proposal for the petitioners, said decisions up largely of American Indian would operate are for the school students.

Skandera said Friday that a group of Kirtland, N.M., residents bring forth mission and vision Central Consolidated School interest of public education or documents the group provided of the proposal appeared to be her request was for persuasive by the school board, and it would at that time. irresponsible of her to approve it because people cannot get along, statute be damned, we don't care. she said.

have been present in the district the facts. We talk the talk, but for years can finally be put aside we are not about to take on the if the adults in charge choose to Navajo tribe." Manning said. do so," she said.

of a district that spans 3,000 Rights Commission, American Indian students.

public hearing on the proposal and language in the classroom. that she said generally was civil comments and allegations of Skandera said was "so bizarre on to generation," Shelly said. its face that it is unexplainable on grounds other than race."

include parts of the reservation forward. in a new district because it wasn't petition.

rigorous curriculum for students, divisions among community decreased costs and increased can be healed. accessibility to school board

lawsuits arising from violations both sides are honored.

of civil and voting rights if the district, which has a 90 percent Navajo student population, was

Byron Manning, a spokesman to split a school district made on how a new school district board and superintendent to Secretary-designate Hanna make, and it would have been presumptive of the petitioners to failed to show that dividing the statements. Manning said he was most disappointed that District would be in the best Skandera threw out a majority of the students. The driving force after the hearing. Skandera said disagreement over actions taken arguments, not new information

"What they're saying is 'the We don't care that you have the "The struggles and issues that data. We don't care that you have

The Central Consolidated Tensions have long flared School District as a whole, among residents in the district Navajo Nation President Ben over what students should be Shelly, tribal Vice President taught and who is in control Rex Lee Jim, the tribe's Human square miles and has about Navajo communities and some 6,100 students, making it one members of the Tribal Council of New Mexico's largest based had spoken against the divide. on enrollment and one of They argued it amounted to the country's largest serving segregation of Navajos living on the reservation. They also Skandera's decision came less argued that a split would undo than a month after she held a efforts to teach Navajo culture

"They are still children of but also included disparaging this nation, and we must do everything we can to ensure they racism. The proposal would have have the opportunity to learn split the district at the Navajo the precious Navajo knowledge reservation boundary, which handed down from generation

School board President Matthew Tso thanked Skandera She did not consider a second for her decision that he said option from proponents to would help move the district

Skandera commended the certified as part of the original petitioners for the work they put into the proposal and said The proponents had argued her decision now provides that a split would lead to more an opportunity to overcome greater parental involvement, members. Yet Tso and Manning less travel time for students, say they're not so sure the rift

To the school board, Skandera members and a superintendent. said listening to the residents of But at no time did the Kirtland is not an abstract hope petitioners mention a strategic on her part but an "absolute plan or vision for creating a new expectation," and her staff district or propose a curriculum would be monitoring the board's for students, Skandera said. meetings to ensure that the She also saw the potential for students' and parents' rights on

## **AAIP** receives grant for Native students' health careers program

■ Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community gift will fund program for future M.D.s

JASON McCARTY

OKLAHOMA CITY Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) was recently awarded a \$100,000 matching grant by the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community to assist American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) students pursuing a healthcare career.

AAIP's Careers in Health for Native Students program was created to increase the number of tribal members in the health and wellness workforce. AAIP will establish an educational healthcare pipeline to assist students navigate their education, training and career development.

"Encouraging Native students to pursue careers as physicians, health professionalsandbiomedicalresearchers is one of our primary goals and the gift from the Shakopee Tribe will allow us to continue this critical work," said AAIP Executive Director Margaret Knight.

The tribe's matching donation will be contributed after AAIP raises the initial \$100,000.

Mdewakanton Shakopee Community Chairman Stanley R. Crooks said, "We hope other tribes and organizations will support this program so that more youth are encouraged to study the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math fields with the ultimate goal of helping tribal youth become the leaders of tomorrow. Our people feel good when they see American Indian physicians and healthcare workers involved in their communities. We look forward to matching this pledge for \$100,000."

AAIP President Dr. Donna Galbreath echoed Chairman Crooks sentiments on the importance of seeing tribal members in healthcare roles locally.

"Because Native American people suffer from chronic illnesses like diabetes, tuberculosis, pneumonia and influenza at far higher rates than other racial populations, we need to groom our own citizens to be physicians and prevention specialists," Galbreath said. "Indian people respond better when their healthcare needs are in the hands of Native physicians and other professionals who understand their culture and value both traditional and Western healing methods."

The American Association of Medical Colleges last year reported the number of AI/AN accepted into medical school has substantially and steadily declined over the past eight years. According to the organization, there were 465 medical school applicants and 202 enrollees in 2004; by 2011 those numbers had declined to 379 and 157 respectively.

As fewer AI/AN physicians have gone into practice over the past decade, Native population, in contrast, has increased by 26.7 % from 2000 to 2010, according to the U.S. Census.

"The cross-section of these two trends - fewer doctors and larger populations - is where we are today and why we must address this troubling disparity in our healthcare systems and increase the number of Native physicians in Indian Country," Knight said.

### Website offers Natives diabetes forum

LAWRENCE, Kan. Two Native American professors living in Kansas say Type 2 diabetes has ravaged their race for so many years they felt compelled to help spread information and hope for those battling the disease.

Rhonda LeValdo and Teresa Trumbly Lamsam said they hope the Native American tradition of storytelling will help combat the spread among Native Americans of

Type 2 diabetes, a chronic blood-sugar disease often triggered by obesity.

"It seemed inevitable," said Lamsam, 50, a visiting journalism professor at the University of Kansas who grew up on an Osage reservation in Pawhuska, Okla. "You're going to get older. You're going to get diabetes because you're Indian. When I saw complications, I used to think, 'I wonder how long before they lose their feet?' Amputations were so common."

Diabetes also ran in the family of LeValdo, 37, a member of the Acoma Pueblo from New Mexico. LeValdo is a media instructor at Haskell Indian



Teresa Trumbly Lamsam

Nations University and president of the Native American Journalists Association.

In response, the two women launched WellboundStorytellers.com, a website that originally invited Native American journalists to discuss their health struggles and successes, The Kansas City Star reported. Within days, Native Americans across the country were asking that the site be opened to bloggers too.

"We have a Hawaiian guy who is working on the website. I have an educator and filmmaker who say they want to be part of it," Lamsam said. "They are all on health journeys and they want to share and receive support."

Diabetes is only one of several health problems among Native Americans and Pacific Islanders, who rank at or next to the bottom of nearly every health category among all

"Diabetes, obesity, heart disease, cancer, suicide rates," said Darryl Tonemah, a Native American health psychologist of Kiowa, Comanche and Tuscarora descent who is a board member of the American Diabetes Association.

Lamsam said the website originally was part of journalism research she was doing on the mainstream media's coverage of a federal initiative known as the Special Diabetes Program for Indians, which has spent about \$1.5 billion over the last 15 years battling diabetes in Native American communities.

During the research, LeValdo's uncle died from complications from diabetes, and she and Lamsam decided to start

"We thought we needed to be role models," Lamsam said.

## DEVELOPMENT

The threat to the Awa grew so grave that it caught the attention of the British-based indigenous rights group Survival International, which designated them "the world's most endangered tribe" and made their preservation its top campaign priority this

While the Awa may face the most immediate threat, tribes across Brazil are locked in the same struggle as they battle loggers, ranchers, miners and farmers who often invade government-demarcated reserves. Brazil's maturing economy is driving much of the development, as is renewed strength of the country's farm sector, which recently pushed through reforms loosening Brazil's forest protection law.

Watchdog groups say more conflict is inevitable as government-backed projects such as hydroelectric dams and roads bring thousands of settlers to remote areas. Two bills now working their way through Brazil's Congress would further open in digenousterritory to development and potentially weaken tribes' hold on their land.

"We're seeing that the conflicts Indians are having are becoming more potent in recent years, with a series of violent clashes stoked by the agenda of the federal government to develop remote areas," said Cleber Buzatto, executive director of the Brazil-based indigenous rights group CIMI.

For the Awa and other tribes, however, contact with the outside world hasn't just brought threats: Help is also on the way.

The issue will take center stage during this month's "People's Summit" in Rio de Janeiro, a gathering linked to the annual World Social Forum, also held in Brazil. The summit is expected to draw thousands of activists to an alternative to the United Nations' Rio+20 conference on sustainable development happening in Rio at the same time.

The plight of the formerly isolated Awa even drew the attention of Academy Awardwinning actor Colin Firth, who appeared in a Survival International video urging people to contact Brazilian Justice Minister Jose Eduardo Cardozo and tell him to send police to protect indigenous

"This is our chance right now to actually do something,"

Firth says in the clip.

On June 5, Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff created two new nature reserves, as well as seven indigenous territories in the Amazon, covering thousands of square miles across the country.

For Brazilian farm groups, protecting tens of thousands of indigenous people is too high a price to pay for blocking production of soy, beef and other agricultural goods, exports of which have helped fuel rising fortunes in Brazil and a growing middle class. In total, 11 percent of Brazilian territory and 22 percent of the Amazon have been turned over to indigenous groups.

"Who benefits from this? Not our country, which today enjoys the best and cheapest food in the world and boasts of being the globe's secondlargest food exporter," Sen. Katia Abreu, president of Brazil's National Agriculture and Livestock Federation, wrote in a recent opinion article for the newspaper Folha de S. Paulo.

 $\hbox{``Neither do the Indians, who}\\$ as their numbers show don't need more physical space, but sanitation, education and an efficient health system. They need, in short, a better life, like all of us."

At a news conference on Monday, Abreu added that any expansion of indigenous beyond reserves those originally established before 1993 is "not in accordance with the constitution and lawless."

Federal agencies responsible for protecting the indigenous say they are doing virtually everything in their power to stop the encroachment, but acknowledge their powers are limited while policing with limited means roughly 480,000 square miles of Indian reserves, an area larger than Sweden.

As a sign of the government's limited reach in the Amazon, about 180 illegal sawmills have sprung up around the Awa's land, often in plain sight, with giant trucks roaring through forest roads day and night bringing fresh lumber.

In Mato Grosso do Sul the 40,000-strong state, Guarani-Kaiowa tribe has seen many members pushed into makeshift camps along highways and tent villages along rivers, as they lobby to have their lands recognized legally.

Economic hardship has sparked a rash of suicides. More than 550 tribe members killed themselves from 2000 to 2011, according to statistics from Brazil's secretariat on indigenous health. An additional 282 were murdered, mostly in fights over land,

between 2003 and 2011, according to CIMI, making up half of all native people killed in Brazil during the period. Guarani-Kaiowa elder Nisio Gomes was gunned down in November by masked men, his body dragged into a waiting pickup and spirited away. His

remains have yet to be found. "We've gone through many difficulties, and I can't even walk in the cities because of the risks," said Valmir Gomes, Nisio's son, while lobbying in Brasilia for the tribe's own reserve. "We need the demarcation so that we can freely walk on our own lands."

Indigenous activists, however, say experience has shown demarcating land is clearly not enough.

CIMI registered 33 invasions of reserves in 2010, the most recent year for which statistics are available. At least 10 of those conflicts turned deadly, with violent fights breaking out between the indigenous and those entering the land. That's roughly the same number of invasions and conflicts CIMI has reported annually over the last five years.

The Brazilian government officially recognized the Awa reserve - some 455 square miles in Maranhao, Brazil's poorest state – in 2005, but the incursions continued. That's included people entering with

guns and threatening federal agents charged with patrolling the area. Satellite images show that nearly a third of the Awa's forest has been logged and much of the area taken over by cattle ranchers and farmers. Of the tribe's few hundred members, an estimated 60 to 100 of them have never had any contact with the outside

In a Survival International video, Wamaxua Awa, a young Awa, says he spent years running away from outsiders encroaching on tribal land before recently leaving the forest and living in a village with other contacted Awa. His three brothers still live deep inside the forest, he says.

"When I lived in the forest I had a good life," he says in a soft, timid voice while wearing a modern, V-neck shirt. "Now if I meet one of the uncontacted Awa in the forest, I'll say, 'Don't leave! Stay in the forest.' I'd tell them to stay, that it's better in the forest. 'There's nothing in the outside for you,' I'd say."

Associated Press writers Jenny Barchfield in Rio de Janeiro, Bradley Brooks, Stan Lehman and Renata Brito in Sao Paulo and Jack Chang in Mexico City contributed to this report.

## COMMENTARY

## A disastrous flood that brought out the best and the worst in people



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciii) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

A natural disaster brings out the best and the worst in people.

The 40th Anniversary of the Rapid City Flood of 1972 has brought out mostly the best in the actions of the people during and after the flood. 238 people lost their lives that night, many of them Native Americans by reason of of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, defend their own racism. geography: most of them lived in what is now called the flood plain along the banks of Rapid

Dakota to understand the raged across the city. but during the flood several accommodate the survivors by-side with other Native financial slack. But the old Americans they would later racial hatreds of some of label as GOONS.

lived in Rapid City and along I was working in a who just happened to be on I got up on the morning of June been washed across fields and relations the most are those

The takeover at Wounded next morning, Rapid City's Knee by the American Indian Mayor Don Barnett quickly Movement would happen just authorized Rapid City motels seven months after the flood, to open up their rooms to members of AIM rolled up with assurances that the City their sleeves and worked side- would take up most of the the motel owners came out But in the aftermath of in the open. They began to this disaster politics between refuse rooms to Indians and the different Indian factions this could have led to certain were set aside. AIM leader conflict if Mayor Barnett had Russell Means was right in the not stepped up and declared thick of pulling bodies from an end to this racial aggression the flood waters along with and threaten those motel members of the Dick Wilson owners who did not cooperate administration. In 1973 they with threats of reprisal. It is would be at war against each ironic that even in the face of death and destruction; there RubenMcCloskey, amember are still those who jealously

But along with the "best" assignment with the National 10 before heading to work I under river bridges like so living far from this city and there were also instances Guard that fateful week, did watched the morning news many toys. Finding my way have not shared in the efforts to of the "worst." It is hard for their best to save lives even and was aghast when the news through the maze to find the bring about positive change. people not living in South as the waters of Rapid Creek of the flood was announced. I immediately got on the thread of racial prejudice that As the victims sought phone and tried to reach my existed back in the 1970s. shelter that night and the mother who lived in Rapid City and through her I would but she was safe and sound. be able to find out about my brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles the rest of the family and taller than all of the others and and cousins. But as happens in most disasters, all of the phone survived. lines were either stressed or out of service.

I called my boss and told him what had happened and boys, had risen in the torrents he told me to head on home. of rain that poured from I drove non-stop as far as the skies that night of June 9 Lusk, Wyoming until I could no longer keep my eyes open community that would rise it, the best and the worst of so I pulled over and caught a from the mud and debris couple of hours of sleep before to become the health and after the Flood of 1972. Thank finishing the trip to Rapid

By that time work crews

apartment where my mother lived was an adventure in

My mom was frightened, She had been in contact with all of them had surprisingly

The river or creek as we called it, Rapid Creek, a place where we swam and fished as and had wreaked havoc on a economic center of Western goodness the best prevailed. South Dakota.

There are those who still and heavy equipment had criticize the lack of racial already made a good dent in harmony in this city, but even was born and educated on the the cleanup and when I came those images have begun to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. into town on Highway 79 I change. There are Indians and He was the founder of The was appalled at the extent of non-Indians working together Lakota Times, Indian Country the disaster. Entire sections to tear down the wall of racial Today, Lakota Journal and with Don Loudner, a member construction job in Elko, of town were unrecognizable. prejudice without fanfare. Native Sun News. He can be of the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Nevada on June 9, 1972. When Cars and mobile homes had And those who criticize race reached at UnitySoDak1@

The criticisms I offer in my writings are called constructive by those who know me best. Change often follows disaster and Mayor Barnett stood most of the citizens of Rapid City have no idea of the racial issues he faced with courage and intelligence during and after the year following the greatest disaster in the history of Rapid City.

But as history would have people came out during and

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota,

## Expanding farm credit opportunities



TOM VILSACK USDA Secretary

Today, American agriculture is thriving. Farm income is strong, and we are in the three best years for agricultural exports in history.

agriculture sector is driving to get started.

are creating this success.

just starting out or who have Farmer smaller farming operations.

While producers have been Youth Loans. able to increase their bottom costs are often high to enter the commercial credit. agriculture sector. Land costs, can quickly add up and many

That's where USDA's Farm farmers and ranchers from paperwork burden.

creating jobs, and ensuring Service Agency steps in to 11,000 loans in 2008 to 15,000 we're committed to supporting with commercial lenders to farmers. the farmers and ranchers who provide guaranteed loans ranchers is access to credit - affordable credit, including as we work to ensure that all farmers, in particular for those who are loans under the Beginning Americans have access to the veterans. and Development Program and by USDA.

Ultimately, we're able to help line over recent years, startup many borrowers transition to steps to ensure flexibility

that Americans have the most help. The agency offers direct loans in 2011. In fact, more credit cards or personal loans, White House Rural Council, affordable food supply of any loans for farm ownership or than 40 percent of USDA's farm which carry high interest rates Secretary Vilsack and USDA developed nation. At USDA, operations, and also works loans now go to beginning and have less flexible payment are taking steps to strengthen

Rancher programs and services offered

in our programs. Just last Since 2009, USDA has made month, USDA invited public equipment and other expenses a record amount of farm loans comments on a proposed rule to purchase or operate a farm through the Farm Service that will make "microloans" Agency – more than 128,000 of up to 35,000 dollars simply don't have access to the loans totaling nearly 18 billion available for new farmers, number of loans to beginning with half of the traditional

Small farmers often rely on and

food supply in the world.

As chair of the first-ever schedules, to finance their services for rural businesses In addition, we have operations. The goal of this and entrepreneurs creating job for farmers and ranchers. increased lending to socially-microloan program is to better opportunities - finding new One issue that is always For beginning farmers and disadvantaged producers by meet the credit needs of small ways to partner with other critical for farmers and ranchers, USDA provides nearly 50 percent since 2008 farm operations, beginning Federal agencies and the private returning sector to spur investment.

USDA is an equal opportunity America's farmers and provider and employer. To file Finally, we're taking new ranchers are the best in the a complaint of discrimination, world. By further expanding write: USDA, Office of the access to credit, USDA will Assistant Secretary for Civil help a new generation of Rights, Office of Adjudication, farmers out-produce the world 1400 Independence Ave., SW, and ensure the strength of an Washington, DC 20250-9410 American agriculture sector or call (866) 632-9992 (Tollthat drives our economy, free Customer Service), (800) The prosperity of our commercial credit necessary dollars. We've increased the using simplified applications creates jobs, and ensures the 877-8339 (Local or Federal most secure and affordable relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

VATIVE	AMERICAN	TIMES
--------	----------	-------

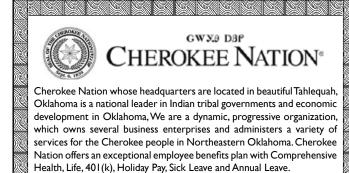
Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	

■ \$65.00 for 52 issues ■ \$32.50 for 26 issues □ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH

#5998 Medical Technologist/T/PT #5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT #6470 Medical Technologist/T/PT

POSITIONS CLOSE 6/15/2012

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

#### **Faculty Chair**

Position Summary: Serve as ONLI full-time Faculty Chair; is responsible for carrying out instructional duties, which requires an individual who has the ability to:

• Teach college-level and career and technical educations classes in a culturally diverse and historic setting • Engage in professional activities such as publishing and present conference papers • Ability to represent PNC in various public settings Assist in designing and implementing curriculum, supervise book/textbook orders as required for faculty • Serve on various committees, as assigned • Serve the College and its students in an ethical, enthusiastic, and visionary manner • Ability to lead accreditation process and participate fully on such committee.

Qualifications: Masters Degree required; PhD preferred. Two to four (2-4) years experience in progressively responsible professional position is also required. In addition, full-time faculty must have a proven track record with concern to: providing vision and guidance in helping establish an academic department and or program, carry out instructional responsibilities (including developing syllabi and lesson plans, supervise implementation on MOODLE/CAMS portals), working with both internal and external organizations, developing a professional dossier that clearly demonstrates advancement and activity, teaching life-skills to students, and serving the College by assisting with extracurricular activities, when necessary.

Other Requirements: Full-time faculty must be able to travel to attend meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. as deemed necessary by the project director's

**Duties & Responsibilities:** 

- Ensure the academic integrity and rigor of the classroom,
- Author and submit syllabi to the project director, Chair faculty committee
- Attend regular department meetings, as required by the project director, Assist in fund raising efforts that impact the proposed project,
- Relate to a wide diversity of people, including traditional and nontraditional students, in various cultural settings.
- Work in a professional and collegial manner with other faculty, staff, and students, Demonstrate excellent verbal, interpersonal, and written communication skills,
- Perform other duties as assigned by the project director/supervisor.
- Send resumes to Dr. Joseph Bohanon at jbohanon@pawneenationcollege.org, fax

918-762-3467, or mail to 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058.

#### **Admissions Assistant/** Recruiter

Position Summary: Serving the ONLI program; responsible for carrying out a wide variety of duties that allow the Director of Admissions/Project Coordinator to plan, organize, direct, and control organizational functions of the Admissions Office, which requires an individual that has the ability to:

- · Multi-task in a vibrant and active environment,
- Compile, compose, and distribute various written documents and correspondence in a timely manner,
- Operate numerous software programs and learn new (or updated) programs as they become available, including Microsoft Office: Word, MS Excel, and PowerPoint,
- · Execute directives in a timely manner.

 Act in a professional and courteous manner to students, other staff, and

Maintain both official and document

Qualifications: An earned associate's degree is required, a bachelor's degree is preferred; experience in a progressively responsible position is required; experience in tribal programs is preferred. In addition, the Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must have a valid driver's license, a clean driving record, and a reliable vehicle for traveling to and from recruiting events; as well a proven track record with concern to: completing assigned tasks in a timely manner, working with office machines such as photocopiers, calculators, recorders, etc., working with both internal and external organizations, and serving the College by expected presence with extracurricular activities, when necessary.

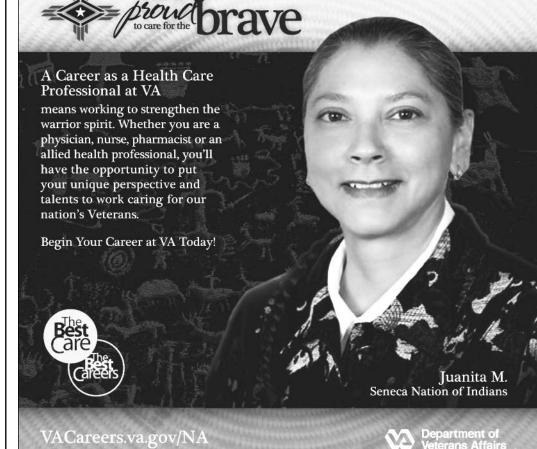
Other Requirements:

The Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must be able to travel to attend meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. as deemed necessary by the appropriate project office.

Send resumes to Staci Rowton at srowton@pawneenationcollege.org, fax to 918-762-3303, mail to 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs!

-New jobs posted throughout the weekon Facebook



#### Assistant/Associate **Professor of Exercise Science**

Full-time Assistant/Associate Professor of Exercise Science beginning Fall 2012. **Doctorate required in Exercise Science** or related field, ABD considered. College teaching experience preferred. **Duties include instruction and advising** in courses leading to a BS in Exercise Science, establishing and overseeing internship sites and engaging in college/professional service.

Salaries are competitive and commensurate with experience and credentials. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

Candidates should submit letter of intent, vita and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403.

Bacone College is a private four-year ollege with a mission to provide opportunities to Indian students and employees. EOE

Look for **Native American Times** and Twitter!

Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Public Affairs**

Job Announcement Number:NIGC-NB-12-MM636760 SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Monday, June 04, 2012 to Monday, June 25, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-1035-15 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC

JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for overseeing and coordinating all governmental and public interactions for the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC/Commission) communication programs and activities relating to public, governmental and media relations.

The Director reports directly to and receives broad policy guidance from the Chief of Staff while work is evaluated on the basis of results as This is a senior level position.

The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758-\$155,500.

For full job description and application information visit http://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/316156300

#### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

#### **Request for Qualifications**

Wyandotte Nation is requesting the services of a professional Architect to design and develop plans/specifications for a "Community Facilities" building project, funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Details of this project will be made available to interested parties upon request. Indian preference will be observed, and at this time, only proposals from qualified Indian owned professional architect firms will be accepted. The proposed project will be constructed using Green Standard Energy Star appliances, Geothermal **HVAC** and Solar Thermal Banking.

Selection will be based on a firm's ability to work with the tribe and experience of similar projects. All contractors will be required to comply with Section 3 and Davis Bacon.

The project location is in close proximity to the existing Tribal facilities, on land owned by Wyandotte Nation. Interested parties should contact Mr. Ron Kaiser; Planning/ Development Director at 918-678-2297, extension 225. The Tribe must receive all qualification submissions for consideration before July 6, 2012.



**Request for Bids** 

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma District Court is currently accepting bids from contractors to update the Tribal Court Law Library. The Tribe is seeking to obtain online access to legal research as well as to replace published materials. Further details will be made available to interested parties upon request. For more information, please contact the Court Administrator, Lauren Truitt at (405) 547-2402 ext 228 or ltruitt@ iowanation.org.

**NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?** Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

## Free SBA workshops slated to help Native Americans remove small business barriers

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Small Business Administration, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis will hold a series of free workshops on "Uniform Commercial Codes: Bringing Business to Indian Country."

The Uniform Commercial Codes workshops will help tribal affiliated organizations, tribal governments and Native American businesses understand how adopting a secured transaction code can increase economic development opportunities.

The workshops will demonstrate how to compete in the marketplace; identify roadblocks and solutions to secure---business transactions in Indian Country; explain the significance of commercial laws to borrowers; and discuss why lenders must have the ability to secure loan transactions.

As sovereign nations, Native American tribes are free to adopt their own commercial codes, so tribal commercial laws can vary widely. Tribal commercial codes include business laws governing commercial transactions and financial services, but the differences among tribal codes and with the Uniform Commercial Codes that give legal structure to the rules outside tribal areas can complicate business dealings outside the tribe. These workshops will improve understanding of the Uniform Commercial Codes and lead to more efficient cross-border business activity.

The five one-day workshops, all free and open to the public, will be held from June to September 2012, and include the following cities (The location marked TBA will be updated online with the confirmed date):

Phoenix, Arizona June 12, 2012: 8:30am - 3:00pm

Bismarck, North Dakota September 27, 2012: 8:30am - 3:30pm

Niagara, New York Date: TBA: 8:30am - 3:00pm

For additional information on the Uniform Commercial Codes workshops, including local area registration information, http://www.frbsf.org/community/ resources/2012/0605-Uniform-Commercial-Codes-Bringing-Business-to-Indian-Country/index.

SBA also offers free online courses for starting a business, managing a business, financing a business, and contracting that includes a Native American Small Business Primer course offering strategies for business success. It is one of nearly 30 online tutorials offered by the SBA's Online Business Training at www.sba.gov/ training.

For more information on SBA's programs and services, please visit www.sba.gov.

#### Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties

#### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

**Professional & Affordable Web Design** Let us create a web site that never stops giving you **BUSINESS 24 -7** 376-3428 www.ganica.net





**BEADING & CRAFT SUPPLIES CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES JEWELRY & NOVELTIES ORIGINAL ARTWORK COLLECTIBLES & BOOKS** 



2850 S. Wood Drive Okmulgee, Okla. 918-752-0040

http://oicgiftshop.com

Master of Ceremonies ◊ Frank Carson

2011 Tribal Princess 

Alexis Tanyan

2012 Tribal Princess \( \text{Danelle Springer} \) Head Gourd Dance Singer \( \rangle \) Leonard Cozad Jr.

Head War Dance Singer \( \rightarrow John Arkeketa \)

Head Man Dancer ◊ George Alexander Head Lady Dancer \( \rightarrow \) Michelle Garcia-Holiday

Head Gourd Dancer  $\Diamond$  John Shotten

Co-Host ◊ Red Rock Creek

Northern Drum \( \rightarrow \text{Blackbird} \)

Arena Directors \( \rangle \) Pat Moore & Bear Murray

Water Boys \( \rightarrow Josh & Jordan Murray \)

Pow Wow Committee ◊ Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731

John "Kandie" Des Jarlait

Lori Murray

Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600

#### nformation: Robert Murray Jr. 580-304-6731

#### **FRIDAY**

5:00 PM **LOWER FLAG GOURD DANCE** 6:30 PM

**REGISTRATION OPENS** 7:00 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 7:30 PM 10:30 PM SPECIAL "49" CONTEST

<u>SATURDAY</u>

2:00 PM **GOURD DANCE LOWER FLAG** 5:00 PM **EVENING MEAL BREAK** 5:30 PM **GOURD DANCE** 6:30 PM

7:00 PM **REGISTRATION OPENS GRAND ENTRY** 7:30 PM SPECIAL GEORGE GIBSON MEMORIAL 11:00 PM

STOMP DANCE CONTEST **SUNDAY** 

2:00 PM **GOURD DANCE** LOWER FLAG 6:30 PM **GRAND ENTRY** 

#### American Indian Arts & Crafts/ Food Vendors

Coordinated by Iowa Tribe Enterprises Linda Big Soldier, CEO Must complete application Reservations & information: 405-547-4239 or lbigsoldier@iowanation.org

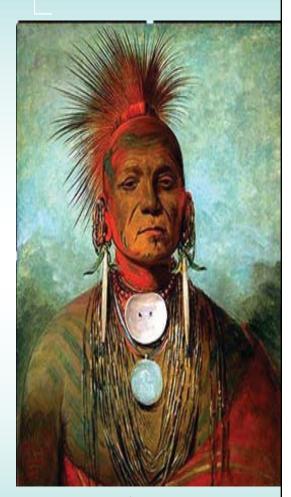


#### 27th Annual Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma **POWWOW**

June 15-16-17, 2012

**Bah-Kho-Je Pow Wow Grounds** 

Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Oklahoma



#### Contests

Rules: Must register and be in parade in on night of contest Must be in full regalia to receive prize Committee reserves right to combine or separate divisions

**Divisions**: Tiny Tots (0-6) - Combined boys & girls, combined divisions

Jr. Girls (7-12) - Combined divisions

Jr. Boys (7-12) - Combined divisions

Teen Girls (13-17) - Combined cloth/buckskin; fancy shawl/jingle Teen Boys (13-17) - Combined grass & traditional; straight; fancy Women (18-54) - Cloth; buckskin; combined fancy shawl/jingle Men (18-54) - Straight; fancy; combined traditional/grass Golden Age Men (55+) - Combined divisions Gold Age Women (55+) - Combined divisions

## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact okchoctaws.org information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of** Commerce of Oklahoma Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens** Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-

Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**JUNE 14** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 4th **Annual Golf Tournament** kicking off Iowa Tribal Powwow - 8am at Cimarron Trails in Perkins, Okla. Registration begins at 7am. Info call Linda Andre 405-547-5352 Ext 23

**JUNE 14-17** TeAta, a play by Chickasaw playwright JudyLee Oliva at Burg Theatre, Oklahoma City University. For information, call (580) 272-5520 or email performance@chickasaw. net. For tickets, Call (405) **208-5227** or purchase online at www.okcu.edu/ ticketoffice

**JUNE 15-17** Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma 27th Annual Pow Wow, Bah-Kho-Je PowWow Grounds, Hwy #177, 4 miles south of Perkins, Okla Free admission, camping,

2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal contests in all divisions, arts & crafts, rations. Contact Robert Murray 580-304-6731 or Bernadette Huber 405-240-2600.

**JUNE 16** 

The 17th Annual Oklahoma **Indian All-State Basketball** Games at the sports center on the Oklahoma Wesleyan University campus in Bartlesville. Games will start at 6:00 P.M. For more info: contact us 918-642-3162, paradox@valornet.com

**JUNE 21-24 Muscogee Nation Festival** at Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee. For more information on the Festival, contact MCN Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7992 by e-mail at tourism@ muscogeenation-nsn. gov or online at www. muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

**JUNE 21-24** TeAta, a play by Chickasaw playwright JudyLee Oliva at **Burg Theatre, Oklahoma City** University. For information, call (580) 272-5520 or email performance@chickasaw. net. For tickets, Call (405) **208-5227** or purchase online at www.okcu.edu/ ticketoffice

**JUNE 22-23** Peoria Powwow, 60610 E. 90 Road, Miami. Features a wide range of contest dancing, including gourd

dancing and straight dancing, as well as grass, traditional and fancy dancing. Call 918-540-2535.

**JUNE 22-24** 

**Tonkawa Tribal Powwow** at Fort Oakland, Tonkawa. Come out and experience the Tonkawa Tribal Powwow, Quapaw Tribal Powwow an annual tribal celebration featuring Native American dancing, contests, crafts, artwork and food. Call 580-628-2561.

**JUNE 23 Creek Council House** Museum's Indian Art Festival 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918-756-2324

**JUNE 28 - JULY 1 Pawnee Indian veterans** Powwow held at the Memorial Stadium. For more info call Toni Hill (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25

**JUNE 30** 47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729 **HWY 9 West, Seminole,** Okla. All descendants of **London Coker and wife** Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044.

**JULY 2-4 Kiowa Gourd Clan**  **Celebration, Carnegie City** Park, Carnegie. This event will feature the tribe's Sun Dance, held in the middle of summer during the longest and hottest days of the year. Call 580-654-2300.

**JULY 4-7** 

at Quapaw Tribal Grounds, 5681 S. 630 Road, Quapaw. An annual celebration over the 4th of July weekend that includes dancing, contests, vendors and plenty of family fun. Call 918-542-1853.

**JULY 5-8** TeAta, a play by Chickasaw playwright JudyLee Oliva at Rasmuson Theater, **National Museum of the** American Indian, Washington, D.C. For more information, call (202) 633-1000

**JULY 6** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free

Delivery on Orders of 10 or

**JUNE 30** Murrow Indian Children's Home Benefit Powwow, 3pm-11pm at Bacone

College, Muskogee.

More (405) 321-5640

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter:

Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, Oklahoma City

**JULY 27-29** Kihekah Steh 43rd Pow-Wow, 193rd Street N & Javine Hill Road (52nd W.Ave)

Skiatook, OK. Contest powwow - Stomp Dance -Sat. night. Info call Donna Phillips 918-381-7996 or E-mail:

donnak51@sbcglobal.net

**AUGUST 3** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or

More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 15 Timothy LittleVoice Honor** 

**SEPTEMBER 7** 

Dance at WhiteEagle, OK. Gourd Dancing @ 2:00pm **Hosted by Ponca Gourd** dance society. Supper @ 5:30pm. War Dance Hosted by Osage clan. Info tlittlevoice@rocketmail.com

# Tulsa Ballet plans memorial tribute to Native American co-founder



Moscelyne Larkin Jasinski

TULSA, OKLA. – On Sunday, September 16, 2012, Tulsa Ballet will host a memorial tribute to honor and celebrate the life of Co-Founder Moscelyne Larkin Jasinski at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center's Chapman Music Hall at 7:00 p.m. In 1956 Miss Larkin with husband Roman Jasinski and musician Rosalie Talbott founded Tulsa Ballet. A former ballerina with Ballets Russes and award-winning ballet teacher, Miss Larkin passed away on April 25, 2012.

"Miss Larkin was one of those individuals whose life accomplishments, legacy and impact on the region are bigger than life itself," Artistic Director Marcello Angelini said. "Tulsa Ballet wants to celebrate her life, the life of the person who gave birth to this company and nurtured it till adulthood, with a memorial gala as spectacular as her life

was. If you knew her, expect to remember your friend. If you didn't, expect to learn about this unique individual who, with her love of the art form, devotion to her birthplace, artistic vision and sheer determination, made Tulsa and the entire state of Oklahoma a better place for us and our children."

Tulsa Ballet's memorial tribute to Miss Larkin will feature dancing by company artists, video footage of Miss Larkin and a narrative of her life. Admission is free to the public. Information about reserving tickets will be released after August 1st.

Born January 14, 1925 in Miami, Oklahoma to a Russian-born mother, Eva Matlagova, and a Shawnee Peoria / Welsh father, Ruben (Babe) Larkin, Miss Larkin remained proud of her dual cultural heritage and her Oklahoma roots throughout her life.



COU

Tana Takos Horso

### Former Miss Indian Okla. to portray Chickasaw storyteller

DANA LANCE Chickasaw Nation

OKLAHOMA CITY – A Colbert native and an Southeastern Oklahoma State University alumnus will bring the role of young Te Ata to life in the production of, "Te-Ata", a play about one of America's most beloved Native storytellers, when it comes to an Oklahoma City and Washington D.C. stage this summer.

Tana Takes Horse, who now resides in Dallas, will play Mary Frances "Te Ata" Thompson Fisher in the production of "Te Ata".

Takes Horse was Miss Indian Oklahoma 2005 and is of Chickasaw, Choctaw, Crow, Chippewa and Hidatsa decent. Most recently, Tana has been volunteering in the Dallas school district by directing two theatre productions.

The play will be presented June 14-17 and 21-24, 2012 at Oklahoma City University and July 5-8, 2012 at the National Museum of the American Indian Rasmuson Theatre in Washington, D.C.

Tickets are now available by contacting the Oklahoma City University Theatre Department at 405-208-5227 or visit the OCU website for more information at www.okcu.edu/theatre. Tickets range from \$12 to \$15. Students, senior citizens, Allied Art members and groups purchase for \$10 each.

The Oklahoma performances will be followed by a touring production July 5-8, 2012 at the National Museum of the American Indian Rasmuson Theatre in Washington, D.C. For more information about the Washington, D.C. performance, visit http://nmai.si.edu/calendar/.



LISA REED | PHOTO COURTESY THE BISKINIK

Presenters and visitors in a snake dance on the opening day of the 2011 Choctaw Days festival in front of the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

## Choctaw Days to be held in Nation's Capital

TRAVIS MORROW

WASHINGTON – The second annual celebration of Choctaw Days is scheduled to be held in Washington D.C. June 20-23. For the second year the event will be hosted by the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) which is located on the National Mall.

"Last year, we were the first tribe to hold a festival at the NMAI," said Chief Gregory E. Pyle of the Choctaw Nation, "even before that successful event concluded we were working with NMAI officials on the 2012 version."

The theme of this year's Choctaw Days is "Bringing in the Colors,"

a tribute to the military service of members of the Choctaw Tribe.

Prominently featured will be the deeds of the Choctaw Code Talkers from World War I. D.G. Smalling, great-grandson of one of the original Code Talkers, will present a history of the unit and explain how the Choctaw language was used to confuse the enemy.

In addition, Southeastern Oklahoma State University will put on a production entitled "It Wasn't Code to Us." The play will be presented in the Smithsonian's Rasmuson Theatre and will feature Choctaw actors.

"The performance deals with Choctaw Code Talkers of World War I," said Dr. Randy Prus, Chair of Southeastern's English, Humanities, and Languages Department, "but the emphasis is on the Choctaw language and culture."

Daily activities during the festival will include demonstrations of Choctaw social dancing, the Choctaw flute, a history of stickball, and traditional storytelling. Tribally inspired recipes will also be featured at the Smithsonian's Mitsitam Cafe, and traditional cooking demonstrations will be held in the museum's amphitheatre.

On Thursday, June 21, the Choctaw Nation Princesses will be placing flowers at memorials throughout Washington D.C., including the graves of two Choctaw Chiefs buried in the Congressional Cemetery. On both June 21 and 22, there will be a stickball demonstration at the U.S. Capitol's Reflecting Pool and in a park area next to the NMAI visitors will be able to see two Choctaw horses, a rare strain of Spanish mustang.

"We are thankful," said Chief Pyle, "to have the opportunity to educate the world about the multi-faceted Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma through venues such as Choctaw Days at NMAI."

A full schedule of Choctaw Days events is available on the Choctaw Nation's website: choctawnation.

## Crumbo exhibit opening at Okla. History Center



COURTESY CRUMBO FAMILY ARCHIVES

MICHAEL DEAN
Oklahoma Historical
Society

OKLAHOMA CITY – "Crumbo Spirit Talk," a new exhibit featuring the art of Woody Crumbo and his children, will open June 28, 2012 at the Oklahoma History Center. The Oklahoma History Center is located at 800 Nazhi Zudhi Drive in Oklahoma City.

Crumbo was born January 31, 1912, on his mother's allotment near Lexington, Okla. A Citizen Potawatomi tribal member, he dedicated his life and talent to the sincere portrayal of American Indian thought and culture through his art. His prolific work included major advances oil, silkscreen, tempera, pencil and watercolor. Crumbo's career spanned nearly six decades and his paintings are found in numerous museums and private collections around the world including the Queen of England.

Crumbo's legacy was realized in the continuing artwork of his daughter, Minisa

Crumbo Halsey, and son, Woody Max Crumbo. Minisa Crumbo Halsey is a talented artist whose work has been shown throughout Europe and the Russian Federation. This exhibit will feature a retrospective of her work from the 1970s and 1980s. Woody Max Crumbo is a gifted silversmith and there will be several pieces made by him including a concho belt and gorget necklace featured in the show.

The legacy of Woody Crumbo's art continues to have an impact on current and future generations.

The exhibit will run from June 28, 2012 thru May 29, 2013. It will be located in the E. K. & Thelma Gaylord Special Exhibits Gallery at the Oklahoma History Center. The exhibit is co-sponsored by Minisa Crumbo

Halsey and the Oklahoma Historical Society.

For more information please contact Tara Damron at 405.522.0784 or by email at tdamron@ okhistory.org.

#### Harpo Foundation grants Cherokee Nation citizen Native Artist Fellowship

SANTA FE, NM - The Harpo Foundation recently announced that Ross Chaney, Osage/Cherokee, is a recipient of their 2012 Native American Artist Fellowship award.

As a Harpo Fellow, Chaney will be an artist-inresidence for one month at the Vermont Studio Center. Here he will join over 50 other visiting artists and writers who have traveled from around the world to be provided a space to work and room to think. This fellowship program has been established to support the development of artists and the potential for intercultural dialogue.

Born and raised in Oklahoma, Chaney now lives and works in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His work has been exhibited at spaces such as the Museum of Contemporary Native Arts in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona. Chaney also has work in the permanent collection of the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Currently, several pieces are traveling to Russia to join a works on paper exhibit at the Ekaterinburg Museum of Fine Arts and the State Museum of Novosibirsk.

"I am still processing the news of this honor," Chaney says. "I am really looking forward to having this period of time to explore healing and transformation and to share with the other artists."

The Harpo Foundation was established in 2006 by Edward Levine to support emerging artists who are under recognized by the field. The Foundation also seeks to stimulate creative inquiry to encourage new modes of thinking about art. www.harpofoundation. org/2

Founded by artists in 1984, the Vermont Studio Center is the largest international residency program in the United States. www.vermontstudiocenter.org

To learn more about Ross Chaney and his work, please visit www.rosschaney.com

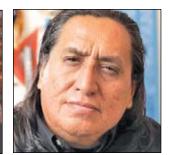
Woody Crumbo

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Voters scrap the 'Fighting Sioux' name
- The placard read; 'Keep the Redskins White'
- SPJ honors Native American cartoonist









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 25

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**JUNE 22, 2012** 

## Social worker back to work despite charges

MITCH WEISS Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) – A North Carolina social worker accused of failing to take action on complaints that could have saved a 15-month-old girl's life has returned to her job even though she's still facing criminal charges in the case.

Candice Lassiter, 28, returned to her job June 11. She was charged in February with three counts each of obstruction of justice and forgery related to the investigation of Aubrey Kina-Marie Littlejohn's death.

Lassiter answered a call at the Swain County Department of Social Services office in Bryson City last week, but declined to discuss the circumstances surrounding her return.

"I just can't talk about it," she

Repeated telephone messages left for the agency's interim director, Jerry Smith, were not immediately returned. DSS board members refused to comment, referring all calls to DSS attorney Justin Green.

Green confirmed that Lassiter returned after an agency investigation. But he said by law he couldn't disclose details about the investigation or why officials allowed her to return while her case is pending.

Littlejohn's great-aunt, Ruth McCoy, has repeatedly pushed for justice in the case along with the little girl's mother, Jasmine Littlejohn.

McCoy, a realty officer for the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs who works in a building that also houses several DSS officials, said she discovered that Lassiter

See WORKER Continued on Page 4



INTER TRIBAL COUNCIL OF FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES | COURTESY

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger, center, serves as chairman of the Executive Committee of the ITCFCT. The other members are, left to right, Choctaw Nation chief, Greg Pyle; Cherokee Nation principal chief Bill John Baker; Tiger; Seminole Nation Principal Chief Harjo and Chickasaw Nation Gov., Bill Anoatubby.

## Leaders revive Inter-Tribal Council of Five Civilized Tribes

S.E. RUCKMAN

Native Times Special Contributor

NORMAN, Okla. – When the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes (ITCFCT) met at the Riverwind Casino on June 7-8, its leaders were breathing life back into a group that had been defunct for six years. Although it had a storied name, ITCFCT had mostly remained quiet during the postgaming boom in the Sooner State.

With the election of new leaders in two of the five tribes, the idea to revitalize the organization took hold. Leaders from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Chickasaw Nation, Seminole Nation, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and the Cherokee Nation gathered with their top thinkers to hash out their positions on issues like education, elders, enrollment and repatriation, among others.

Nearly a dozen work groups brainstormed during the two-day session, which was followed up by a two-hour general session opened to the public. About 130 tribal citizens, officials and employees from the five tribes attended to listen to mini stateof-the-nation addresses from their five respective leaders.

Back when ITCFCT met on a regular basis, the five tribes were concentrating on gaming expansion within their jurisdictions. It was a casino bonanza then-- only a few of the member tribes had opened their flagship casinos. In 2004, their individual economic development followed the approval of state-tribal gaming compacts. Since then, the tribes are more in a position to focus on common interests rather than solely managing their respective gaming empires.

And while gaming is a vehicle for tribal development, Seminole Nation principal chief, Leonard Harjo, told attendees that diversifying gaming funds means keeping one eye on the future while doing business in the present.

"We know that gaming might not be with us forever," Harjo said. "We need to invest in our people."

Organizers said the gathering of what is referred to as the Five Civilized Tribes (a federal designation for the group) can once again be a steering mechanism for Oklahoma's other tribes. Member tribes contend that what affects the eastern Oklahoma tribes sets the tone for similar issues that other tribes are facing, said Muscogee-Creek Nation member and spokesman, Edwin Marshall.

"The other tribes are waiting for us to take the lead," he said.

Issues like state sovereignty were a recurrent theme. Murky are water rights, with two of the tribes (Chickasaw and Choctaw) engaged in a federal dispute with the state of Oklahoma over the transport of water to municipalities that the plaintiffs say are a violation of a 19th Century treaty. The case remains in federal court.

Choctaw Nation second chief, Gary Batton, made note of the strong tie between sovereignty and water during his address. He filled in for Choctaw chief, Greg Pyle, who did not attend because of illness. Batton said the Choctaw Nation seal bore both the peace pipe and tomahawk, which

See **COUNCIL** Continued on Page 3

### Fraud alleged at acclaimed American Indian school

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)

– A nationally recognized charter school organization in California could face a criminal investigation after a state audit found evidence of financial fraud, conflicts of interest and other illegal activities.

The report released June 13 detailed allegations of unscrupulous activity at Oakland-based American Indian Model Schools, which operates three public schools whose standardized test scores are among the state's highest.

The audit was conducted by state Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team at the request of Alameda County Superintendent Sheila Jordan. She said she would forward the report to the Alameda County District Attorney's office.

Jordan urged Oakland Unified School District officials to

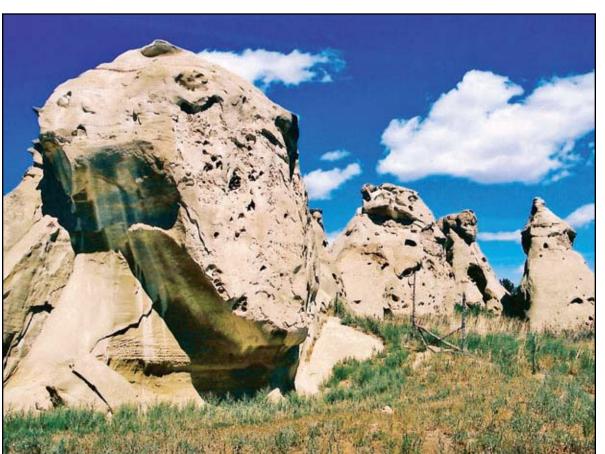


Model Schools

consider proceedings to revoke the charters needed to operate the three American Indian schools.

"The lack of oversight by the AIMS board and the unethical practices by its founder are unacceptable and an abuse of the

See FRAUD Continued on Page 2



SCOTT BURGAN | FLICK

Descendants of the Sioux and Cheyenne warriors who defeated Lt. Col. George A. Custer and his 7th Cavalry gathered June 11 at Deer Medicine Rocks to celebrate the sacred site's new status as a National Historic Landmark.

## Sioux, Cheyenne celebrate new historic landmark

LORNA THACKERAY

The Billings Gazette

LAME DEER, Mont. (AP) – For 1,000 years or more, Native peoples have etched their histories and prophecies on the sandstone faces of Deer Medicine Rocks near what is now Lame Deer.

Barely visible bighorn sheep, warriors on horseback and a grizzly bear roam the soft, sheer faces of the rock outcrop just off the Northern Cheyenne Reservation.

And on an early June day 136 years ago, a Sioux artist carved a vision that had come to Hunkpapa medicine man Sitting Bull after a torturous Sundance ceremony. In the dream, soldiers with "grasshopper" legs fell from the sky into the Indian camp. The soldiers had no ears.

This vision is believed to have foretold victory at Little Bighorn about three weeks later on June 25, 1876.

On Monday, June 11, descendants of the Sioux and Cheyenne warriors who defeated Lt. Col. George A. Custer and his 7th Cavalry gathered at Deer Medicine Rocks to celebrate the sacred site's new status as a National Historic Landmark.

David Harrington, acting superintendent at nearby Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, told about 200 people gathered for the ceremony that Deer Medicine Rocks' new status ranked it beside the Alamo, Mount Vernon and the Empire State Building as one of the nation's most important historic sites.

"Only 2,500 sites are so honored," he said. "That seems like a lot, but there are 87,000 sites on the historic site list. It is one of only 3 percent so honored."

The National Park Service oversees sites designated as historic landmarks. The process of getting Deer Medicine

See LANDMARK Continued on Page 4

## Feds trying to dismiss lawsuit on artifacts raid

**PAUL FOY**Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) – Federal agents drove a Utah doctor to suicide after interrogating him and searching his house for an ancient artifact they never found, his family's lawyers argued Thursday in a wrongful-death case against the government.

The U.S. Justice Department asked U.S. District Judge Ted Stewart to throw out the lawsuit, saying federal agencies were protected by immunity in the most sweeping investigation into the trafficking of American Indian artifacts allegedly taken from federal and tribal lands. In 2009, federal agents swept up 26 defendants in Utah, Colorado and New Mexico.

Dr. James Redd, 60, killed himself a day after his arrest by rigging a garden hose from his tailpipe to his Jeep. His family says he never dealt in artifacts, but he was charged together with his wife and a daughter. Months later, Jeanne and Jericca Redd were sentenced to probation on trafficking charges.

At issue Thursday was the work of a government operative who was given more than \$335,000 to make deals with people later accused of digging, selling and collecting artifacts from federal and tribal lands.

Lawyers for the Redd family argued that federal agents coached the informant – grocery chain CEO-turned-artifacts dealer Dan Gardiner – to offer more money than any artifact was worth to make offenses a felony instead of misdemeanor. The Redds were accused of acquiring a bird effigy pendant in a trade with Gardiner for another set of artifacts.

Family lawyers argued the pendant wasn't worth \$1,000 – making the transaction a felony – and that the government was never able to identify the pendant

from 812 boxes of confiscated artifacts from the Redd's house in Blanding, Utah. They also said the government couldn't find the artifacts Jeanne Redd traded for the pendant.

The family is asserting the government agents manufactured evidence, used excessive force, abused their powers and illegal confiscated the family's personal belongings. They're demanding the government return family photos, Dr. Redd's personal diary, banking records, a telephone, three digital cameras and other items.

"They took everything in the house except for furniture and clothes," said Shandor Badaruddin, a lawyer from Missoula, Mont, who represents Mrs. Redd and five daughters.

Justice Department lawyer Deepthy Kishore argued that market values for artifacts were slippery, federal agents couldn't be blamed for offering too much and that the government is immune from lawsuits over tactics used in an investigation.

U.S. law allows federal agents to hold onto even irrelevant evidence seized in an investigation, she said.

Dr. Redd wasn't harmed when he was arrested and handcuffed, and the government can't be held responsible for his suicide, she said.

The government argues that the Redds can't cite a single instance when their constitutional rights were violated during the raid.

After his death, according to the lawsuit, a BLM agent told Jeanne Redd and her daughter that Dr. Redd "took one for the team" by killing himself.

Carlie Christensen, the No. 2 prosecutor at the U.S. Attorney's office in Salt Lake City, said she was unfamiliar with that allegation and couldn't respond.

## Tribes alarmed by IRS audits

SUZANNE GAMBOA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) – John Yellowbird Steele, chief of the Ogalala Sioux Tribe, said the Internal Revenue Service is failing to recognize tribal sovereignty by trying to tax government-funded assistance such as housing, school clothes and burial aid that tribes give their members.

Speaking to a Senate panel Thursday, Steele invoked the treaties between the U.S. and his South Dakota tribe as he criticized the IRS for what seems to be a stepped-up effort to tax tribal assistance.

"We fix houses, and they want us to put a value on how much that lumber cost to patch a hole in a roof or a floor, put shingling on, they want us to put a value on that and give the person a 1099" tax form to possibly be taxed on the help, Steele said. "The next year, where are those people going to find the money to pay the IRS?"

The IRS over the years has narrowed its tax exemptions for federally, state and locally funded social benefits for tribe members so that only those with significant financial need do not have to pay taxes on the benefits, tribal leaders said.

The agency has been meeting with tribes to develop and clarify rules on what is taxable under the General Welfare Doctrine, which governs whether the assistance tribal members receive should be counted

as income and be taxed. But as the meetings have gone on, tribes are getting notices that they are being audited, Steele said.

Steele said the tribal assistance helps members raise their living standard and in some cases survive. He accused the IRS of launching a fishing expedition, saying his tribe has been asked to provide documentation on payments to employees, council and tribal members; petty cash and bank records; health care benefits to tribal members and employees, and powwow prizes, among other things.

"The IRS violates our treaties when it seeks to tax the basic government services that our tribal government provides our citizens," Steele said in written testimony.

Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, who chairs the committee, said providing for tribal members is "truly critical to the self-determination of tribal governments."

The IRS has been reviewing per capita payments that tribes make to citizens from trust money raised through tribal businesses.

Athena Sanchey Yallup, executive secretary of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakima Nation in Washington State, said the IRS has been seeking to tax her nation's distribution of earnings from the timber on its land to each of its 10,400 tribal members for the first time in its history. The IRS' taxation of the trust payments is a "radical change in

policy," she said.

All of this comes as the Obama administration has won accolades from Native American tribes and Alaska Natives for recognizing their sovereignty and requiring federal agencies to do a better job of explaining changes in policy or adoption of new policies. IRS officials said many of the concerns have been raised as the agency has been meeting with tribes to develop guidance on the exemptions.

The IRS defended its work with tribes. Deputy Assistant Secretary Aaron Klein described meetings on the issue and has been gathering comments and recommendations on what can be taxed as income. Klein said the discussions show that additional guidance is needed, as well as clarification of rules governing when such benefits can be taxed.

Christine Jacobs, director of the Office of Indian Tribal Governments at the IRS, said the exemption for social welfare benefits is not in the federal tax code but is an administrative exemption. She said to be excluded from taxes, benefits and payments must be made under a governmental program, promote the general welfare and not represent compensation for services.

Online: Senate Indian Affaris Committee: http://www.indian.senate.gov/

## **FRAUD**

Continued from Page 1

public trust," Jordan wrote in a letter to Oakland Unified Superintendent Tony Smith.

American Indian Model Schools founder, Ben Chavis, Lumbee, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Other staff members said they were not authorized to comment.

The final report followed a preliminary report that found evidence of possible fraud by Chavis, his wife Marsh Amador and their businesses, which provide services to the three schools.

Despite that preliminary report's findings, the Oakland school board in April voted 4-3 to keep open American Indian Public Charter School II after backers argued that closing it would hurt students at a school with near-perfect test scores.

The final report detailed \$3.7 million in questionable payments to businesses owned by Chavis and his wife, including money for rent, storage fees, construction projects and the administration of summer school programs.

The report also documents more than \$25,000 in unauthorized creditcard purchases, serious lapses in board oversight as well as violations of conflict of interest laws, open meetings laws and federal grant requirements.

# Regulators bow out of tribal electric dispute

■ The tribal council's sovereign authority over reservation land trumps the commission's regulatory jurisdiction.

**DALE WETZEL**Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP)

- North Dakota regulators concluded earlier this month that they lack authority to intervene in a dispute about which of two utilities will supply electricity to a tribal casino on the Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation.

The Public Service Commission's decision may have broader impact on the state's four other American Indian reservations, the commissioners said. All have tribal casinos and other tribally owned businesses.

The decision allows Fergus Falls, Minn.-based Otter Tail Power Co. to build the needed electric supply network to serve the Turtle Mountain tribe's Sky Dancer casino and hotel, even though the North Central Electric Cooperative already provides power to the casino. The cooperative is based in Bottineau.

Commission chairman Tony Clark said the Turtle Mountain tribe's governing council has the power to choose which utility will provide electricity to a tribal business located on tribally owned land.

Normally, the PSC has some

authority to stop construction of duplicative electric networks, to prevent wasteful spending and an unnecessary burden on utility ratepayers. However, the tribal council's sovereign authority over reservation land trumps the commission's regulatory jurisdiction, Clark said.

The council was within its rights, Clark said, but he added that the situation could result in a "poor public policy outcome."

"As a general rule, do we want, in North Dakota, double sets of lines running to businesses (and) utilities overbuilding each other?" Clark asked. "There cannot only be wasteful duplication of service, but there can really be utility shopping, in a way that doesn't take place ... anywhere else in the country."

Even in deregulated states where electric customers can choose from among power providers, those utilities do not have permission to duplicate each other's energy supply networks, Clark said.

Debra Hoffarth, a Minot attorney for the Bottineau utility, said she would discuss with cooperative officials whether they wanted to appeal the PSC's decision. Commissioner Kevin Cramer said he anticipated an appeal.

Otter Tail spokeswoman Stephanie Hoff said the utility expects to become the casino complex's electric supplier next week. The tribe has signed a 10-year contract, and it is not being given a special rate, she said.

Otter Tail already serves some large reservation

customers, including the tribe's community college, while North Central has been the casino's electric provider since it was built.

Otter Tail serves Jamestown, Wahpeton, Devils Lake and a number of rural communities in eastern North Dakota. North Central serves five counties in north-central North Dakota, including Rolette County, where the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa reservation is located.

The commission's ruling was limited to the Otter Tail-North Central dispute, Clark said. However, its logic could apply to any tribal business located on property owned by the tribe, such as a proposed oil refinery that the Three Affiliated Tribes is planning to build near Makoti, about 30 miles southwest of Minot.

The refinery, if constructed, would be a major electric customer. It is designed to process western North Dakota crude into gasoline, diesel fuel and propane.

The Otter Tail-North Central argument arose because the Turtle Mountain tribe is expanding its Sky Dancer casino and hotel, adding about 100 motel rooms, space for about 200 additional slot machines and a recreational vehicle park.

The project is adding new casino space and converting the existing casino into a restaurant and convention hall. Its grand opening is scheduled for November. The complex is located about four miles west of Belcourt.

### eat better. move more. be tobacco free.

Interested in making Oklahoma a healthier place to live, work, learn and play? Consider joining a coalition in your area.

#### ATOKA AND COAL

COUNTIES
Atoka/Coal Partnership
for Change
580.380.0463

#### BECKHAM AND ROGER MILLS COUNTIES

Oklahoma Unified Resources (OUR) Turning Point Coalition 580.225.6247

#### BRYAN COUNTY Bryan County Turning

Bryan County Turning Point 580.924.4285 ext 254

#### **CARTER COUNTY**Carter County Turning Point

580.223.7075 ext 314

#### **CLEVELAND COUNTY**Cleveland County

Turning Point 405.307.6602 COMANCHE COUNTY

Oklahoma

#### 580.585.6686

Fit Kids of Southwest

JACKSON COUNTY
Jackson County Community
Health Action Team

#### KIOWA AND CADDO COUNTIES

580.482.7308

Kiowa Coalition and Caddo County Interagency Coalition 580.726.3383

#### LOGAN COUNTY

Logan County Partnership 918.282.3485

#### LOVE AND

JOHNSTON COUNTIES Fit Communities – Love and Johnston Consortium 580.371.2470

#### McCURTAIN, CHOCTAW AND PUSHMATAHA COUNTIES

Tri-County Consortium 580.298.6624

### MUSKOGEE COUNTY Muskogee County Turning Point

Turning Point 405.683.0321 OKLAHOMA COUNTY

#### Wellness Now Coalition 405.425.4315

**OKMULGEE COUNTY** Okmulgee County Wellness Coalition 918.633.3202

#### TULSA COUNTY

Family Health Coalition 918.595.4039

No coalitions in your area? Find your local Turning Point Partnership and learn more at

ShapeYourFutureOK.com.



### **US Attorney meets with Oglala Sioux about deaths**

KRISTI EATON **Associated Press** 

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) -Three attorneys from the U.S. Attorney's Office in South Dakota have been assigned to review the case files of nearly 40 deaths dating back to the 1970s on or near the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, the U.S. Attorney for South Dakota said Wednesday.

The announcement by U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson came at a forum with Oglala Siouxtriballeadersatameeting in Kyle on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. Johnson was meeting with the tribal leaders and family members of tribal members who asked that he reopen investigations and prosecutions into the deaths of 39 people.

"You can always put a new set of eyes on it," Johnson said by phone afterward.

But he also said it will

be challenging to find new evidence for cases going back 40 years in some cases. He said he does not want to get anyone's hopes up that unresolved cases might be solved or prosecuted, but hopes that with more attention focused on the cases, more people may come forward with new evidence or leads. He referred to the case of American Indian Movement activist Annie Mae Aquash as an example. Aquash's 1975 killing went unsolved for decades until Fritz Arlo Looking Cloud was convicted of first-degree murder in 2004 in federal court. John Graham was convicted in state court



Annie Mae Aquash's 1975 killing went unsolved for decades until Fritz Arlo Looking Cloud was convicted of firstdegree murder in 2004 in federal court.

for the death in 2010.

The June 13 meeting offered a chance for Johnson to meet with family members of those who died, said Jennifer Baker, a Colorado-based attorney working with the Oglala Sioux tribe on the issue of unresolved deaths.

"It was more of a stepping stone ... so (Johnson) can put some faces with names," she

Baker said several family members of the 39 people were in attendance. Other people came forward with additional names of cases that should be reviewed, Baker said.

Oglala Sioux Vice President Tom Poor Bear and council judiciary committee chairman James Toby Big Boy have led the effort to review the cases. The men wrote a letter to Johnson earlier this year asking that the U.S. Attorney reopen the cases. Last month, the two provided a list of 39

cases that they feel have gone unsolved or not sufficiently prosecuted.

While the majority of the cases are from the 1970s when the murder rate on Pine Ridge was the highest in the nation - there are three cases from the 1990s, including the deaths of Poor Bear's brother, Wilson Black Elk, and cousin, Ron Hard Heart. Their bodies were found in 1999 on reservation land just across the border from Whiteclay, Neb.

"I really feel that U.S. Attorney Brendan Johnson came with a sincere heart and a concern about these uninvestigated deaths," Poor Bear said, adding that the families simply want closure. "It gave them hope that one day they will find closure."



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

Times recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL

editor@nativetimes.com Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie

WESLEY MAHAN

KAREN SHADE Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL

advertising@nativetimes.com SHELBY HICKS

STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







## Decisions loom on tribal water rights settlement

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) - Navajo and Hopi lawmakers are soon expected to decide the fate of a water rights settlement that could end years of litigation or send the tribes back to court.

The settlement recognizes the rights of the tribes to groundwater within the Little Colorado River basin and gives the Navajo Nation nearly three-fourths of surface water from the river. The tribes would waive further claims to the river system in exchange for groundwater delivery projects paid for by the federal government.

U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., has introduced

legislation to approve the settlement, but it won't move forward without the blessing d give on a settlempponents argue that its lawmakers don't have the authority to make decisions on water rights for the 12 villages, which are considered autonomous. Gearon, a member of the Navajo Nation, said she acknowledges that while litigation might not result in any more water for the tribes that they are getting through the settlement, it would be worth a fight in court.

Another opponent, Marshall Johnson,

"We are for a settlement agreement that honors our historical roots that predate American laws and allow for true input from the Navajo people," he said.



#### AICCOK OKC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Help a deserving Native American student reach for their dreams.

#### OVERVIEW

The OKC Chapter has historically provided scholarships for many years. Typically one acholarship is awarded to the top male and female entrants, as decided by the OKC Chapter Board of Directors. In 2012, we plan to notify the recipient student(s) by May 10 to allow them to list their scholarship in their graduation materials. We will present the actual scholarship award at the August luncheon.

#### SPONSORSHIPS

#### There are 2 ways that your organization can help:

- 1. Sponsor a branded, stand-alone scholarship. (Minimum award \$250). Special emphasis can be requested (e.g. math or science, healthcare, etc).
- 2. Contribute to the AICCOK-OKC Chapter General Scholarship Fund.

#### CONTACTS

To sponsor a scholarship, contact: James Lambertus, OKC Chapter Chair, aiccokc@earthlink.net, 405-650-5996 or Fran Smith, Treasurer, fran.smith@bank2online.com 405-946-2265.

To make a contribution to the Fund online, please click: http://tiny.cc/aiccokc scholarshipfund

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!

## COUNCIL

represented the Choctaws' willingness to negotiate but also their wiliness to defend its own.

"We believe it's our water and our rights to that water belong to us," he said.

Meanwhile, the American Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City could also benefit from their united advocacy, officials said. The beleaguered facility has hit a funding stumbling block to subsidize the high-tech museum. Additionally, the five tribes have suggestions for the Bureau of Indian Affairs' search for a new Eastern Regional director, officials said.

The goal of the newly gathered ITCFCT is to scout direction before it begins drafting jointly endorsed resolutions, officials said. What may start out as internal ideas could mean external solutions to help with situations that affect both state and tribes for the good, they said.

Cherokee principal chief, Bill John Baker, said the new year bodes good tidings from Cherokee Country. With a new leader decided in his jurisdiction, input should be productive and peaceful from all five sides.

"People believed they were making a difference in Indian Country when they were working in these groups," Baker said. "We can do it faster, we can do it better."

In their reinvigorated stance, Muscogee (Creek) Principal Chief Nation George Tiger serves as chairman of the Executive Committee with Cherokee Nation principal chief Baker as vice-chairman. Executive Committee members are Chickasaw Nation Gov., Bill Anoatubby, Choctaw Nation chief, Greg Pyle and Seminole Nation Principal Chief Harjo.

The inter-tribal organization was founded in 1950 and is the oldest such tribal organization in the United States. The five tribes' council is made of four the most populous of 562 federally recognized tribes with nearly 625,000 enrolled citizens, ITCFCT officials said. Together, their economic impact exceeds \$1 billion dollars.

Stickball · Drawing

· Fancy dancing ·

**Beadwork** 



**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com



of Oklahoma

Big Brothers Big Sisters Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

# Tribe quiet as ND voters scrap Fighting Sioux name

JAMES MacPHERSON and DAVE KOLPACK

Associated Press

STANDING ROCK INDIAN RESERVATION, N.D. (AP) – As North Dakota residents resoundingly decided to scrap their flagship university's Fighting Sioux nickname, the response was far murkier in Sioux County – home to a tribe that had gone decades without staking a clear position on the divisive question.

Voters statewide turned out in numbers not seen in a primary election for more than five decades, according to unofficial results, yet most members of the Standing Rock tribe took a pass. Sioux County, where much of the reservation is based, voted 184-159 to retire the University of North Dakota's nickname and Indian head logo.

That represented just 8 percent of county residents, 84 percent of whom are American Indians.

"By and large most people either don't care or support the name," Lyle Antelope, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Indian Reservation, said Wednesday.

The issue, which has divided the state for decades, boiled over seven years ago when UND was placed on a list of schools with American Indian nicknames that the NCAA deemed hostile and abusive. Those colleges were told to dump the names or risk sanctions against their athletic teams

Some schools quickly removed their American Indian-themed nicknames and others, such as Florida State, survived the NCAA edict by securing the approval of namesake tribes.

There was no such consensus in North Dakota. The Spirit Lake tribe approved the nickname in 2010, but the other tribeStanding Rock – never took a vote. That's why last week's election was being closely watched in Sioux County as the first – and possibly only – opportunity for members of that tribe to speak in unison.

Walter Twinn, 69, who still speaks his native Dakota language, said there are only a handful of people on the reservation strongly opposed to the name. He cited a 1969 pipe ceremony held on the UND campus when a delegation from Standing Rock and at least one representative from Spirit Lake reportedly bestowed to the university permanent rights to use the nickname.

"UND has helped a lot of Indian students," Twinn said. "It should stay."

The Standing Rock reservation straddles the North and South Dakota border and is home to about 9,000 people, more than half of whom live in North Dakota. Elections for tribal chairman typically draw up to 2,000 voters.

Lawrence Miller, an employee at the tribe's casino, said it makes little sense to change the name. However, he acknowledges that he didn't vote.

"What are they going to call themselves, the Holsteins? Or the Cow Milkers?" Miller said.

Bubba Standing Bear, who spent June 12 herding cows on horseback, said he would have approved the measure had he been old enough to vote.

"To me it really doesn't matter. It's just a name," he said. "I didn't think it was disrespectful. I know a lot of the old people might not like it but I think it is respectful."

Erich Longie, an enrolled citizen of the Spirit Lake tribe who has been an outspoken critic against the nickname, said UND T-shirts and other

giveaways encouraged about two-thirds of 1,100 members of that tribe to endorse the name in 2009. He said only 70 people on the Spirit Lake reservation voted that Tuesday.

"They didn't have all the free stuff to pass out," Longie said. "It shows you how much people cared about the vote."

The state Board of Higher Education is expected to vote at its meeting in Fargo on whether to direct UND to resume efforts to retire the nickname. The board in February told UND to resume using the moniker after petitions were approved for last week's ballot measure.

Even if it does push the school to retire the name, the saga may not be over. A group is collecting signatures for another ballot measure – possibly as early as November – that would make the Fighting Sioux name an official part of the state constitution.

Tim O'Keefe, the UND Alumni Association and Foundation executive vice president and CEO, expressed hope in a statement Wednesday that the nickname backers would honor the election results and let the rebuilding begin.

"Too many relationships have been tested by the debate, and we now need to come together to advance the tremendous growth and potential of UND as a worldclass institution," O'Keefe said.

Kolpack reported from Fargo,

#### THE HISTORY:

The University of North Dakota debuted the "Sioux" part of its nickname more than 80 years ago. UND's student newspaper on Oct. 3, 1930, hyped the change with a front-page headline reading: "Sioux' replaces 'Flickertail' as Captain of University Sports



Teams." Flickertail, the previous nickname, referred to a type of ground gopher. Apparently, school officials decided the rodent didn't instill appropriate fear in opponents.

BUT WHY "SIOUX"?

Before the Dakotas became states, they were part of the Sioux Nation. As gold helped push the population farther west, UND was founded in 1883 in the Dakotas Territory. (North Dakota became a state six years later.) The term Sioux isn't without its own history - it's part of an Ojibwa-French pejorative term meaning "snakes" but in 1930 it was accepted as a nod to the area's Native American history. In a 1969 pipe ceremony on the UND campus, some representatives from the Standing Rock and Spirit Lake tribes reportedly gave the university permanent rights to use the nickname.

#### AND "FIGHTING"?

That part didn't come along until the 1960s, under longtime Athletic Information Director Lee Bohnet, who died in 1999. Patricia Bohnet, his daughter, wrote in May 2011 that she didn't know how her father would feel about the school losing its nickname, but she knew he would "be on the side of the student athletes."

## **LANDMARK**

Continued from Page

Rocks certified as a landmark took years. Northern Cheyenne and Lakota Sioux worked with the Park Service to designate the rocks based on their relationship to the Great Sioux War of 1876-1877.

Harrington said there are three other national landmark sites associated with the Great Sioux War – Little Bighorn Battlefield, Rosebud Battlefield and Wolf Mountain Battlefield – all within 35 miles of the newly designated Deer Medicine Rocks Landmark.

"The three previous sites were killing sites, battlefields," Harrington said. "This is a cultural and historic site for the tribes and the only one that tells the story from a Native American perspective."

The site is on a ranch owned by the Jack and Carol Bailey. The property has been worked by the Bailey family since the early 1880s. Northern Cheyenne and Sioux officials thanked them for preserving the rocks and for allowing tribal members to fast, smoke and pray at one of their most sacred sites.

Bruce Wittenberg, director of the Montana Historical Society, announced that later this year, Jack Bailey will be honored as one of Montana's "Heritage Keepers."

During the two-hour proceedings, visitors gathered above Rosebud Creek as it meandered through the picturesque country of red-tinted hills. In the time of Sitting Bull, camps of Lakota and Cheyenne stretched for three to four miles along the creek, said Steve Brady Jr. of the Northern Cheyenne.

Sitting Bull, leader of the largest coalition of warriors ever gathered on the Northern Plains, was drawn to Deer Medicine Rocks by a vision, said Philip Whiteman of the Oglala Lakota.

"He came to the Cheyenne and asked where the rock was he saw in his vision," said the cultural leader from the Pine Ridge Reservation in South

"In his vision he saw a whirlwind with this blue lightning strike and these petroglyphs," he said.

A lightning strike on the rocks did leave a long, blue scar that bisected the image of a deer. The image is thought to be where the rocks got their name.

Not long after Sitting Bull's Sundance, Custer's troops traveled through on their way to the Little Bighorn. Custer and his Arikara scouts saw images left in the camp and on the rocks. The scouts grew uneasy, understanding that the Sioux and Cheyenne believed that they would win a great victory.

Whiteman said that through all the oppression of Native peoples since the time of the reservations, Sitting Bull's vision for his people propelled them forward.

"We are going to be leaders and teachers once again," he said. "Our ancestors spoke of this time – a cleansing."

Phyllis Young, a Hunkpapa who sits on the Standing Rock Reservation Council, said "America is ready for us. America is ready for our old ways."

## **WORKER**

Continued from Page

had returned to work when she picked up a copy of a DSS newsletter from a table in the hallway.

"Social Worker Candice Lassiter will return to work today in the Adult and Children Services Unit," the newsletter announcement says. "We all welcome her back to the Agency."

McCoy said Aubrey's family is outraged.

"That was like a slap in the face to the family," she said. "Aubrey is already gone. She will never return and then they bring this woman who was involved in her death back to work in front of us? It's wrong."

This the latest is development in a case that has stunned and polarized western North Carolina, and sparked anger in the Native American community. Aubrey was a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, some of whom claim that the Swain County DSS did not do enough to protect Aubrey and other Native American children. Part of the Cherokees' sprawling reservation lies in Swain County.

Another great-aunt of Aubrey, Ladybird Powell, was arrested and charged with second-degree murder in January – a year after the toddler's death. Powell had begun taking care of Aubrey shortly before Jasmine Littlejohn reported to jail in April 2010 to await trial in a marijuana-trafficking case. Littlejohn was in jail when her daughter died.

An Associated Press investigation found that police and social workers had been aware of reports Aubrey was being mistreated while she was staying with Powell.

McCoy alleges Lassiter was one of the social workers whom police escorted to Powell's home on the night of Nov. 9, 2010 to investigate a complaint that an 11-year-old boy was living in a trailer with drugs and no heat.

They removed the boy, placing him in McCoy's custody, but let Aubrey stay. The heat was off because the power bill wasn't paid.

"I begged her (Lassiter) to take Aubrey, but she wouldn't listen," McCoy said.

The girl died Jan. 10, 2011, after Powell rushed her to the emergency room. When Swain County investigators looked into the case, they discovered the agency had at least three reports of neglect or abuse regarding Aubrey.

Investigators later found

pages missing from written reports on the case.

Prosecutors say that after Aubrey's death, Lassiter ordered a subordinate, Craig Smith, to falsify records to make it appear that the department had done a thorough job investigating allegations that Aubrey was being abused.

Smith, also charged with obstruction of justice, resigned from the agency last year. Lassiter and three other DSS workers were suspended with pay. Tammy Cagle, the agency's director at the time, was fired for what county officials said were unrelated reasons.

David Wijewickrama, a

lawyer representing Aubrey's estate, has filed two lawsuits in connection with her death, at least one of which names the county DSS as a defendant along with Lassiter and six other current and former social workers.

The lawsuit asks for more than \$10,000 in damages, and accuses Swain County of not doing enough to protect Native American children.

That has resonated with the Cherokees. McCoy said they have formed a committee, of which she is a member, to create a Cherokee-run DSS system for the reservation.

"We need to make a change for our children's safety," she said.

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

PROBATE ADOPTIONS

RESTRICTED LAND ISSUES

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

## COMMENTARY

## The Placard Read; 'Keep the Redskins White'



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

The controversy started Gwyneth Paltrow attended a concert in Paris and sent out a tweet of her thoughts on the hit song, "Niggas in Paris." Her tweet read, "Ni\*\* as in paris for real."

Of course the comments went viral and brought out defenders and offenders on the Internet and on television fun and games. talk shows and newspapers.

Blogger Jonah Weiner wrote about whether the use of the N-word was right or wrong. "Wrong is a slippery word in its own right, but, in assessing cases where white people say

and we stay on the lookout for the 'R-word' in its place. a troubling blitheness on the attitude toward race."

it in my head!"

word "redskin." Look it up in there for all to see with no many African Americans thoughts of how it might now have positions behind percent of Indians who believe forum to discuss this highly it is an honor to be mimicked inflammable issue. This was and ridiculed for America's clearly evident this week when

newspaper, News, and papers like Indian all angles. It opened a debate Country Today, in the old about the use of the N-word days, never used the word by white people as opposed to 'redskins' when referring to its use by African-Americans. the professional football team

When affirmative action part of the speaker that reflect and the Fairness Doctrine broader, ill-considered were a part of the American scene, many minorities used Comedian Louis C.K. had a these weapons to open doors more caustic argument when in the media. Without these he said, "You say the n-word, two weapons to break down and I go, 'Oh, she means these barriers that had blocked nigger.' You are making me say their participation for so long That brings me to the racist been impossible.

As a result the newly any dictionary or Wikipedia open doors allowed many and you will find that most African Americans and other Native Americans find the minorities to become major word to be racist. Every source players in the media. It is you check always refers to this clear that when issues like the word as offensive to Native use of the N-word by famous Americans. And yet it is out people arises, the fact that impact a race of people. Of and in front of the television course there is still that 10 cameras, offers them a national African-Americans many Indian-owned had the opportunity to look Native Sun at Paltrow's comments from

'nigga' we acknowledge the based in Washington, D. C., as mascots? I first wrote about and offensive to American least understood and the most utterance's injurious power, but instead always substituted this topic in 1982. From the Indians and others and are misunderstood Americans of volume of hate mail I received I came to perceive this as an insensitive in light of the long issue that was hyper-sensitive history of forced assimilation had a platform on national to non-Indians, but after a that American Indian people group of Indian students at have endured in this country." Stanford convinced the faculty and alumni to drop their mascot, Indians, and replace last time, a national television it with Cardinals, I became show took on the issue of using convinced that there were Indians as mascots happened media integration would have enough people of intelligence in 1991 on a show hosted by who could empathize with an African-American; Oprah Indians on this topic.

Americans were trying to Seminole, and Suzanne Shown integrate the National Football Harjo, Muskogee, were the League. One of the last of the guests on that show and for holdouts was the Washington the first time we had a forum team. Some of their fans were to discuss our feelings about so incensed by the idea of using Indians as mascots. We having African-Americans on had high hopes that this would their beloved team that they lead to other opportunities gathered in front of the main to enlighten the vast majority office of the Redskins with of Americans, but a followposters that read, "Keep the up show never happened and Redskins white." Now how other television talk-show ironic and revolting is that?

In 2001 the U.S. Commission was relevant. on Civil Rights called for an end to the use of Indian images What about using Indians or names, are disrespectful Indians remain probably the knology.net

particularly inappropriate and

The first, and maybe the Winfrey. I, an Oglala Lakota, I vividly recall when African along with Michael Haney, hosts never thought the topic

us all."

If we (Native Americans) television to discuss our feelings about Indians as mascots, just as African-Americans are able to confront ignorance and prejudice every day of the week because of access, perhaps an educational process could begin that would teach Americans that Indians are human beings and not fodder to be used as mascots for fun and games.

Paltrow's tweet opened a flood-gate of discussion about the use and misuse of the N-word and the process was culturally defining and highly educational. Now the national media should take on the R-word with as much enthusiasm.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and educated on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. In 1960 President John F. He was the founder of The and team names by non- Kennedy said, "For a subject Lakota Times, Indian Country Native schools, stating, "These worked and reworked so often Today, Lakota Journal and references, whether mascots in novels, motion pictures, Native Sun News. He can be and their performances, logos, and television, American reached at UnitySoDak1@

## A handful of Indian scholarships

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE **DR. DEAN CHAVERS** 

them that. Fifty percent (50%) of Indian students drop out of high school. I often wonder if the racist attitudes of school people will ever change. It has not in my lifetime, which is almost three-quarters of a century now.

It seems to me that counselors have three different functionscounseling, discipline, and career preparation. The first two take so much time that they only once in a while get to the third one. Counselors who have to deal with absenteeism, students who have been suspended for bad behavior, and the like-all the negative things—are in the wrong position to help students prepare for college or vocational school, the positive outcomes.

Only 17% of Indian students go on to college from high school. And since 50% of these high school students drop out before graduation, only 8.5% of Indian students enter college. This compares to 70% nationally. Thus Indian enrollment in college is only 12% of non-Indian enrollment. And 82% of these Indian college students drop out before they graduate from college; they never earn a degree. For every Indian college graduate per unit of population, there are 30 nonyears, not smaller.

amount of possibility. If they study teachers who come in with new-varies from 75% to 85%. hard and get good grades, they can fangled ideas are sometimes run My next book, "The American the U. S., including the Ivy Leagues. boarding high schools where I did my with citations from some 350 related we hear from students, followed of Hawaii a few weeks ago. dissertation, all had some idealistic counselors and teachers are telling Anglo teachers who showed up right out of teacher colleges, eager to teach Indians. A few of them never came back when they went home to Iowa or South Carolina for Christmas. Out of 168 teachers that I interviewed on the four campuses (Chemawa, Stewart, Sherman, and Phoenix), no more than 30 were career people with BIA schools.

The same thing happened when I was at Bacone College. At least two of the new faculty went home from Oklahoma to New Jersey or Pennsylvania for Christmas, and we never heard from them again. We had to hire new people in the middle of the year.

A handful of colleges report low dropout rates for Indians, ranging from 10% to 25%; they are mostly Ivy League colleges with high admissions criteria. Among them are Harvard, Stanford, and Yale. But most colleges have dropout rates of 60% to 90% for Indians.

One of the best studies of the Indian dropout ever done was at the University of New Mexico. Dr. Ted Jojola and his wife Dr. Delia Alcantar found that the cumulative dropout rate after 20 semesters—ten years—

Indian graduates. And the gap has University did perhaps the best piece proving she was Indian. That is so

studies and reports. Since lots of in frequency by mothers. We hear people have covered up the statistics from fathers, but not that often. They on the Indian dropout for decades, I suspect some of them will attack me on this report as well. I have been attacked by the best cover-uppers. Very few people want to face the truth; even fewer want to do anything

One of the biggest frustrations we face at Catching the Dream is people wanting to apply for Indian scholarships. Once we explain to them that there are only eight such Indian scholarships with any real money (we draw the line at giving away \$20,000 or more a year), some of them get frustrated and give up. We tell them FastWeb, the most comprehensive scholarship site, now has 1.5 million entries in its database. Some of them act as if they don't want to hear that.

It's like they feel they should get some of the mythical Indian money at the end of the rainbow, even if they are not enrolled in a tribe and can't prove they are Indian. Getting Indian money is part of their Indian heritage, or what they think is their heritage.

A few of them give us the same kind of story that Elizabeth Warren gave a few weeks ago—that her as a low-end cook in a restaurant in Dr. Ardy Bowker at Montana State grandmother had high cheekbones, Albuquerque.

Republican.

often tell us their grandparents or great-grandparents were Indians. Sometimes they don't know what tribe. When they allege to know the tribe, about 75% of the time it is Cherokee. That Cherokee greatgrandmother of that blond blue-eyed woman is so widespread as not to be believed.

Some of them tell us they are descendants of two or ever three tribes, and they want us to tell them which tribe they should enroll in. They get frustrated when we tell them we couldn't possibly know, from the scant information they have given us, what tribe to look for. If they tell us they are Cherokees from Illinois, we are really stumped, since the Cherokees are either from North Carolina or Oklahoma. If they tell us the tribe, we are glad to tell them how to contact their tribal enrollment office.

We love to hear of the success stories, though. Isaiah Rodriguez (Laguna) came to see me in January of 2008. He had been a high school dropout from the ages of 16 to 21. But one day he woke up and said, "Is that all there is?" He was working

I spent two hours with Isaiah, been getting larger over the past 40 of research on the Indian dropout 20 racist and stereotypical that her showing him how to find years ago. She found that the dropout opponent is now throwing it in scholarships. When he came back Indian schools are supposed to be rate for Indian females in high her face on a daily basis. It may with his application, he had found Indian students who want to producing blue-collar people, not school was 51%. Northern Arizona cause her to lose her Senate race in 102 scholarships, the highest number go to college have an unlimited white collar ones. Young idealistic University has a dropout rate that Massachusetts against a Tea Party any student has found in our 26 years of existence. He applied to all We almost never hear from high of them, and won 70. He just got his attend any college or university in off the campuses. At the four BIA Indian Dropout," will document this school counselors. Most of the time college diploma from the University

> We do all we can to open the eyes of the Indian students to the real world of scholarships. But it is like an ant trying to push an elephant. We mail to the high school counselors every year, and have for over 20 years. But it does little good. At this point, out of 1,080 counselors at Indian high schools, we have gotten contact in the past two years with exactly 16 people.

> My theory is that there is a huge elephant out there started by Capt. Richard Henry Pratt at Carlisle in 1878. It's called assimilation, meaning Indians should learn English, how to make beds and plow fields, and not much else. Not much has changed. College is not for them.

Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship organization Albuquerque. His last book was "Racism in Indian Country," published by Peter Lang. His book before that was two volumes, 800 pages, called "Modern American Indian Leaders," published by Mellen Press. Peter Lang will publish his next book, "The American Indian Dropout," in 2013.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 • johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

- Serving Mayes and Cherokee Counties, Oklahoma -

#### RACISM IN INDIAN COUNTRY

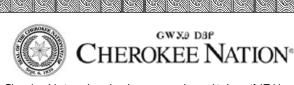
By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Racism still flourishes in Indian Country. From sterilization of Indian women to refusing to make loans to Indians to buy cars and houses, the practices still keep Indians down. Written for use as a text for high schools and colleges, this book is a MUST for all tribal schools and colleges. 240 pages.

Available at www.peterlang.com, \$32.95 plus shipping and handling. Peter Lang, 29 Broadway, 18th Floor, New York NY 10006, (800) 770-5264.

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

> **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH #4500 Inpatient RN/PRN/T/PT/OR #4713 Inpatient RN/PRN/T/PT/OR #6601 Medical Case Manager/R/FT

> > **POSITIONS CLOSE 6/20/2012**

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

#### **Faculty Chair**

Position Summary: Serve as ONLI full-time Faculty Chair; is responsible for carrying out instructional duties, which requires an individual who has the ability to:

· Teach college-level and career and technical educations classes in a culturally diverse and historic setting • Engage in professional activities such as publishing and present conference papers • Ability to represent PNC in various public settings Assist in designing and implementing curriculum, supervise book/textbook orders as required for faculty • Serve on various committees, as assigned • Serve the College and its students in an ethical, enthusiastic, and visionary manner • Ability to lead accreditation process and participate fully on such committee.

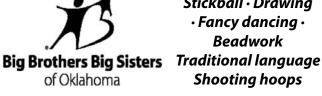
Qualifications: Masters Degree required; PhD preferred. Two to four (2-4) years experience in progressively responsible professional position is also required. In addition, full-time faculty must have a proven track record with concern to: providing vision and guidance in helping establish an academic department and or program, carry out instructional responsibilities (including developing syllabi and lesson plans, supervise implementation on MOODLE/CAMS portals), working with both internal and external organizations, developing a professional dossier that clearly demonstrates advancement and activity, teaching life-skills to students, and serving the College by assisting with extracurricular activities, when necessary.

Other Requirements: Full-time faculty must be able to travel to attend meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. as deemed necessary by the project director's

**Duties & Responsibilities:** 

- · Ensure the academic integrity and rigor of the classroom,
- Author and submit syllabi to the project director,
- Chair faculty committee
- Attend regular department meetings, as required by the project director,
- Assist in fund raising efforts that impact the proposed project,
- · Relate to a wide diversity of people, including traditional and nontraditional students, in various cultural settings.
- Work in a professional and collegial manner with other faculty, staff, and students, Demonstrate excellent verbal, interpersonal, and written communication skills,
- Perform other duties as assigned by the project director/supervisor.

Send resumes to Dr. Joseph Bohanon at jbohanon@pawneenationcollege.org, fax 918-762-3467, or mail to 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058.



Stickball · Drawina · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Compliance, AD-1801-00**

Job Announcement Number: NIGC-NB-12-MM636890 SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Monday, June 11, 2012 to Monday, July 02, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-1801-15 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent **DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC** 

JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for but not limited to the monitoring of Class II and Class III gaming operations to ensure compliance with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) regulations and the provisions of tribal gaming ordinances and/or resolutions.

This is a director level position. The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758-\$155,500.

For full job description and application information visit http://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/318709900

#### **Admissions Assistant/** Recruiter

Position Summary: Serving the ONLI program; responsible for carrying out a wide variety of duties that allow the Director of Admissions/Project Coordinator to plan, organize, direct, and control organizational functions of the Admissions Office, which requires an individual that has the ability to:

- Multi-task in a vibrant and active environment,
- · Compile, compose, and distribute various written documents and
- correspondence in a timely manner, Operate numerous software programs and learn new (or updated) programs as they become available, including Microsoft Office: Word, MS Excel, and PowerPoint.
- Execute directives in a timely manner,
- Act in a professional and courteous manner to students, other staff, and

 Maintain both official and document files.

Qualifications: An earned associate's degree is required, a bachelor's degree is preferred; experience in a progressively responsible position is required; experience in tribal programs is preferred. In addition, the Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must have a valid driver's license, a clean driving record, and a reliable vehicle for traveling to and from recruiting events; as well a proven track record with concern to: completing assigned tasks in a timely manner, working with office machines such as photocopiers, calculators, recorders, etc., working with both internal and external organizations, and serving the College by expected presence with extracurricular activities, when necessary.

Other Requirements:

The Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must be able to travel to attend meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. as deemed necessary by the appropriate project office.

Send resumes to Staci Rowton at srowton@pawneenationcollege.org, fax to 918-762-3303, mail to 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

#### **Executive Assistant**

The Native Alliance Against Violence (NAAV), Oklahoma's nonprofit, tribal coalition against domestic and sexual violence, is accepting applications for the position of Executive Assistant. The Executive Assistant will assist the Director in the day-to-day operations of the nonprofit and assist in scheduling trainings and technical assistance activities that will serve Oklahoma's federally recognized tribes and increase awareness of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and dating violence against Native women. Ideal candidates should have knowledge of the dynamics of domestic and sexual violence, Native American culture and must demonstrate a commitment to working with Native American tribes. Please submit cover letter and resume to info@OklahomaNAAV.org.

#### Assistant/Associate **Professor of Exercise Science**

of Exercise Science beginning Fall 2012. Doctorate required in Exercise Science or related field, ABD considered. College teaching experience preferred. **Duties include instruction and advising** in courses leading to a BS in Exercise Science, establishing and overseeing internship sites and engaging in college/professional service.

Salaries are competitive and commensurate with experience and credentials. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

Candidates should submit letter of intent, vita and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403.

Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to Indian students and employees. EOE

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Catching the Dream (formerly Native American Scholarship Fund) seeks an executive director. Superior writing ability, knowledge of proposals and fund raising, knowledge of private scholarships, knowledge of college admissions process, three years of budget and finance experience, and knowledge of school improvement processes.

Send resume, sample of writing, and salary requirements to CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Public Affairs**

Job Announcement Number:NIGC-NB-12-MM636760 SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Monday, June 04, 2012 to Monday, June 25, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-1035-15 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent **DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC** 

JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for overseeing and coordinating all governmental and public interactions for the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC/Commission) communication programs and activities relating to public, governmental and media

The Director reports directly to and receives broad policy guidance from the Chief of Staff while work is evaluated on the basis of results achieved. This is a senior level position.

The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758- \$155,500.

For full job description and application information visit http://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/316156300

Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Finance, AD-0501-00**

Job Announcement Number: NIGC-NB-12-MM636759 SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Friday, June 15, 2012 to Monday, July 09, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-0501-15 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent **DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC** 

JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for but not limited to overseeing the receipt of and reviewing the required annual audited financial statements for all Indian gaming tribal operations; determining audits have been conducted in accordance with GAAS and that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GAAP; analyzing and investigating disclosures.

This is a director level position.

The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758- \$155,500.

For full job description and application information visit http://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/319051000

#### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

**Request for Qualifications** 

Wyandotte Nation is requesting the services of a professional Architect to design and develop plans/specifications for a "Community Facilities" building project, funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Details of this project will be made available to interested parties upon request. Indian preference will be observed, and at this time, only proposals from qualified Indian owned professional architect firms will be accepted. The proposed project will be constructed using Green Standard Energy Star appliances, Geothermal **HVAC** and Solar Thermal Banking.

Selection will be based on a firm's ability to work with the tribe and experience of similar projects. All contractors will be required to comply with Section 3 and Davis Bacon.

The project location is in close proximity to the existing Tribal facilities, on land owned by Wyandotte Nation. Interested parties should contact Mr. Ron Kaiser; Planning/ Development Director at 918-678-2297, extension 225. The Tribe must receive all qualification submissions for consideration before July 6, 2012.



Request for Bids

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma District Court is currently accepting bids from contractors to update the Tribal Court Law Library. The Tribe is seeking to obtain online access to legal research as well as to replace published materials. Further details will be made available to interested parties upon request. For more information, please contact the Court Administrator, Lauren Truitt at (405) 547-2402 ext 228 or ltruitt@ iowanation.org.

**NATIVE AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE? Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties

#### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA** INDIAN SUPPLY

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net



**BEADING & CRAFT SUPPLIES CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES JEWELRY & NOVELTIES** ORIGINAL ARTWORK **COLLECTIBLES & BOOKS** 



918-752-0040

http://oicgiftshop.com

2850 S. Wood Drive Okmulgee, Okla.

#### 131st Annual Otoe-Missouria Summer Encampment July 19-22 2012 Encampment Grounds Red Rock OK

Head Staff

**Head Gourd Dancer Singer** Phil "Joe Fish" Dupoint

**Head War Dance Singer** Little Bear Littlecook

**Head Man Dancer** Vernon Quinn Harragarra

> **Head Lady Dancer** Regina Waters

**Head Gourd Dancer** Abraham Dent Jr

**2011-2012 Princess** Jessica Arkeketa

**2012-2013 Princess** Rickielynn Hughes

Co-Hosts **Red Rock Creek** 

**Invited Guests** Kiowa Gourd Clan **Otoe War Mothers** 

**Emcees Wallace Coffey Oliver Littlecook** 

**Arena Directors** John Arkeketa **Pat Moore** 

**Water Boys Hunter Childs** Me-Way-Seh Greenwood Roy Childs II

**Contests** & Events

**Thursday** 2012 Princess Crowning **First Timers Specials Family Special** 

Friday Morning Youth Olympics & Games

**Friday Tiny Tots All Junior Categories** Teen Fancy Shawl & Jingle **Teen Grass & Traditionals** 

Saturday Morning **Youth Olympics & Games** Horseshoe Tournament Kathage Akiwena Jiwere 5k & 1 Mile Fun Run

Saturday Teen Cloth & Buckskin **Teen Straight & Fancy** 60+ Golden Age Women Women's Fancy Shawl & Jingle Men's Grass & Traditional Visitor's Only Straight Dance

> **Sunday Morning Church Services Archery Contest**

**Sunday** 60+ Golden Age Men Women's Buckskin & Cloth Men's Straight & Fancy

Food concession vendors-\$300 Contact Charmain Brown at 580-402-5574 Arts & Crafts vendors 10' x 10' area-\$150 Contact Diana Plumley 405-255-8999

## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact Modoc Tribal Citizens information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org Gilley (918) 382-2204 or

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time.

Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad nnyc@ihcrc.org

**JUNE 21-24 Muscogee Nation Festival** at Claude Cox Omniplex in Okmulgee. For more information on the Festival, contact MCN Tourism & Recreation at (918) 732-7992 by e-mail at tourism@ muscogeenation-nsn. gov or online at www. muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

**JUNE 21-24** TeAta, a play by Chickasaw playwright JudyLee Oliva at Burg Theatre, Oklahoma City University. For information, call (580) 272-5520 or email performance@chickasaw.

net. For tickets, Call (405) 208-5227 or purchase online at www.okcu.edu/ ticketoffice

**JUNE 22-23** Peoria Powwow, 60610 E. 90 Road, Miami. Features a wide range of contest dancing, including gourd dancing and straight dancing, as well as grass, traditional and fancy dancing. Call 918-540-2535.

**JUNE 22-24 Tonkawa Tribal Powwow** at Fort Oakland, Tonkawa. Come out and experience the Tonkawa Tribal Powwow, an annual tribal celebration featuring Native American dancing, contests, crafts, artwork and food. Call 580-628-2561.

**JUNE 23 Creek Council House Museum's Indian Art Festival** 106 W. 6th, Okmulgee, OK; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Free Booth Space or Register into \$1000 Art **Competition Contact:** csago71@sbcglobal.net; 918-756-2324

**JUNE 28 – JULY 1** Pawnee Indian veterans Powwow held at the Memorial Stadium. For more info call Toni Hill (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25

**JUNE 30** Murrow Indian Children's Home Benefit Powwow, 3pm-11pm at Bacone College, Muskogee. Bring your own lawn chairs! For additional information, Call Pete Coser, Sr. (918) 360-6471 or Betty R. Martin (918) 682-2586.

**JUNE 30** 47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729 HWY 9 West, Seminole, Okla. All descendants of London Coker and wife Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044.

**JULY 2-4 Kiowa Gourd Clan Celebration, Carnegie City** Park, Carnegie. This event will feature the tribe's Sun Dance, held in the middle of summer during the longest and hottest days of the year. Call 580-654-2300.

**JULY 4-7 Quapaw Tribal Powwow** at Quapaw Tribal Grounds, 5681 S. 630 Road, Quapaw. An annual celebration over the 4th of July weekend that AUGUST 3 includes dancing, contests, vendors and plenty of family fun. Call 918-542-1853.

**JULY 5-8** TeAta, a play by Chickasaw playwright JudyLee Oliva at Rasmuson Theater, **National Museum of the** American Indian, Washington, D.C. For more

info, call (202) 633-1000

**JULY 6** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, Oklahoma City

**JULY 19-22 Otoe-Missouria Summer Encampment, Encampment** grounds, Red Rock, Okla.

**JULY 27-29** Kihekah Steh 43rd Pow-Wow, 193rd Street N & Javine Hill Road (52nd W.Ave) Skiatook, OK. Contest NOVEMBER 2 powwow - Stomp Dance -Sat. night. Info call Donna Phillips 918-381-7996 or donnak51@sbcglobal.net

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 7** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**SEPTEMBER 15 Timothy LittleVoice Honor** Dance at WhiteEagle, OK. Gourd Dancing @ 2:00pm **Hosted by Ponca Gourd** dance society. Supper @ 5:30pm. War Dance Hosted by Osage clan. Info tlittlevoice@rocketmail.com

OCTOBER 5 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free

Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM

- 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Free Delivery on

Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640 **DECEMBER 7** 

Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

# Osage Casino completes renovation, hosting grand re-opening this week

**CHRIS BARTON**Osage Casino

SAND SPRINGS, Okla. – Guests will enjoy improved air quality, a new cafe and an expanded gaming area at our newly renovated Osage Casino – Sand Springs. Our new bar area is among only a few bars currently open in Sand Springs, and the only bar in town that offers multiple high-definition TVs for all types of sports fans. A larger dance floor and performance stage allow guests to take in exciting shows every weekend.

"We have made Osage Casino – Sand Springs a more enjoyable gaming experience by upgrading everything and most importantly, making the air quality much better inside the Casino," said Osage Casino General Manager, Byron Bighorse. "We appreciate the patience and support of our guests during this process."

Osage Casino – Sand Springs opened in the summer of 2004 as an enterprise of the Osage Nation. In September 2011, construction firm, Osage Manhattan Builders, worked on the new construction focused on air quality. Using energy conversion technology, our new air ventilation system ensures that inside air is circulated outside after installing new renewable energy technology.

"A successful part of this renovation period is that we've been able to remain open 24/7 and accommodate our guests throughout the process," Bighorse said.

Osage Casino – Sand Springs features a new colorful light fixture with varying multicolored light displays, new carpet and a totally new interior.

#### **New Features**

A total of 462 new Electronic Games have been added. A VIP area called Crystal Lounge has also been added for our toplevel players.

In addition to dozens of new Electronic Games, the Casino installed 16 big screen TVs throughout nearly 24,000 square feet of space, including a new High Stakes gaming room and four Table Games for Blackjack and Ultimate Hold 'Em Poker.

Live, free entertainment begins at 8pm every Friday and Saturday night in the new lounge area where guests can choose from 10 video Poker games. The Casino is opening a full-service restaurant to be completed by June. New signage, landscaping and a stucco and stone exterior are included in the plans.

Osage Casino – Sand Springs is located off Highway 412, exit 129th West Avenue at 301 Blackjack Drive.

- www.osagecasinos.com



PHOTO COURTESY CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

Biskinik Assistant Editor Larissa Copeland, Editor Lisa Reed and Purchasing Coordinator Karen Jacob attend the OPA Better Newspaper Contest Awards Banquet June 8 in Midwest City. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma's official newspaper received eight awards, including three first place.

## Biskinik receives OPA Better Newspaper Contest awards

Chartan Na

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma's newspaper, Biskinik, has joined the ranks of other outstanding tribal programs and ventures and has been recognized for its efforts with eight awards from the Oklahoma Press Association Better Newspaper Contest.

OPA held an awards presentation program June 8 at the Reed Center in Midwest City as part of its three-day annual convention. The contest drew 937 entries from 98 newspapers and was judged by members of the Nevada Press Association. The top winners in each of the 10 divisions took home the Sequoyah Award, 120 first place plaques were presented during the banquet and newspapers receiving second, third or fourth place received certificates.

The Biskinik competed in Division 8, which is for Sustaining Memberships. First place awards were received for In-Depth Enterprise, a continuing series of history/culture columns provided by the Choctaw Nation Cultural Services department; Editorial Comment; and Community Leadership for the informative manner water rights issues are presented to keep readers upto-date. Other awards included two third places – News Writing and Sales

Promotion. The Biskinik entered its pages of Labor Day information and brochure in the Sales Promotion event. The Biskinik also placed fourth in Sports Coverage for stickball and Labor Day tournaments, Advertising and Personal Columns by Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton.

The Choctaw Nation's newspaper is mailed to more than 80,000 tribal members every month. Its name aptly reflects the legend of the Choctaws' "little news bird." Biskinik would live around Choctaw homes and let them know when someone was approaching, tapping out messages on trees. The small, watchful yellow-bellied sapsucker would also accompany hunting or war parties.

The Biskinik strives to continue keeping the Choctaw members abreast of current events, beneficial information on healthy lifestyles, opportunities to improve education, program benefits and news from Choctaws around the world to share with others. Its office is located in the tribal headquarters in Durant with five staff – Editor Lisa Reed, Assistant Editor Larissa Copeland, Reporter/Production Assistants Bret Moss and Chrissy Dill and Purchasing Coordinator Karen Jacob. The Biskinik is a division of the Public Relations Department under Executive Director

Judy Allen and includes many PR activities on its daily schedule.

Press releases and on-the-spot news are also posted to the Choctaw Nation's Facebook page and in the News Room on the Choctaw Nation's website, www. choctawnation.com.

New technology has provided many opportunities to provide digital communication and another way for Biskinik to spread the news.

<u>Congratulations</u> not only to the Biskinik, but also to the Osage News and the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune.

The Osage News won six awards in the Sustaining Division, including first for Personal Column writing. They took home second for In-Depth Enterprise; third for Layout & Design, Feature Writing and Photography; and fourth for News Content.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribune placed second in Feature Writing.

– Lisa Snell

## Downstream Casino Resort building 2nd hotel, spa

**SEAN HARRISON** *Downstream Casino* 

QUAPAW, Okla. – With the opening of a second hotel and other new amenities later this year Downstream Casino Resort will add at least 40 new permanent jobs. Meanwhile the project has created 400 construction jobs this year, giving a boost to the Tri-State Region's economy.

A \$50 million investment, the 152-room addition with an upscale spa and indoor pool, is currently under construction and is expected to open toward the end of 2012.

With this Phase II expansion, the Downstream Development Authority's total investment in the resort property rises to \$361 million. Phase I, a casino with five restaurants and a 222-room hotel that opened in 2008, cost \$301 million. The Authority has added about \$10 million in other construction and improvements over the past four years.

"We are excited today to show you what we're doing next," said John L. Berrey, Chairman of the Quapaw Tribe and the Downstream Development Authority, speaking at a grand opening event for Downstream's new Q Store and RV Park on the Missouri side of the property, which added 20 new jobs.

"We are very fortunate to have such strong relations with

our communities, and to have their support," he said. "Even through a long and difficult recession we have done very well, and it is our hope we can continue to help build and share in a strengthening regional economy."

The new hotel will be a showcase of luxury and highend amenities designed to enhance the overall attraction of Downstream and expand its primary market reach beyond the current 100-mile radius.

Downstream had outgrown its current 222-room hotel more than a year ago. But also with the addition of an elegant spa, an indoor pool and other new amenities, the expansion takes aim at raising the bar for destination resorts in this part of the country. The new hotel will feature 18 suites including two enormous, finely appointed Hospitality Suites with special features and capabilities.

"We already have a firstclass hotel with first-class service. So with the addition of another hotel and these very nice amenities we will be offering even more," said General Manager Steven Drewes. "Our guests definitely have something special to look forward to."

The expansion will also include a new location for the Buffalo Grille, with a private dining room and an outdoor dining area.



Officials say Downstream has outgrown its current 222-room hotel. A second hotel and other new amenities are scheduled to open later this year.

## Society of Professional Journalists honors Native cartoonist Marty Two Bulls

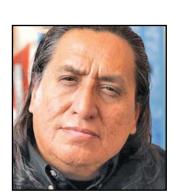
JESSE ABERNATHY Native Sun News

RAPID CITY, S.D. – "Our enemies call us the Sioux."

This is the intriguing guiding mantra of talented Oglala Lakota artist Marty Two Bulls Sr., as emblazoned on the home page of his recently relaunched commercial design website, m2bulls.com.

In April, the intrepid Two Bulls was presented with the prestigious Sigma Delta Chi award from the Society of Professional Journalists for his nationally renowned editorial cartoons. He specifically won in category "Editorial Cartooning (Newspaper Circulation 1-100,000, Regional Magazine, Non-Daily Publication or Online Independent)."

Two Bulls is currently the editorial cartoonist for Indian Country Today Media Network, a New York Citybased weekly newsmagazine that has been owned and



COURTESY NATIVE AMERICA CALLING Marty Two Bulls Sr., a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, is the recipient of the Society of Professional Journalists' Sigma Delta Chi award for editorial cartooning.

operated by the Oneida Nation since 1998.

Nation since 1998.

Such recognition is no small feat in a world in which Native American journalists – particularly editorial cartoonists – are few and far between in comparison to non-Native American journalists. But through the hard work, dedication and professionalism of individuals like Two Bulls, that fact of life is steadily becoming a thing of the

Originally hailing from the Red Shirt Table community on the Pine Ridge Reservation, Two Bulls initially got his start as a serious political cartoonist from Native American journalist and Native Sun News founder Tim Giago in the 1980s at the original Lakota Times. He also worked for Giago after the newspaper changed its name from the Lakota Times to Indian Country Today in 1992.

Two Bulls has a strong connection to his people as evidenced by his sharpwitted, carefully nuanced political cartoons with their highly relevant and highly contemporized themes of Native America. The cartoons that secured him the Society of Professional Journalists award addressed television journalist Diane Sawyer's visit to Pine Ridge last year for ABC's "20/20," the shooting death of Native American woodcarver John T. Williams at the hands of a Seattle police officer in August 2010, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the Occupy Wall Street movement.

The nationally recognized artist with the distinctive style has enjoyed a long career in the commercial design sector including television, print technologies, daily newspapers and newer media forms, serving as graphic editor for South Dakota's two largest daily newspapers, the Rapid City Journal and the Sioux Falls Argus Leader.

Two Bulls, whose father is The Rev. Robert Two Bulls and grandfather was Peter Two Bulls, graduated last month with a bachelor of fine arts degree from the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe, N.M, where he now makes his home.

Copyright permission by Native Sun News | www. nsweekly.com

Native American Owned Small Business? Let the Native American Community know!

Ask about our small business ad rates - call 918-708-5838

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Dan Boren accepts job with Chickasaw Nation
- 'Remember the Removal' riders arrive home
- Olympian Billy Mills to speak at B'ville event









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 26

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**JUNE 29, 2012** 

## Possible new tax law raises questions for tribes

**NATIVE TIMES STAFF REPORT** 

change to federal tax laws concerning per capita payments has tribes around the country sitting up and taking notice.

The Internal Revenue Service has been meeting with tribes to establish and clarify rules on what is taxable under the General Welfare Doctrine, which governs whether the assistance tribal citizens receive should be counted as income and be taxed.

per capita payments have found themselves subject to federal audits YAKAMA, Wash. - A potential this year, with the IRS inquiring whether proper tax forms were sent do is an extraordinary, overreaching out to citizens.

> Among the tribes under scrutiny is the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, headquartered in Toppenish, Wash. The 10,400-citizen tribe distributes a per capita payment from income generated by trust resources on its 1.4 million-acre secretary of the tribe's legislative the government in the form of a tax."

However, several tribes that offer branch, Athena Sanchey Yallup, on Indian Affairs.

"What the IRS is now attempting to action that is contrary to the express intent of this Congress and the promises of the Treaty of 1855," she said. "We would never have ceded away nearly all of our aboriginal land had we understood that we would eventually be asked to give onethird of the modest earnings from reservation. On June 14, the executive reservation natural resources back to

testified before the Senate Committee of the Oglala Sioux, shared Sanchey Yallup's concerns about the IRS' perceived disrespect for tribal sovereignty.

> "One of my tribal presidents told me an IRS person showed up at his reservation," Steele said. "He told him (the IRS agent) he had a treaty. He (the IRS agent) told him he could read it in prison."

Tribes that distribute per capita checks from non-trust revenue sources are also monitoring the situation.

Heather Payne, a spokeswoman

John Yellow Bird Steele, president for the Red Rock, Okla.-based Otoe-Missouria tribe, said via e-mail that her tribe provides a per capita payment for its members from its gaming revenue and is still working on interpreting the ruling.

> "We are still trying to figure out if tribal assistance like elder assistance, housing repairs, school clothes...would be taxed under their interpretation," Payne wrote. "It seems like that is what they are saying if the revenue comes from trust funds."

### Tribes work for record Native vote

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)- The head of the largest group representing Native Americans and Alaska Natives said federal and state governments should provide voter registration at Indian Health Service facilities.

Jefferson Keel, president of the National Congress of American Indians, said in a phone interview Tuesday with The Associated Press that the health facilities should be designated voter registration sites in the same way statebased public assistance agencies are under the National Voter Registration Act. He said the facilities are ideal for voter registration because they're in many tribal communities.

"Not all Native Americans are registered, and that's one of the things we are pushing for this year is to turn out the largest Native vote in history,"

Indian Health Service spokeswoman Dianne Dawson, reached late Tuesday evening, said the agency had no comment at this time.

Only three of every five American Indians and Alaska Natives who were eligible to vote in 2008 were registered, Keel told a gathering of tribal leaders Monday at the opening of the midyear meeting of the National Congress of American Indians in Lincoln, Neb. He said an estimated 1 million Native Americans and Alaska Natives who are eligible to vote are not registered.

"This should be considered a civic emergency," Keel said.

Keel said the voter registration and turnout work is not intended to be partisan, but American Indians have made significant gains under the current administration and tribes want to protect their resources and sovereignty.

"Many of these politicians believe the Indian bloc is so small, the number of Indian voters is so small, and it's of no significance," Keel said. "But it's not so small if they look at the resources Indian Country has," including natural gas, coal and minerals.

In addition, better turnout of Native Americans can make a difference in state elections where many issues affecting tribes also are decided, he



 $Les lie \, Harjo, left, and \, Janice \, Prairie \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, were \, in augurated \, together \, January \, Chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, and \, chief-Boswell \, ran \, for \, of fice \, for \, for \, fice \, fice \, for \, fice \, for \, fice \, fice \, fice \, fice \, fice \, fice \, fice$ in January 2010, but their alliance dissolved over a series of allegations. Since the women's political partnership fell apart more than a year ago, each has formed her own government, claiming to be the legitimate authority over the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes.

## **Judge rules in Cheyenne &** Arapaho frozen funds case

NATIVE TIMES **STAFF REPORT** 

CONCHO, Okla. — A Custer County judge assumed authority June 21 over the bank account for two Oklahoma tribes grappling with an extended leadership dispute.

Citing a 2008 Oklahoma case as precedent, district judge Doug Haught ruled last Thursday that although his court does not have the authority to settle the ongoing question of whether Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell or Leslie Harjo is the legitimate governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, it does have the authority to intercede on behalf of a non-tribal bank that is home to most of the Cheyenne and Arapaho's money without

violating the tribes' sovereignty. "Tribal court is not general jurisdiction," Haught wrote in his decision. "I believe this court has jurisdiction over this account because this is a statechartered bank and its accounts

are governed by state law."

The First Bank and Trust Company in Clinton, Okla., filed a petition in Custer County district court after receiving conflicting information as to who had signatory authority over the tribes' account. The tribes' bank accounts were frozen on April 24 after attempts to reach a compromise were unsuccessful.

Under the terms of last week's ruling, the bank is forbidden to disburse any funds to either tribal government unless ordered by the court. Officials from either government attempting to withdraw funds must contact the court and the other government in writing before any removals are allowed.

"To do anything other than convert this account to a courtsupervised account would be tantamount to deciding which of the rival tribal governments legitimate," Haught

See FUNDS Continued on Page 4



Three generations of a family in San Felipe Pueblo shop at the MoGro store that brings a refrigerated truck with fresh and affordable foods to the New Mexico reservation. The redesigned truck made its first visit to four Pueblos in June.

## 'Let's Move in Indian Country' hits year mark, despite funding hurdles

S.E. RUCKMAN Native American Times Special Contributor

KASHENA, Wis. - At the Save-A-Lot on Warrington Road, a savvy Menominee shopper can get carrots, tomatoes or lettuce on the store's "10 for \$10" promotion. The choices are loaded with meaning because the bargain food chain is the first grocery store in nine years that tribal citizens have had in their midst, said Menominee council member, Bruce Pecore.

Economic The Menominee Authority Development Board approved the purchase of the \$1.6 million store with tribal funds, partially gaming derived, to help erase a persistent food desert—a geographic area defined as having no access to healthy foods. Here on the treefilled Wisconsin reservation, the Let's Move! in Indian Country program germinated.

Families in the 8,860-citizen tribe knew they were not getting their money's worth for food which was mostly processed and nutritionally unsound, according to the tribal councilor. For the Menominee, a simple questionnaire hit home.

"We looked at a study that showed our kids circled frozen pizza and bags of chips, you know, convenience food that they were eating," he said. "The grocery store allows them to get healthy food they need without having to drive to get it."

At its one-year anniversary mark, the national Lets Move! in Indian Country movement is unfunded by federal monies and buttressed mostly by a multi-pronged media campaign through the Department of Interior (DOI). Officials are pushing the

See LET'S MOVE Continued on Page 4

## **Supreme Court says tribes** must be fully reimbursed

WASHINGTON

- The Supreme Court says the government must fully reimburse Native American tribes for money they spent on federal programs.

The federal government had agreed to fully reimburse money tribes spent on programs like law enforcement, environmental protection and agricultural assistance, but Congress capped the amount of money earmarked for that reimbursement. The tribes sued, and the 10th U.S.

Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver said the money must be fully reimbursed.

The high court on June 18 said the Ramah Navajo Chapter and other Native American tribes must get their money back.

Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote the majority opinion for Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony Kennedy, Clarence Thomas and Elena Kagan. Chief Justice John Roberts, and Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer and Samuel Alito dissented.

# Feds announce 1st major solar plant on tribal land

MICHELLE RINDELS Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP) – Federal officials have approved a solar plant on an Indian reservation outside Las Vegas, marking the nation's first commercial-grade solar energy project on tribal land and new territory for the Obama administration's renewable energy agenda.

U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said Thursday that he signed off on a plan with the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians that will launch a 350-megawatt solar plant capable of powering 100,000 homes.

"We do not want Indian country to be left behind as we move forward with the new energy front in the United States," Salazar said in a conference call with reporters.

The project, proposed by K Road Moapa Solar LLC, is planned on 2,000 acres of the tribe's reservation. It will connect to and help power the Moapa Travel Plaza, a truck stop near the entrance of Valley of Fire State Park, which provides much of the small tribe's income.

Officials plan to break ground this fall, and estimate the project will create 400 jobs at the peak of construction. They estimate between 15 and 20 of those jobs would be permanent.

"Everyone is extremely excited and hopeful and jazzed about the future of this project," said tribal administrator Yvette Chevalier. "This project creates both financial and educational opportunities for the Moapa Band of Paiutes."

The tribal initiative is part of a broader Interior Department effort to bring solar, wind and geothermal projects to public lands. It also marks the 31st utility-scale project approved on public lands since Obama took office in 2009.

Officials said the department is also working to revamp federal surface leasing regulations in an effort to streamline energy project development on tribal lands.

"Indian country has a wealth of resources," said Donald "Del" Laverdure, the acting assistant secretary of Indian affairs. He said the initiative ensures "tribal governments can also participate in the American dream."

# Gillette honored during Title IX anniversary

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – Sports have always played a big part of Jodi Gillette's life.

Her first memories are of watching her mother play shortstop in fast-pitch softball. As a child, she would watch her dad as he coached a high school basketball team and cross country.

Gillette, an enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota and South Dakota, said her parents pushed her to excel in both academics and sports. The same drive that led Gillette to play basketball at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire has led her to the White House, where she advises President Obama on policy issues affecting Native

"I found that the work ethic and discipline involved in developing athletic talents translate very well into academic and workplace settings," Gillette said in an email.

On Thursday, Gillette will be recognized in Washington with 39 other women who have been named to the Women's Sports Foundation's 40 For 40 list. The list honors women who have made a significant impact on society after playing sports in high school or college during the 40 years Title IX has been enacted. Title IX is a law known mainly for mandating gender equity in high school and collegiate sports.



Jodi Gillett

Other honorees include soccer player Mia Hamm, figure skater Michelle Kwan, comedian Ellen DeGeneres and astronaut Sally Ride

"We are proud to recognize these women and the positive role that the passage of Title IX has played in the lives of countless women and girls," Kathryn Olson, chief executive officer of the Women's Sports Foundation, said in a statement. "Each has used participation in sports as a step toward making a very significant contribution to society in a wide variety of fields."

Gillette said she hopes the award will provide greater understanding and visibility for Native American women athletes and professionals, as well as inspire Native youth.

"I would like youth to see that consistent hard work pays off not only on the court, but can also build character and confidence to achieve in other areas," she said.

# Hope is theme of Pine Ridge reservation campaign

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – A campaign on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to raise awareness about the high rate of suicide among the reservation's youth is reminding them what all of them can have – hope.

The rate of suicide on the reservation is at least 150 percent higher than the national average. In 2009, the Oglala Sioux Tribe declared a state of emergency because of state of suicides on the reservation, which also has high rates of unemployment, violence and alcoholism.

As part of the Lakota Voice Project, organizers gave about 200 disposable cameras to elementary and middle school students on the reservation, who were told to document what hope means to them.

"We really didn't give the students any instructions, no limitations. We didn't control it. Basically, the only question we gave them was, 'What does hope look like to you?" said Jason Alley with the American Advertising Federation of the Black Hills, which been working with students from a business class at Oglala Lakota College to develop the awareness campaign.

The college students came up with the topic of suicide awareness on their own after a brainstorming session, said Karissa Eifert, also with the American Advertising Federation of the Black Hills.

"Within 20 minutes, the students had decided suicide prevention for youth was the most important thing that needed to happen," she said. "We learned that every single student in the class had been affected by suicide. Whether it be a close family member or friend, or they had those challenges themselves, every single person on the reservation has been impacted in some way. It's a huge problem."

The ultimate goal of the campaign is to obtain funding for a crisis team on the reservation and a suicide hotline. The current local hotline for reservation residents runs only until 5 p.m., at which point residents must call a national number.

Alley said the photos the students took are powerful in their simplicity and execution. Hope for many of the young people meant family, friends and sports.

"When you look at these photos, a lot of them are really common things. There are pets and family and friends and elders. When you think about it, those are the little things that a lot of us disregard," Alley said. "I think this will allow even elders and community members at large to embrace this idea of the positive and the hope and the beauty that can be found as well."

The 1,000 photos will be on display Friday at Little Wound Elementary School in Kyle. Legislators and tribal officials have been invited. Billboards and other marketing materials with the photos will also be distributed in the future, and organizers hope to create a traveling exhibit.

# Fed probe launched into school closures

GALLUP, N.M. (AP) – A federal agency is investigating the closure of three New Mexico schools to see if the troubled Gallup McKinley County School District violated federal civil rights laws.

The Gallup Independent reports that the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education notified parent Sonlatsa Jim-Martin last week that the agency had received her complaint against the school district and would investigate.

Jim-Martin is part of a group of parents and Navajo Nation officials who believe the district made a wrong decision in closing the middle schools in Crownpoint, Tohatchi and Navajo to make up for a projected \$2.5 million shortfall.

In her letter to the civil rights office, Jim-Martin alleged that the decision to close the county schools and not take any action against schools in Gallup proper amounted to discrimination against Navajo students.

Erica Austin, chief regional attorney for the civil rights office, said her office is willing to look into the matter to see if any discrimination occurred.

"These closures/consolidations

are alleged to be discriminatory to Native American students in that it treats Native American students differently than white students," she wrote in her letter to Jim-Martin.

Austin also pointed out that Jim-Martin's complaint accused the district of failure to inform the Navajo parents who would be affected by this decision in advance, which is a violation of Title VI laws.

"Because we have jurisdiction and the complaint was filed in a timely manner, we are opening these allegations for investigation," Austin said.

She pointed out, however, that agreeing to look into these allegations doesn't mean that the civil rights office agrees that discrimination occurred.

Superintendent Ray Arsenault said he's not worried about the investigation because the school district was not discriminating against anyone.

He said it made a decision based on the fact that the schools in question were underused and district officials felt it was more important to keep the district programs funded over saving a school that was less than 33 percent utilized.

# OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - The lone Democrat in Oklahoma's congressional delegation says he plans to take

**Congressman Dan Boren to take** 

when he finishes his term in Congress.

U.S. Rep. Dan Boren announced June 19 he will serve as president of corporate development for the Ada-based tribe. He said his job will focus on expanding the tribe's business

a job with the Chickasaw Nation

and commercial endeavors.

The 38-year-old Boren surprisingly announced last summer that he would not seek a fifth term in the 2nd District seat, which covers most of eastern Oklahoma and stretches from the Kansas border to the Red River.

Boren said he has resigned



Dan Boren

from his appointment as ranking member of the Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs and will recuse himself from any votes that would affect the Chickasaw Nation.

## Fed official wants Spirit Lake problems addressed

FARGO, N.D. (AP) – A federal human services official is urging sweeping steps to address problems with social services and foster care administration that he says are endangering children on the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation in North Dakota.

Thomas Sullivan, regional administrator in Denver for the U.S. Administration for Children and Families, advocates suspending all state and federal funding to the tribe until qualified professionals are put in place to run programs to ensure that children are not subjected to physical, sexual and emotional abuse, The Forum newspaper reported. One instance Sullivan cites is the unprosecuted killing of two siblings about a year ago.

"The children of the Spirit Lake Reservation are being subjected to actual abuse or the threat of such abuse due to the actions and inactions of adults who have responsibility to protect them from such abuse," Sullivan wrote in a recent email to state and federal officials.

He said tribal leaders have failed by "firing professional, qualified staff, directing their replacements to ignore reports of abuse and neglect, refusing to prosecute the most egregious cases of abuse, even the murder of children, by demonizing those who speak out on behalf of these children and then claiming piously, 'Our children are sacred,' while all look the other way."

Tribal Chairman Roger Yankton

has cited staff turnover, high caseloads and inadequate federal funding for problems, and says the safety of children is a priority for the

State officials say they have limited jurisdiction but have acted where they can, including suspending some funding and monitoring 36 Spirit Lake foster children or children pending adoption.

"Where they have authority, they're exercising that authority," said Jeff Zent, a spokesman for Gov. Jack Dalrymple, referring to the North Dakota Department of Human Services.

Scott Davis, executive director of the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission, said he met with Spirit Lake officials in mid-February and believes they are moving to correct problems.

"I know there's been unrest there for some time," Davis said.

A state review team inspected the tribe's foster care case files in January after it became aware of deficiencies flagged in a yearly review of the tribe's social services programs by the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs.

U.S. Attorney Timothy Purdon said he is proud of his office's record in prosecuting violence as well as criminal child abuse and neglect at Spirit Lake and other reservations. He said the alleged homicide of the brother and sister who were found dead in May 2011 "is a priority for me and my office, and it has been since the date of the incident."

## Head of Bureau of Indian Education resigning

WASHINGTON (AP) – The director of the Bureau of Indian Education is resigning to take a position in his home state of South Dakota.

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced last week that Keith Moore is leaving the BIE to serve as state director for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes in South Dakota.

Moore, an enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota, has led the Bureau for the past two years. He was selected for the position by then-Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk.

BIE Chief of Staff Brian Drapeaux will serve as acting director until a replacement is named.

The BIE operates the federal school system for Native American students. It oversees more than 180 facilities on 64 reservations in 23 states.



## Lawmakers address reservation crime

Officers commonly misidentified bundles of sage and other plants that Indians sometimes carry.

**BEN NEARY** Associated Pres

ETHETE, Wyo. (AP) - A federal crackdown on crime over the past two years has improved the quality of life on the Wind River Indian Reservation in central Wyoming, but sustained effort, funding and coordination are necessary to hold the gains, officials told state lawmakers on Tuesday.

Sprawling over 2.2 million acres in central Wyoming, the Wind River reservation is home to both the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes. It's the only reservation in the state, and has seen more than its share of horrific crimes over the years.

Speaking at a criminal sentencing in Cheyenne early last year, a federal judge said something had to happen to snap the cycle of excessive drinking leading to violent crimes, often among relatives, on the reservation.

"Somehow, this behavior has

to change," U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson said in March 2011 when he sentenced a young Robert Spoonhunter to 13 years in prison.

Spoonhunter had pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in the death of his sister, 13-year-old Marisa Spoonhunter, of Ethete. According to authorities, after a night of drinking in a trailer on the reservation, Robert Spoonhunter choked his sister and threw her into a weight bench, injuring her head, when he found another man having sexual contact with the girl.

Now authorities including U.S. Attorney Christopher "Kip" Crofts, whose office prosecuted Robert Spoonhunter, say they're seeing concrete changes.

"Things are better, there's no question about it," Crofts said Tuesday. He was among many federal, state and local officials who testified to a joint meeting of the judiciary and tribal relations committees of the Wyoming Legislature.

Crofts, who grew up near the reservation, said he believes continued federal support for law enforcement there is absolutely essential.

Wind River was one of four reservations nationwide that the federal government picked for a recent two-year law enforcement push that saw additional officers from agencies such as U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs and the U.S. Park Service stationed at the reservations. Marisa Spoonhunter was killed in April 2010, early in the federal

effort. While the initial federal law enforcement push ended late last year, it gave the BIA breathing room to beef up its standing police force at the Wind River Agency from half a dozen officers a few years ago to 21 currently. Plans ultimately call for hiring for a force of 34 officers.

Reports of crime dropped on the other three reservations the federal government targeted during its 2010-11 Safe Indian Communities initiative. But reports of violent crime went up 7 percent on the Wind River Indian Reservation.

Crofts and others say reports of crime increased because residents discovered that if they called for help, they were likely to get it.

Will Matthews, chief of police for the Wind River Agency, testified to state lawmakers Tuesday that there's clearly been an improvement on the reservation. However, he said the early months of the federal law enforcement push

were marked by residents' concern that officers were culturally insensitive.

Federal officers, who were brought in on short rotations from around the country, were unfamiliar with sweat lodges and other Indian ways, Matthews said. He said officers commonly misidentified bundles of sage and other plants that Indians sometimes

"Initially what we were running into was seeing bags of sage, and their presumption was that it's marijuana, and of course it's not," Matthews

Going from six officers to more than 30 during the surge, Matthews said an increase in crime reports was inevitable. "With having that many officers, we did see that initial spike in crime because it was being addressed," he said.

Rep. Patrick Goggles, D-Ethete, is the only American Indian in the Wyoming Legislature and lives on the reservation.

"There was some gap in cultural sensitivity," Goggles said of the federal officers who first arrived on the reservation. "But once we got past that part, and got people aware of certain things, it started to go a lot smoother."

Goggles said he appreciated

the law enforcement surge as a local resident. "You started to feel a little bit safer in the community," he said.

Before the surge, Goggles said he commonly didn't drive on Sundays because it was so common to encounter drunken drivers on the reservation's roadways and it was nearly pointless to try to summon law enforcement help.

Gary Collins, tribal liaison between the Northern Arapaho Tribe and the state of Wyoming, also said he believes the federal effort has paid off.

"We've made a lot of progress in so many areas, we still have a lot of questions and problems, but they are so different than they were 20 years ago," Collins said.

The increase in law enforcement has resulted in a reduction in fatal car wrecks, Collins said. Officers are now arresting many drunken drivers before they have fatal accidents, he said.

"The cars are now being towed in, in one piece, whereas a couple of years ago, they were crumpled beer cans, they were horrendous car wrecks," Collins said.



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

## Native

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

## Dispute over seized Native artifacts in talks

**MATT BROWN** 

Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) - The government is entering settlement talks with the director of a Custer-themed Montana museum, trying to resolve who owns a cache of American Indian artifacts seized in raids by federal agents.

The 22 Indian war bonnets, medicine bundles and other items were confiscated in 2005 and 2008 from the Custer Battlefield Museum in Garryowen. The government spent years pursuing artifact fraud charges against museum director Christopher Kortlander, but dropped its investigation three years

Kortlander, who says the items rightfully belong to the museum, will press his case Monday before U.S. Magistrate Judge Keith Strong in a settlement conference in Great Falls.

The U.S. Attorney's Office says most of the items have feathers from protected eagles, making them possible contraband. They have alleged some were stolen from members of the Crow Tribe.

But Kortlander has not been implicated in the thefts. And officials acknowledge one allegedly stolen war bonnet could have been misidentified.

Kortlander says federal officials from the U.S. Attorney's Office and Bureau of Land Management who are holding onto the artifacts are "trying to save face" for the years they spent on a fruitless investigation.

"They need to let it go," Kortlander said in an interview. "They're basically making up stories at this point. They won't concede anything."

In a recent hearing before U.S. District Judge Richard Cebull, Assistant U.S. Attorney Victoria Francis said the government did not have enough evidence to determine how the museum acquired the items. She said Kortlander previously had been unable to tell federal agents where they came from.

"When you say, 'I don't know whose they are,' that would indicate you're not the owner," she said. Francis added that a "museum should be able to say, That was donated to me by Mr. and Mrs. Smith."

Kortlander has since said he's found tax records or photographic documentation for most of the artifacts. He says any items determined to be stolen would be returned to their rightful owner.

Kortlander's museum is within the Crow Indian Reservation, just a few miles from where Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and more than 200 troopers and scouts from the Crow Tribe were killed in June 1876, by up to 1,800 Lakota Sioux and Northern Cheyenne warriors.

Thousands of items were seized during the 2005 and 2008 raids, which came after officials suspected Kortlander was fraudulently dealing in Little Bighorn battlefield artifacts and illegally buying and selling Indian artifacts.

After the government dropped its investigation in 2009, most of the items seized during the raids including 7th Cavalry and American Indian artifacts and thousands of pages of documents - were

Among those items that weren't given back, government attorneys initially identified four stolen items: a feathered Crow war bonnet belonging to Larson Medicine Horse, a tribal member and former Big Horn County sheriff, and three medicine bundles belonging to Daniel Old Elk, the Crow Sun Chief.

Francis said a photograph supplied by Medicine Horse to prove his ownership turned out to be a picture of another war bonnet. But U.S. Attorney's Office spokeswoman Jessica Fehr said officials still haven't determined the owner of the seized item.

Leaders of the Crow Tribe say the rightful place for artifacts made by their people – regardless of how Kortlander got them – is with the tribe. Burton Pretty On Top, the tribe's cultural director, says the Crow, over the years, have lost many items to museums that have spiritual significance to their original owners and their families.

"I don't have any information on how (Kortlander) got those," Pretty On Top said. "In general we are concerned with any (medicine) bundles in possession of non-Indians. It belongs to the Indians, it belongs to the Crow - not for a museum's sake and to view and make money on."

Kortlander is not a member of the Crow.

Cebull said during the recent hearing that the case was entering uncertain legal territory, because typically it would be up to the government to prove it can continue to hold onto the museum's artifacts. Instead, it wants Kortlander to offer up proof even though he's never been charged with a crime.

"There's not going to be any criminal prosecutions," Cebull said before recommending mediation between the two sides. "We're plowing unplowed ground here."

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







www.twitter.com/nativetimes

OKMULGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY **GIFT SHOP** 

**BEADING & CRAFT SUPPLIES CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES JEWELRY & NOVELTIES ORIGINAL ARTWORK COLLECTIBLES & BOOKS** 



2850 S. Wood Drive Okmulgee, Okla. 918-752-0040 http://oicgiftshop.com

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!



of Oklahoma

Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork** Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

## Tribes start receiving settlement money

**MATT VOLZ** Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) – Some Indian tribes have started receiving their shares of a \$1 billion settlement with the U.S. government over the settlement mismanagement of their money and trust lands, while others are waiting and remain undecided on such as the what to do with their windfall.

The agreement between the Salish government and 44 tribes across Kootenai the nation was announced in Tribes, said March to settle claims of money they lost in mismanaged accounts and not royalties from natural resource received their development.

The tribes sued in an attempt money. CSKT to receive an accounting of the spokesman Interior Department's management R of the trust funds and to learn how McDonald much had been lost.

Their claims dealt with tribal leaders have trust funds and not individual trust not decided funds, which is addressed in the what to do \$3.4 billion class-action settlement with the \$150 led by Elouise Cobell, the Blackfeet million when woman who died last year.

Blackfeet chairman T.J. Show said that tribal leaders will soon council distribute \$9 million of the is \$19 million his tribe is due to suggestions in receive. That's about \$550 per meetings that person, which Show said will help run through residents on a reservation where July the unemployment rate is between does 70 and 80 percent.

"I believe it will be an economic decision will be made. benefit to the tribal members to use as they see fit, whether it be of rumors flying around, but if McDonald said. for college kids going to school or anyone claims to know what the parents just needing to feed their council will do, they are simply child," Show said.

The other \$10 million has been McDonald said.

earmarked for investment in reported the Blackfeet tribe's plans One suggestion was to require Washington, while the smallest,

disburse money.

Others, Confederated and have settlement

tribal said it comes. The tribal

9, but not know when a

being hopeful or making it up,"

So far, the ideas have run the 250 federally recognized tribes. projects such as a 90-room hotel to gamut, from paying it all out to

The largest settlement is \$193 be built on the reservation, Show tribal members to allocating it to million to the Confederated Tribes said. The Great Falls Tribune first elders and language programs. of the Colville Reservation in

#### List of 44 tribes in a government \$1B settlement

HELENA, Mont. (AP) – Forty-four American 21. Lac Courte Oreilles, Wisc. – \$8 million Indian tribes are part of the \$1 billion settlement with the U.S. government over claims of mismanaged trust funds. Here is a list of those tribes and their shares of the settlement:

1. Colville, Wash. - \$193 million

2. Salish and Kootenai, Mont.-\$150 million

3. Northern Ute, Utah— \$125 million

4. Assiniboine and Sioux, Mont. – \$75 million

5. Shoshone-Bannock, Idaho – \$60 million

6. Northern Cheyenne, Mont. - \$50 million 7. Standing Rock Sioux, N.D. – \$48.9 million

8. Ute Mountain Ute, Colo. — \$42 million

9. Nez Perce, Idaho – \$33 million

10. Mescalero, N.M. – \$32 million

11. Makah, Wash. – \$25 million 12. Tohono O'Odham, Ariz. -\$23 million

13. Blackfeet, Mont. – \$19 million 14. Coeur d'Alene, Idaho – \$18 million

15. Spokane, Wash. – \$15 million

16. Zia, N.M. – \$12.123 million 17. Passamaquoddy, Maine – \$12 million

18. Siletz, Ore. – \$9.14 million

19. Round Valley, Calif. – \$8 million

20. Chippewa Cree, Mont. – \$8 million

22. Tule River, Calif. – \$7 million 23. Spirit Lake, N.D. – \$6 million 24. Hualapai, Ariz. - \$6 million

25. Lac du Flambeau, Wisc. – \$5 million

26. Tulalip, Wash. – \$4 million

27. Pawnee, Okla. - \$4 million

28. Salt River Pima-Maricopa, Ariz. – \$4 million

29. Bad River, Wisc. – \$3 million 30. Leech Lake, Minn. – \$3 million

31. Quechan Ariz., Calif. – \$3 million

32. Soboba, Calif. – \$3 million

33. Minnesota Chippewa, Minn. – \$1.99 million 34. Bois Forte, Minn. – \$1 million

35. Swinomish, Wash. – \$1 million

36. Rincon, Calif. – \$1 million

37. Kaibab, Ariz. – \$1 million 38. Kickapoo, Okla. - \$700,000

39. Santee Sioux, Neb. – \$675,000

40. Cachil Dehe, Calif. - \$650,000

41. Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. – \$215,000 42. Summit Lake Paiute, Nev. - \$75,000

43. Te-Moak, Nev. — \$50,000

44. Nooksack, Wash. - \$25,000

Source: Department of Interior.

"There is definitely no shortage a course in money management, tribe, also in Washington state.

Interior tribal trust accounts for more than and Kootenai tribes.

people under the age of 25 to take \$25,000, goes to the tiny Nooksack

In Montana, settlements are Department going to the Blackfeet, Sioux and manages more than 100,000 leases Assiniboine, Chippewa Cree, ontribaltrustlands and about 2,500 Northern Cheyenne and Salish

#### Mesa dental-school graduates to serve tribal citizens

**MARIA POLLETTA** 

The Arizona Republic

PHOENIX (AP) girl on the New Mexico Zuni Reservation, Zellisha played doctor with her stuffed animals, bandaging up their fur and using a staticky television set as her X-ray machine.

But for years, the dream of becoming a health professional

stopped at make-believe. "I guess I thought that becoming a doctor or dentist was too big of a dream for me. I mean, does that really happen on the reservation?" she said. "There was no one there that could be a mentor to me."

It wasn't until she met an American Indian dentist later that Quam starting considering the career path. On June 8, she became one of six American Indians to graduate from the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health at A.T. Still University in Mesa.

The group of American Indians - defined in this case as enrolled members of federally recognized tribes - is believed to be the largest to graduate from any U.S. dental school at one time.

"I believe this is probably going to be a high-water mark for some time," said George Blue Spruce, he dental school's associate dean and Society of American Indian Dentists co-founder. "I could talk for hours on all the challenges that stop American Indians from making it into the health professions, all the way from lack of family support or tribal support to financial issues."

Saint Regis Mohawk and graduate Dariene Lazore agreed that reservation life isn't easy.

Kids there can "feel like they have no hope or future," she said.

That mindset, coupled with the fact that reservation residents can be nervous or hesitant about seeing non-Indian doctors, are reasons the school has reached out to prospective American Indian students all over the country, said dean Jack Dillenberg.

"Last year, there were only eight American Indian (dental-school) applicants in the U.S., and four came here," he said. "We know how important this is, and we're committed to not only recruiting but retaining these students."

In addition to encouraging participation in on-campus activities and groups, the school urges students to attend American Indian professional conferences so they can "rub elbows with people they aspire to be like" and stay motivated instead of feeling isolated, Blue Spruce said.

Students also can qualify for a scholarship in exchange for a postgraduate commitment to serving the American Indian community for a set period of time.

Though not everyone in the group participated in the scholarship program, all six graduates plan to work with Native populations, such as those on reservations or at clinics affiliated with the national Indian Health Service.

"I have four years to pay back, but I was already planning on working with the IHS," said Cheryle Singer, a Navajo from northeastern Arizona. Singer said she hopes to help eliminate language barriers and ease the anxiety some reservation residents feel at the dentist's office.

"A lot of times you hear back on the reservation things like, 'They send (non-American Indian) doctors out here just to practice on us," "Singer said. "And there are a lot of elderly people there who aren't bilingual, so being able to talk to them in their own language gives them a sense of comfort."

Quam hopes to show others it's possible to achieve what she has.

"If I had not seen my first Native American doctor, it wouldn't have catapulted me into this career," she said, "so I think it's important for younger generations to see a Native American dentist and hopefully get inspired to the

## Reservation polling site has poor turnout

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) - A polling site set up on South Dakota's Pine Ridge Indian Reservation following a federal voting rights lawsuit had poor voter turnout in the six weeks leading up to the primary, an election official says.

Only 46 people voted at the center, Fall River County Auditor Sue Ganje told the Rapid City Journal. With 31 days of actual voting, that meant fewer than two voters per

"Obviously, we'd prefer it to be busier than it was," Ganje said. "We're hoping for much better this November, when the political parties get involved and start calling people."

The voting center in the town of Pine Ridge was set up after a group of 25 reservation residents filed a federal lawsuit seeking the same six weeks of early voting that were provided elsewhere in the state. Fall River County provides election services for Shannon County - which lies within the reservation - because Shannon does not have its own courthouse, and only six days of early voting initially had been planned.

The voting center in Pine Ridge was staffed by two employees from the Fall River County Auditor's Office in Hot Springs who made the 128-mile round trip daily, along with a language assistant who was available to help Lakota-speaking voters.

The two workers who traveled to Pine Ridge every day had other things to do while they were waiting for the next voter to show up, Ganje said.

"We were able to log into our computers out there, so thankfully we could do our work from there," she said.

The cost of operating the polling site is still being tabulated, Ganje said. Fall River County will bill Shannon County for the voting services. Shannon County then will bill the state, which has federal funding available, she said. State officials pledged the funding in response to the lawsuit.

Continued from Page 1

wrote. "I do not believe the court has that

Excluding the workers at their five western Oklahoma casinos, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes employ about 500 people.

Boswell and Harjo ran for office and were inaugurated together in January 2010, but their alliance dissolved over a series of allegations. Since the women's political partnership fell apart more than a year ago, each has formed her own government, claiming to be the legitimate authority over the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes. Each maintains her own government - Boswell in Concho, Okla., and Harjo in El Reno, Okla., -- complete with separate tribal courts issuing conflicting rulings.

Boswell and Harjo could not be reached for comment at press time.

## Let's Move

anti-obesity and diabetes philosophy across Indian Country through webcast press conferences, YouTube and blogs. The less food is more effort mirrors First Lady Michelle Obama's bigger Let's Move! program nationwide.

without federal subsidizing, local efforts are the anti-obesity directive's main artery. In the various tribal communities, Let's Move style funding parcels in a mix of private groups, tribal gaming and non-profits monies. The motivation for Let's Move! is mounting. Statistics from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), relate that half of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children are obese and are twice as likely to develop Type II diabetes than any other racial group.

One strategy on the tribal level focuses on taking the hassle out of getting healthy food. Because the nearest grocery store is 30 miles away, Santa Domingo is another of the food deserts dotted across Indian Country. Shoppers

line up at the climate controlled trailer that rolls onto the reservation. Here fresh food is within reach, officials said.

The MoGro mobile grocery is a partnership of the W.W. Kellogg Foundation, NB3 Begay) (Notah Foundation, La Montanita Coop, MoGro, Santa Domingo Pueblo and the Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health. Plans are for the truck to make bi-weekly visits to pueblos (Cochiti, San Felipe, Jemez) in New Mexico to put sustainable foods on Indian tables. The walk-in truck, which

started as a trailer, illustrates how tribal think tanks fight funding limitations on issues like diabetes and obesity in children.

Basketball camps, diabetes camps and storytelling also spread the idea that true



COURTESY

A shopper looks at fresh produce in the MoGro truck that visited the San Felipe Pueblo In New Mexico. The truck is a collaboration of non-profit, foundations and tribes to bring better foods to Indian people at the one-year mark of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Let's Move! in Indian Country initiative, an anti-obesity-diabetes measure.

inactivity takes a lot of time and bad food is hazardous to their health. Other jurisdictions are building walking trails and customized exercise areas near schools to break the cycle of the sofa mentality. Elsewhere, tribal programs are replacing beef with buffalo in school

Results for any anti-obesity and diabetes movement in Indian Country are long and short term, said Kristin Speakman, program manager at Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health. Already the USDA points out

that 20 percent of children Indian from birth to two years in the nutritional Women **Infants** Children (WIC) program are obese. Speakman said

short term goals are that Indian children will feel better and fare better if they eat nutritional foods. Over the long run, reducing national obesity rates will follow, but it takes time, she added.

"A huge barrier for tribes is getting access," Speakman said. "But making the food affordable is key."

Meanwhile, Ground Zero in the fight against childhood obesity is the dinner table and health experts want Indian parents to opt out on sugary drinks, reduce simple

and snack times. Coupled with high

carbohydrates and eliminate

fried, fatty foods from meal

unemployment and poverty rates among Indians, feeding the youth becomes tricky because federal food programs often don't meet the deficiency. Food allowances for these programs run out by mid-month, leaving Indian children hungry and parents more vulnerable to spending money on items that are not healthy.

At its one year mark, Let's Move! in Indian Country gets the ball rolling, officials said. They say technical assistance to start proven tribal initiatives would push members toward eating healthier where they may not try before. Until then, the tribes are forging their own healthier food paths, like the Kashena Save-A-Lot and the MoGro trucks.

"It's twofold," Pecore said. "I believe Let's Move! works if people try to do it themselves, but they may not have the money to start something up."

For more information on the MoGro mobile truck: www.mogro.net NB3 Foundation; nb3foundation.org.

## COMMENTARY

## 'Custer died for your sins'



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciii) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

The bumper stickers were born before the holiday.

They could be seen on cars coming and going from the Indian reservations in America. They read "Custer died for your sins," or "Custer wore Arrow Shirts." And then came the holiday in the 1970s.

The Indian holiday on June 25 marks the 136th anniversary of the thrashing of George Armstrong Custer's Seventh

Sioux Indian reservations in that precipitated the deadly South Dakota it is a statewide battles to follow and led to the holiday. The Cheyenne and the eventual theft of the He' Sapa Arapahoe, also participants (Black Hills) by the United in the great victory, have also States government. joined the celebration.

ancestors handed the United battle, marble markers were States Army one of its worst set in place to mark where each defeats in all of the so-called soldier had fallen. According "Indian Wars." The Indians to the National Park Service, called them the "White Man the field was eventually dotted Wars."

Ironically, Custer considered himself to be a religious man. reportedly killed that day. And yet the fatal charge he made into the valley of the Center reported that the Greasy Grass happened on a beautiful Sunday afternoon. hundred and American cavalrymen rode to their deaths that day, led by a man who was told by Cheyenne medicine men marks on bullets, they have -- after he slaughtered their been able to determine the kinsmen at the Washita -that if he ever attempted that battle. feat again, he would surely be killed.

As part of the archeological They celebrate the day their excavations 14 years after the with 252 markers or 42 more than the number of soldiers

> The Midwest Archeological archeologists chose to view the battlefield as a crime scene. ten And by using a combination of forensic techniques, such as studies of firing pin marks on cartridge cases and rifling variety of weapons used in the

Further excavations revealed skull fragments that Custer met his demise had been broken while the Cavalry at the Little Big on June 25, 1876, two years bone was green indicating military tactic that had proven so this one good memory is knology.net

Horn, or Greasy Grass, as the after he discovered gold in what is called "perimortem to be quite successful until the firmly planted in the minds of Indians called it. On all of the the Black Hills, a discovery blunt instrument trauma." The famous Lakota warrior Black Elk, when describing the final moments of the battle to which he was a witness, said the Indians used hatchets and clubs to finish off the surviving But weren't they also a part soldiers. The report indicates that the evidence of trauma another American army? on the recovered human bone supports Black Elk's memory forces of the Sioux, Cheyenne of the battle.

> In what segment of the CSI television swift. Some Lakota warriors programs so popular today, have said it lasted less than 30 forensic science indicated that the troopers of the 7th Cavalry were heavy users of The victorious warriors and coffee and tobacco. The bones their families would pay a indicated by broken bones and significant back problems.

> substantiated much of what we up and fight for their people have seen in the movies over and for freedom. If the word the years. Custer did divide his troops into three elements and then subdivided his command

Battle of the Greasy Grass.

Often, I have wondered celebrate victories over the U.S. Army. Do descendants of the Confederate Army celebrate? of an American army fighting

The victory by the combined and Arapahoe over Custer's resembled a 7th Cavalry was short and had ever seen." minutes. But that battle raised the hackles of white America. The archeological digs have having the audacity to stand warriors define it.

Few good things happened into wings, which happened to to Native Americans in the Hall of Fame in 2007. He can be an accepted and field tested late 1800s or early 1900s, be reached at unitysodak1@

a warrior society and lives on. While the rest of America goes how many places in America about its business, the people of the Sioux, Cheyenne and Arapahoe Nations will reflect upon their day of glory with cookouts, horse races, dancing and prayers to commemorate a time when they ruled the Great Plains and were praised by Gen. Tecumseh Sherman as "the greatest light cavalry he

> Oh yes! One of the more recent Indian bumper stickers: "Fighting terrorism since 1492."

Tim Giago, an Oglala demonstrated that the men heavy price for that victory. As Lakota, was a Nieman Fellow at led a rugged and hard life punishment and retribution, Harvard with the Class of 1991. the three tribes would lose His weekly column won the H. millions of acres of land for L. Mencken Award in 1985. His book Children Left Behind was awarded the Bronze Medal by Independent Book Publishers "patriots" has meaning, these and is available at amazon. com. Giago was inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper

## American Indians and Social Security

**DAVE BALDRIDGE** 

Executive Director, International Association for Indigenous Aging

At Boston's original tea party in 1773, American patriots -symbolically dressed as Mohawk Indians -- dumped three shiploads of His Majesty's chamomile into Boston Harbor. They couldn't have known that more than two centuries later, another tea party would try to dump Social Security into Boston Harbor as well.

The Republican budget plan devised by Republican Rep. Paul Ryan, beloved by the Tea Party, proposes a draconian future for this landmark program that would hurt all older American and especially American Indians.

Indian elders have average annual incomes of just \$2,063 -- about twothirds the amount of those for other American seniors. More than one of three Indian elders has severe disabilities and can no longer work.

[Last] week, the National Congress of American Indians voted unanimously for a resolution to support Social Security without cutting benefits for recipients. The tribal leaders represent most of the 3.4 million Americans who identify themselves with a tribe.

They met in Lincoln, Neb., where tribal leaders representing the nation's 566 American Indian and Alaska Native tribes met to discuss Indian Country issues.

It started when Indian elders from New Mexico's 19 Indian Pueblos got together last year to discuss Social Security. They were worried about the information, or lack of it, that they were getting. They agreed that they do not want the age of eligibility raised. They agreed that they do not want to see the Cost of Living Allowance cut. They do not trust the information they are getting from politicians. They are worried about losing the safety net for their grandchildren.

[The] resolution was adopted by the nation's tribal leaders, and has become the unified statement of Indian Country: "Don't cut Social Security benefits."

When compared with the total population of the United States, the American Indian and Alaska Native population has poorer health and higher poverty rates. It's not going to get better in the foreseeable future. In a new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention projection for health and income disparities in 2030, for these seniors will have lower levels of health and economic well-being than the aged population (62 and older) as a whole.

Many Indian elders may be accustomed to poverty. The median family income for American Indian and Alaska Natives is \$44,347, as compared to \$68,390 for non-Hispanic Whites.

They will be disabled -- seriously enough to prevent them from working, at more than 34 percent, 2.3 times the national average. Their per capita wealth will be about half that of the total senior population. And Social Security is the only safety net between them and disaster.

Most Indians, on the other hand, take a longer view of the social contract, perhaps best expressed in the Seventh Generation credo of the Iroquois Confederacy -- a centuriesold coalition of northeastern tribes. It says that each of us should consider every action we take in terms of its effects upon on our unborn children seven generations from now. It emphasizes respecting and preserving the safety and wellbeing of elders.

Apparently these new "patriots" will have to learn some wisdom from the Indians the hard way -- at the voting booth. Although Indian voters are few in number, their voting blocks can determine close elections, especially in rural areas.

Recently, Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski acknowledged that her

"success in running this historymaking write-in campaign would not have been possible if Alaska's Native people did not turn out at the polls, did not energize, did not come together as they did."

If the new Tea Party prevails, the future isn't very bright for the Seventh Generation of American Indians. The Tea Party apparently would break its social contract with them as conveniently as the U.S. broke those 800 treaties in the 1800s. America will put both in jeopardy if the Ryan budget is adopted.

Dave Baldridge, executive director of the International Association for Indigenous Aging, assisted Indian elders in creating their resolution. He is a citizen of Cherokee Nation. This op-ed was written in association with The OpEd Project, which seeks to expand the range of opinion voices.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

Phone:

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:			
Address: _			

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_

■ \$65.00 for 52 issues ■ \$32.50 for 26 issues

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

**DIVISION OF INDIAN WORK • MINNEAPOLIS. MINNESOTA** 

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Board of Directors of the Division of Indian Work (DIW) announces the opening of its Executive Director position. Established in 1952, DIW is the oldest operating social service agency serving American Indians in Minneapolis. In 2012, DIW operates on a \$3.5 million dollar budget and has a staff of 42 persons in four major program areas. The programs include:

1. Healing spirit provides education and assistance to youth in the long-term foster care system and those transitioning to independent living. The program also serves American Indians who need support in maintaining sobriety.

2. Health Services operates a food shelf, teaches traditional Native uses of tobacco and smoking prevention, provides culturally-specific sex education and counsels women about infant mortality.

3. Strengthening Family Circles provides counseling, community outreach, classes and additional support in parenting, affordable housing, sexual exploitation, domestic violence and spiritual practice.

4. Youth Leadership Development Program encourages well-rounded success by providing youth with a wide variety of learning opportunities, including Ojibwe language, cultural enrichment, after-school tutoring and recreational, environmental and artistic activities.

DIW has a partnership with the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC), shares many support services with GMCC, and the executive director serves as a vice president of the GMCC as well as a member of the GMCC senior leadership team.

The ideal candidate for this position must have a demonstrated passion for the mission of organizations serving the social needs of urban American Indians, as well as knowledge of or the ability to learn the political contexts of tribal and governmental systems. The ideal candidate should have experience delivering at the program level similar programs to those provided by DIW. The ideal candidate should have demonstrated strategic skills as well as strong organizational management skills, including financial management skills; demonstrated an ability to be a seasoned, diplomatic, and unflappable decision maker taking into account multiple constituencies; and demonstrated an ability to develop and work with a community based non-profit board of directors. A BA degree in social services or social work is required with a Masters degree in social work or related field preferred.

Interested candidates should send a letter of introduction and a resume to our search firm in care of Kent Eklund, Cincinnatus Inc., Riverplace Suite 210, 43 Main Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414, or to employment@cincinnatus.com. The deadline for submission is July 31, 2012.

#### **Come Join Our Team!** We are expanding our education program and have opened the

following positions: **ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL/SCHOOLMASTER** 

1ST/2ND GRADE TEACHER SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER **TEACHER ASSISTANT** 

Applicants must have a valid driver's license, pass ALL background checks, and pass drug testing. Oklahoma certificate is required for principal and teacher positions. Applicants must submit the following:

1) Resume 2) Choctaw Nation Employment Application 3) State Certificate(s) (if applicable)

For an application come by Jones Academy Administration Office or call

888.767.2518 and ask for Brad Spears or Shalon Roe. The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Tribal policies and

procedures state that Native Americans will be

aiven preference at initial hire.

**Native American Times** is on Facebook!

The US Attorney's Office is seeking to

fill two positions.

One (1) Paralegal Specialist, Criminal Division. Starting salary will be \$38,790 or \$47,448 or \$57,408 per year depending on qualifications. See 12-0KW-683910-DE, 12-0KW-683913-DE, and 12-0KW-683914-MS at www.

One (1) Paralegal Specialist, Appellate Division. Starting salary will be \$57,408 or \$68,809 per year depending on qualifications. See 12-0KW- 685824-DE and 12-0KW-685833-MS at www. usajobs.gov.

Applications must be submitted on-line or by fax. See "How to Apply" section of announcement for more information. Questions may be directed to Lisa Engelke, HR Specialist, (405) 553-8777. Closing date is July 2, 2012.

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-



Stickball · Drawina · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Compliance, AD-1801-00**

Job Announcement Number: NIGC-NB-12-MM636890 SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Monday, June 11, 2012 to Monday, July 02, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-1801-15 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent **DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC** 

#### JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for but not limited to the monitoring of Class II and Class III gaming operations to ensure compliance with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) regulations and the provisions of tribal gaming ordinances and/or resolutions.

This is a director level position. The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758- \$155,500.

For full job description and application information visit http://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/318709900

#### **OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM** RETIREMENT BENEFIT ANALYST

Responsible for analyzing data to determine retirement and death benefits for retirees, survivors, beneficiaries, as well as other benefit processes. Must have excellent customer service skills and experience. Must have job-related Excel and Word experience. Hiring rate: \$33,489 annually. Deadline for applications: 7/6/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http:// www.opers.ok.gov/jobs. EOE

#### **Admissions Assistant/** Recruiter

Position Summary: Serving the ONLI program; responsible for carrying out a wide variety of duties that allow the Director of Admissions/Project Coordinator to plan, organize, direct, and control organizational functions of the Admissions Office, which requires an individual that has the ability to:

· Multi-task in a vibrant and active

· Compile, compose, and distribute various written documents and correspondence in a timely manner, Operate numerous software programs and learn new (or updated) programs as they become available, including Microsoft Office: Word, MS Excel, and PowerPoint,

 Execute directives in a timely manner,

· Act in a professional and courteous manner to students, other staff, and faculty,

Maintain both official and document

Qualifications: An earned associate's degree is required, a bachelor's degree is preferred; experience in a progressively responsible position is required; experience in tribal programs is preferred. In addition, the Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must have a valid driver's license, a clean driving record, and a reliable vehicle for traveling to and from recruiting events; as well a proven track record with concern to: completing assigned tasks in a timely manner, working with office machines such as photocopiers, calculators, recorders, etc., working with both internal and external organizations, and serving the College by expected presence with extracurricular activities, when necessary.

Other Requirements:

The Admissions Assistant /Recruiter must be able to travel to attend meetings, conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. as deemed necessary by the appropriate project office.

Send resumes to Staci Rowton at srowton@pawneenationcollege.org, fax to 918-762-3303, mail to 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058

**Executive Assistant** 

The Native Alliance Against Violence (NAAV), Oklahoma's nonprofit, tribal coalition against domestic and sexual violence, is accepting applications for the position of Executive Assistant. The Executive Assistant will assist the Director in the day-to-day operations of the nonprofit and assist in scheduling trainings and technical assistance activities that will serve Oklahoma's federally recognized tribes and increase awareness of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and dating violence against Native women. Ideal candidates should have knowledge of the dynamics of domestic and sexual violence, Native American culture and must demonstrate a commitment to working with Native American tribes. Please submit cover letter and resume to info@OklahomaNAAV.org.

#### Assistant/Associate **Professor of Exercise Science**

of Exercise Science beginning Fall 2012. Doctorate required in Exercise Science or related field, ABD considered. College teaching experience preferred. **Duties include instruction and advising** in courses leading to a BS in Exercise Science, establishing and overseeing internship sites and engaging in college/professional service.

Salaries are competitive and commensurate with experience and credentials. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

Candidates should submit letter of intent, vita and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403.

Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to Indian students and employees. EOE

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Catching the Dream (formerly Native American Scholarship Fund) seeks an executive director. Superior writing ability, knowledge of proposals and fund raising, knowledge of private scholarships, knowledge of college admissions process, three years of budget and finance experience, and knowledge of school improvement processes.

Send resume, sample of writing, and salary requirements to CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Finance, AD-0501-00**

Job Announcement Number: NIGC-NB-12-MM636759 SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Friday, June 15, 2012 to Monday, July 09, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-0501-15 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent

DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC

JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for but not limited to overseeing the receipt of and reviewing the required annual audited financial statements for all Indian gaming tribal operations; determining audits have been conducted in accordance with GAAS and that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GAAP; analyzing and investigating disclosures.

This is a director level position.

The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758- \$155,500.

For full job description and application information visit http://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/319051000

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Ponca Nation of Oklahoma • 20 White Eagle Drive • Ponca City, Oklahoma 74601

#### **Request for Qualifications**

The Ponca Nation is seeking qualified Design-Build Construction firms for renovation of single family Tribal homes. The scope of the design-build services includes, but is not limited to; limited engineering services and design, concrete, electrical, mechanical, doors and windows, drywall, carpentry, insulation, roofing, and structural aspects to provide the Tribal tenants/occupants a safe and livable environment. Initially, five (5) homes will be let by the Ponca Nation, and upon satisfactory completion, another 25 potential homes will be added by modification. The total project will be valued at approximately \$750,000. Selection of a Design-Build construction firm will be based on evaluation of the following criterion:

Firm Experience with renovation of potentially occupied homes, with points

Staff Renovation Construction Experience / Qualifications, with points available from Partner A-E firm renovation code evaluation experience, with points available from

Firm must demonstrate the ability to manage multiple subcontractors at multiple

locations, with points available from 0-15; Demonstrate the ability to meet a total renovation schedule of 300 calendar days,

with points available from 0-10;

Verifiable Indian Preference (51% CDIB verifiable) with points available of five (5) for the construction firm and five (5) points for the design firm.

This project is subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 12 USC 1701u and 24 CFR part 135 which implement the Act. These regulations will be incorporated into all contracts and sub-contracts. Applicants can be a partnership, corporation, association, and/or other legal entity which will have contractual responsibility for the project. A proposed joint venture should provide profiles for all firms in the joint venture. This project will be performed using U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant funding. The Corps of Engineers will provide technical support at every phase of the project. Provide four (4) Qualification packets, including all items as stated above, for selection. Qualifications packets must be received no later than 4:00 pm, CST, July 2, 2012, at the Ponca Nation, Mailing Address: 20 White Eagle Drive, Ponca City, OK 74601, Attention: Mr. Stanley Smith, Construction Manager. Further information may be obtained by calling (580) 763-0120.

#### **Request for Qualifications**

Wyandotte Nation is requesting the services of a professional Architect to design and develop plans/specifications for a "Community Facilities" building project, funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Details of this project will be made available to interested parties upon request. Indian preference will be observed, and at this time, only proposals from qualified Indian owned professional architect firms will be accepted. The proposed project will be constructed using Green Standard Energy Star appliances, Geothermal **HVAC** and Solar Thermal Banking.

Selection will be based on a firm's ability to work with the tribe and experience of similar projects. All contractors will be required to comply with Section 3 and Davis Bacon.

The project location is in close proximity to the existing Tribal facilities, on land owned by Wyandotte Nation. Interested parties should contact Mr. Ron Kaiser; Planning/ Development Director at 918-678-2297, extension 225. The Tribe must receive all qualification submissions for consideration before July 6, 2012.



Request for Bids

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma District Court is currently accepting bids from contractors to update the Tribal Court Law Library. The Tribe is seeking to obtain online access to legal research as well as to replace published materials. Further details will be made available to interested parties upon request. For more information, please contact the Court Administrator, Lauren Truitt at (405) 547-2402 ext 228 or ltruitt@ iowanation.org.

**NATIVE AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE? Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties

#### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor





Play at all 7 locations!

TULSA **BARTLESVILLE** SAND SPRINGS **PONCA CITY** 

SKIATOOK HOMINY **PAWHUSKA**  Ride in style during Summer of Luxury at Osage Casino! On Saturday, July 14 from 5pm-9pm we'll hold 25 \$500 Free Play drawings at all locations. Then at 10pm, 20 guests will win \$5,000 Cash and five lucky guests will win a new Mercedes-Benz C-300 Sedan across all locations valued up to \$45,000 from Jackie Cooper Imports! Enter with every 20 points earned on your Club Osage card. Visit any Players Club for complete details. A Summer of Luxury could be yours – only at Osage Casino!

(918) 699-7777 · osagecasinos.com ·



Find us on Facebook!

©2012 Osage Casino. Must be 18 to participate. Guests must be actively playing with their Club Osage card to be eligible for Free Play drawings. Free Play is a non-cashable credit and must be redeemed at the location received. Need not be present to win Cash or Mercedes-Benz and must claim within 30 days of notification. Actual prize may vary Management reserves all rights. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700





## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact Meeting at Wyandotte information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org nnyc@ihcrc.org

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services Quapaw Tribal Powwow of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or

**JUNE 28 – JULY 1** Pawnee Indian veterans Powwow held at the Memorial Stadium. For more info call Toni Hill (918) 762-3621 Ext. 25

JUNE 30 Murrow Indian Children's Home Benefit Powwow, 3pm-11pm at Bacone College, Muskogee. Bring your own lawn chairs! For additional information, Call Pete Coser, Sr. (918) 360-6471 or Betty R. Martin (918) 682-2586.

JUNE 30 47th Annual Coker Reunion, Masonic Building, 1729

HWY 9 West, Seminole, Okla. All descendants of **London Coker and wife** Mary Washburn are invited. Potluck meal at Noon. For more info call 405-382-3044.

**JULY 2-4 Kiowa Gourd Clan** Celebration, Carnegie City Park, Carnegie. This event will feature the tribe's Sun Dance, held in the middle of summer during the longest and hottest days of the year. Call 580-654-2300.

**JULY 4-7** at Quapaw Tribal Grounds, 5681 S. 630 Road, Quapaw. An annual celebration over the 4th of July weekend that includes dancing, contests, vendors and plenty of family fun. Call 918-542-1853.

**JULY 5-8** TeAta, a play by Chickasaw playwright JudyLee Oliva at Rasmuson Theater, **National Museum of the** American Indian, Washington, D.C. For more info, call (202) 633-1000

JULY 6 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, Oklahoma City

**JULY 12-15 Sac & Fox Nation Powwow** at Sac & Fox Nation Tribal **Grounds, Stroud. Features** Native dancing, singing, dance competitions, arts and crafts, a rodeo, food vendors, outdoor camping and much more. Call 918-968-3370.

**JULY 19-22 Otoe-Missouria Summer Encampment at Otoe** Missouria Encampment Grounds, 7500 Highway 177, Red Rock. One of the most important gatherings for the Otoe-Missouria people, this event will include gourd dancing, a 5K run and contest dancing. Call 580-723-4273.

**JULY 27-29** Kihekah Steh 43rd Pow-Wow, 193rd Street N & Javine Hill Road (52nd W.Ave) Skiatook, OK. Contest downtown Anadarko. powwow - Stomp Dance -Sat. night. Info call Donna Phillips 918-381-7996 or donnak51@sbcglobal.net

**JULY 27-29 Oklahoma City Powwow Club** Indian Hills Powwow, 9300 North Sooner Road, Oklahoma City. Info call Yonavea Hawkins, 405-919-1572 or email yonavea@yahoo.com

**AUGUST 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC,

1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**AUGUST 3-5 Kaw Powwow at Washunga** Bay Powwow Grounds, 12613 E. Furguson, Ave., Kaw City. Numerous traditional dance contests such as fancy dancing. Call 580-269-2552 or toll free 1-866-404-5297.

**Oklahoma Indian Nations** Powwow at Concho Powwow Grounds, Concho. Traditional singing, gourd dancing, war dancing and a drum contest. Dance contests in various categories. Call 405-476-1134.

**AUGUST 8-11** 81st American Indian **Exposition.** Kicks off with parades on Wednesday & Saturday at 10 am in **Caddo County Fairgrounds,** Anadarko, OK. Nightly performances at 8 pm. americanindian exposition.org. Dance contest info: 405-334-9193

**AUGUST 11-12 Wichita Tribal Dance** at Wichita Tribal Park, Anadarko. Dance competitions will be open to Wichita Tribal members and

their descendants. Call 405-247-2425.

**AUGUST 17-19 Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Powwow of Champions** at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis, Tulsa. Doors open 5pm Friday, 10am Sat and Sun. Call 918-378-4494 or 918-838-8276 for more information.

**AUGUST 18** Eastern Shawnee Children's Powwow, 12615 S. 705 Road, Wyandotte. Native dance competitions will include tiny tots and junior divisions. Call 918-666-7710.

**AUGUST 30-31 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka Homma Capitol Grounds. Information call 800-522-6170.

AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 **Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the Cherokee Cultural Grounds, Southwest of the tribal complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

### Cherokee Nation welcomes 2012 Remember the Removal riders

■ Sixteen riders from the Cherokee Nation and seven riders from the Eastern Band make the trek.

#### CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — After trekking 950 miles over seven states, a sweaty and more appreciative group of young Cherokees on the 2012 Remember the Removal ride rolled their bikes into the Cherokee Nation's Courthouse Square. It ended a three-week journey retracing the Trail of Tears of their ancestors.

Sixteen riders from the Cherokee Nation in Northeastern, Okla., and seven riders from the Eastern Band of Cherokees in North Carolina started the ride in New Echota, Ga., and finished June 22, welcomed by friends, family and tribal citizens.

"I am in awe of these riders and what they have done," Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker said during the return ceremony. "These kids are closer to their ancestors than they've ever been before. They've come together, they've bonded and they have created lifelong friendships."

The adventure was not without hardship or injury, including a few flat tires and minor bike wreck, but all 23 riders made it to Tahlequah in time to celebrate and receive medals presented by Chief Baker, Deputy Principal Chief Joe Crittenden and Miss Cherokee Sidney Kimble.

"When I started this journey I didn't know what lie within me," said rider Danielle Culp of Claremore. "I didn't know if I could make it, but there were a lot of people that knew what I was made of and knew that I could do it."

As the oldest rider to take the journey, Judy Castorena of the Eastern Band of Cherokees said that thought was never far behind as she remembered the experiences her ancestors faced on the Trail of Tears.

"Being the oldest always stuck with me," Castorena said as she recounted her toughest moment during the ride. "I was on a dirt road walking and pushing my bike when it hit me, I could have been the one left behind or the one getting whipped and pushed because I was the slowest. I could have been the one that died."

The Cherokee Nation has hosted the Remember the Removal Bike Ride for four years and in which the Eastern Band of Cherokees joined two years ago. The ride was originally started by 20 Cherokee students in 1984 and revived in 2009.



Riders from Cherokee Nation:

C.J. Alsenay of Keys Sarah Holcomb of Gore Jerrad Dry of Fort Gibson Joe Keener of Claremore Lillie Keener of Claremore Megan Alsenay of Keys Seth Alsenay of Keys Eric Budder of Claremore Danielle Culp of Claremore Embrosia "Echo" King of Claremore Luke Phillips of Tahlequah Clay Rudolph of Claremore Keeton Sheets of Stilwell Nathalie Tomasik of Tahlequah Melissa Horn of Vian Elizabeth Cook of Texarkana



Riders from Eastern Band of Cherokees Indians:

Judy Castorena of Wolfetown, N.C. Chi Shipman of Wolfetown, N.C. Jeremy Wilson of Wolfetown, N.C. Carmen Johnson of Yellowhill, N.C. Skye Littledave of Big Cove, N.C. Logan "Tatsi" Nelson of Big Cove, N.C. Jeremy Hyatt of Birdtown, N.C.



The 2012 members of the Remember the Removal ride complete their 950 mile journey on June 22, ending at the Cherokee Nation Courthouse in Tahlequah, Okla. Riders traveled from New Echota, Ga., to Tahlequah in honor of the Trail of Tears.

move more. be tobacco free.

## Oklahoma Indian Summer to host Olympian Billy Mills

- In celebration of its 25th Oklahoma anniversary, Indian Summer will host Billy Mills, the only living Native American to win an Olympics gold medal.

"It is always an honor and very humbling to a Native American man when I am invited to the traditional lands of other tribal nations" Mills. the only American to win the Olympics' 10,000-meter run, said. "Oklahoma is the home of the heartbeat and soul of many proud tribal nations."

OIS is scheduled for Sept. 20-22 at the Bartlesville Community Center located at the corner of Cherokee Avenue and Adams Boulevard. Mills will speak at 7 p.m. on Sept. 20 at the community center.

"We are very excited that an athlete the caliber of Billy Mills is coming to Bartlesville" said OIS Executive Board Chairman Dee Ketchum. "What also makes this double special is that this is an Olympic year and to have an Olympic champion in our midst is tremendous."

Mills is a member of the



Oglala Lakota (Sioux) Tribe and was raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. From there he earned a track scholarship to the University of Kansas and later served as an officer in the

U.S. Marine Corps. Mills shocked the world in the 1964 Olympics when he came from behind to win the gold medal in the 10K race. At the time, he set a world record of 28 minutes, 24.4 seconds.

Along with Nicholas Sparks, he co-wrote the book "Wokini: A Lakota Journey to Happiness and Understanding." Mills was also the inspiration for the movie "Running Brave" starring Robbie Benson. The Mills' life on the reservation and the many obstacles he overcame to become an Olympic champion.

He is the national spokeman for Running Strong for American Indian Youth, a national non-profit that works on behalf of American Indian children and families.

Mills travels more than 300 days a year visiting American communities throughout the U.S. and speaking to American Indian youth about healthy lifestyles and taking pride in their

OIS is held each September in Bartlesville and features an American Indian and Western art mark et that attracts regionalartisans to a competitive show and sale. Besides the intertribal powwow, other festival highlights include American Indian storytelling and horse painting. Admission to the festival is free. For more information, call at 918-331-0934 or log on to www. okindiansummer.org.

#### Interested in making Oklahoma a healthier place to live, work, learn and play? Consider joining a coalition in your area. ATOKA AND COAL **LOVE AND**

eat better.

**COUNTIES** 

Atoka/Coal Partnership for Change 580.380.0463

**BECKHAM AND ROGER MILLS COUNTIES** Oklahoma Unified Resources (OUR) Turning Point

Coalition 580.225.6247 **BRYAN COUNTY** 

Bryan County Turning Point 580.924.4285 ext 254

**CARTER COUNTY** Carter County Turning Point

580.223.7075 ext 314 **CLEVELAND COUNTY** 

**Turning Point** 405.307.6602

**Cleveland County** 

**COMANCHE COUNTY** Fit Kids of Southwest Oklahoma 580.585.6686

**JACKSON COUNTY Jackson County Community** Health Action Team

580.482.7308 **KIOWA AND CADDO** 

**COUNTIES** Kiowa Coalition and Caddo

County Interagency Coalition 580.726.3383

**LOGAN COUNTY** Logan County Partnership 918.282.3485

#### **JOHNSTON COUNTIES**

Fit Communities - Love and Johnston Consortium 580.371.2470

McCURTAIN, CHOCTAW **AND PUSHMATAHA COUNTIES** Tri-County Consortium

580.298.6624

**MUSKOGEE COUNTY** Muskogee County **Turning Point** 405.683.0321

**OKLAHOMA COUNTY** Wellness Now Coalition 405.425.4315

**OKMULGEE COUNTY** Okmulgee County Wellness Coalition 918.633.3202

**TULSA COUNTY** Family Health Coalition 918.595.4039

No coalitions in your area? Find your local Turning Point Partnership and learn more at

**ShapeYourFutureOK.com**.



## Seminole Nation purchasing historic home

**JANET JOHNSON** Seminole Nation

The owners, Kenneth and Rose Henderson, people to our area through tourism." accepted a contract prior to a June 20 public auction.

On June 4, 11 members of the Seminole Nation General Council and seven Band Chiefs attended a private tour of the property. On June 11, the Seminole Nation General Council approved to pursue the purchase of the Grisso Mansion for

economic and tourism development. "We can't control when an opportunity will the integrity of the estate.

present itself, but we can control how to react to that opportunity," Principal Chief Leonard Harjo said. "The purchase of this historic property SEMINOLE, Okla. - The Seminole Nation provides the Seminole Nation with the ability to of Oklahoma has entered into a contract to create an economic development strategy that purchase the historic Grisso Mansion located in will generate income for the Nation, the city of Seminole and Seminole County by bringing

> The estate is on the National Registry of Historic Places and was completed in 1928 at the cost of \$750,000. The Grisso Family sold the mansion in the 1970s and the property has changed ownership several times.

Extensive restorations have been completed to increase energy efficiency while preserving

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Instructors learn to teach Native culture
- Mount 'McKinley' getting its real name back
- Choctaw stickball team wins 1st place









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 • ISSUE 27

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

JULY 6, 2012

## **Indian Health Care Improvement Act permanent**

■ Supreme Court decision upholds reauthorization

THOM WALLACE NCAI

WASHINGTON - In a 5-4 decision, the Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), affirming the permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health

Care Improvement Act (IHCIA) which passed along with the ACA.

"This is an important step for health care in Indian Country; the permanence of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act has been affirmed and NCAI will stay focused on working with all members of Congress to uphold the trust responsibility to tribes," said Jefferson Keel, President of NCAI, the nation's oldest and most representative

American Indian and Alaska Native advocacy organization. "Moving forward, we are focused on improving health care for Indian Country, while ensuring the Indian Health Care Improvement Act remains protected and implemented as enacted."

The IHCIA permanently authorizes daily health care delivery to nearly 2 million American Indians and Alaska Natives served by the Indian Health

Service (IHS), who are in critical need of improved health care services. A snapshot of health conditions highlights the critical need for improving health care in Indian Country; Native people suffer from higher rates of diabetes and related illness, heart disease, and substance abuse than any other group.

The IHCIA authorizes new programs within the IHS to ensure the Service







An architectural rendering shows what the completed museum will look like from the bank across the Oklahoma River.

## Tribe honors activist, actor Russell Means

OGLALA, S.D. (AP) - The Oglala Sioux Tribe in South Dakota is honoring former American Indian Movement leader Russell Means.

Means is a member of the tribe and gained national fame in the 1970s for his political activism related to the American Indian Movement. He helped lead the 71-day uprising at Wounded Knee in 1973. Means has gone on to become an actor in films such as "The Last of the Mohicans" and "Pocahontas



Oglala Sioux President John Yellow Bird Steele declared June 26, 2012, as "Russell Means Day" to honor Means' "accomplishments, dedication and patrio-

The signed proclamation was given to Means at the conclusion of a walk last week that commemorated the many people killed on the reservation during the 1970s.

## Lawmakers consider next move for American Indian museum

**SEAN MURPHY** 

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Eager to showcase Oklahoma's unique Native American heritage, lawmakers more than a decade ago launched an ambitious plan to erect a Smithsonianquality museum along the banks of the Oklahoma River.

But project officials, frustrated overruns, announced this week that the multimillion-dollar thorn in the state's side will be shelved at the end of the month.

"I think it was a mistake for the state to even go down that road," said state

Rep. Jason Nelson, R-Oklahoma City. "That said, we've got an extraordinary with construction delays and cost mound of dirt and steel beams sticking out of the ground, and we've got to

decide what to do with it. "We can't just let it erode into the river," he said.

**See MUSEUM** *Continued on Page 5* 

## Ambassador, cancer survivor with a message: Indian skin won't protect you from melanoma



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Cierra Fields, 13, Little Miss Cherokee Ambassador, spreads the word about prevention of skin cancer. A former cancer patient herself, she shares her story and message with youth and adults in the Cherokee Nation.

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - Anyone can get skin cancer. Cierra Lynn Fields learned that at an early age.

When she was four, she was bitten by a tick behind her ear near a small birthmark. The bite irritated her so much that it bled when she scratched at it. The school nurse looked at the spot behind her ear and then called Cierra's mother to advise that Cierra should be checked for skin cancer. It sounded crazy and impossible.

"You're thinking, 'Four-years-old,' for Pete's sake," said Terri Fields, Cierra's mom. "She'd been out in the sun, we had a swimming pool, but this was not what we expected."

What everyone, including Cierra's pediatrician, thought was a birthmark was inherited dysplastic nevus syndrome developing into melanoma - congenital melanoma. The tick bite had aggravated the skin and melanoma cells and made it more identifiable. Because of the bite and the actions of the school nurse, the family was able to address a condition that typically is discovered when the patient is a teenager.

Cancer-free for eight years, Cierra, now 13, religiously takes precautions to avoid sunburn, which can contribute to skin cancer. Because she has had it before, she is at high risk to develop it again. As a Little Miss Cherokee Ambassador, she has made skin cancer prevention among Indian people her platform.

"Cherokees, well, Native Americans in

general, have the No. 1 highest death from skin cancer (among non-white people). And there's a myth that, 'We're Cherokee, we can't get skin cancer, we're dark.' It kind of doesn't make any sense because, hello, you have

skin. Of course you can get it," Cierra said. According to a study by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Native American and Alaska Native people and Hispanics had the second highest rate of getting melanoma, a form of skin cancer. White people had the highest incidence

There is a common misunderstanding in the general population that people with dark skin are protected from skin cancer because of melanin, the pigment in the skin. The darker a person's skin, the more melanin is present in it. Darker skin has more UV filtration capacity, but there is still a risk of

Health professionals also fight attitudes in the battle against skin cancer, said Greg Bilby, public health educator and outreach coordinator for Cherokee Nation Comprehensive Health Cancer Control Program.

"A lot of people don't realize the danger," he said. "They think skin cancer is not that important, that breast, colon and lung cancer is more prevalent, but cancer is cancer. If you had cancer near a lymph node, it can spread throughout body" through the lymphatic system, which reaches all the extremities.

Cierra turned 5 when she was taken into surgery to remove the cancerous growth

**See MELANOMA** *Continued on Page 6* 

## **Activists** seek return of Indian land

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) -Two Democratic National Convention delegates from Nebraska are asking President Barack Obama to return a piece of the state to a South Dakota Indian tribe.

Frank LaMere says he and his daughter, Lexie, will present delegates with a resolution aimed at Whiteclay, Neb., at the party meeting in Charlotte, N.C. Both are citizens of Nebraska's Winnebago Indian Tribe.

Whiteclay is known for beer sales on the border of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where alcohol is banned. It was part of Pine Ridge when Congress created the reservation in 1889.

The resolution seeks an executive order to restore a 50-square-mile buffer zone known as the Whiteclay extension, which was designed to protect Pine Ridge from whiskey peddlers. President Theodore Roosevelt opened all but one square mile to settlers in 1904.

## Native speakers looking to start immersion daycare

Immersion teachers are not only required to be fluent in the language but must also be able to convey their understanding and mastery of the language to students.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - Tama I'atala doesn't want his children to feel as disconnected from their Lakota heritage as he does from his Samoan culture.

I'atala, who is part Lakota and lives on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, has a solution: Have his children, including his 17-month-old son, learn the language.

"I don't want my kids to grow up without that sense of pride of who they are," said l'atala, 36.

I'atala is part of a small group of people on the reservation trying to start a Lakota language-immersion daycare for infants in hopes of increasing the number of people fluent in the language and, ultimately, strengthening the Lakota culture.

There are fewer than 6,000 Lakota speakers - less than 14 percent of the Lakota population in North and South Dakota, and the average age of a Lakota speaker is 60.

Several other efforts are under way to preserve the Lakota language, but the daycare is unique because the children would be taught Lakota as the primary language. The hope is the children would feed into Lakota-first preschools and elementary schools.

"We think really the best way to approach immersion from Step 1 is to start with kids who are preverbal infants and can therefore learn Lakota as a first language," Peter Hill said. Hill, originally from Philadelphia, moved to the reservation several years ago and learned Lakota. He has taught it at several area schools – and to his 2-yearold daughter.

"It seems that kids really see their first language as their default language, their home-base language. Even in a really successful immersion program where kids can become successful, it never quite has that centrality to them," he said.

But Hill and the other daycare supporters are having trouble finding between \$76,000 and \$108,000 in grants and resources necessary to pay the salaries of two fulltime Lakota-speaking caregivers, an administrator and miscellaneous expenses. With the economy still in recovery mode, many organizations are cutting back or not awarding new grants, Hill said.

On the Standing Rock Indian Reservation, which straddles the North Dakota-South Dakota border, a similar effort is under way. The Standing Sioux Rock Tribe received grants from the Administration of Native Americans to offer what is called an immersion nest. As many as 10 3-year-olds will take part in the program starting in September, said project director Sacheen Whitetail Cross.

One of the biggest hurdles in Lakota language immersion is finding qualified teachers, said Wilhelm K. Meya, executive director of the Lakota Language Consortium, a nonprofit organization trying to preserve and revitalize the

Immersion teachers are not only required to be fluent in the language but must also be able to convey their understanding and mastery of the language to students, he

The Lakota Language Education Action Program is trying to increase the number of teachers. It offers tuition, room and board to qualified language students at the University of South Dakota or Sitting Bull College on the Standing Rock reservation in Fort Yates, N.D.

Once completed, students are required to teach Lakota in a classroom for the same amount of time they received funding.

I'atala, who is currently enrolled in the LLEAP program at the University of South Dakota, said language efforts are key to keeping the Lakota culture strong.

"I think, personally, it starts with the language," he said.

## Instructors learning to teach **American Indian culture**

**TERI VANCE** Nevada Appeal

CARSON CITY, Nev. (AP) -Teachers from across Nevada converged in the capital earlier here." in June to develop a system for teaching local American Indian in teaching the Native culture, culture in schools.

"Nevada history is incomplete without the Native American experience," said Montooth, a member of the core team established through the on television, but our story often Nevada Department of Education ends at about 1890," she said. to create the curriculum.

the initiative to incorporate and show that we continue to American Indian history into their lesson plans, experts say it is often incomplete and misinformed.

As a teacher in Clark County, first-hand.

"The teachers there knew nothing of the tribes of Nevada," Manning said. "When they taught about Native people, much of it was outdated and stereotypical. the same discussion."

County School District, Manning said she is excited about the traditional arts and crafts. curriculum being developed so impossible to find in textbooks.

find it," Manning said. "This area to teach it to the standards." is just full of living resources."

coordinator for the Nevada curriculum will teach both become a requirement. the history and contemporary

Paiute, Washoe and Western Shoshone.

Manning said, calling it the

"People are interested in Native people because we're so romanticized While some teachers take bring us into the 21st Century

It was totem poles and teepees in learning the history of the Indian Now the Indian education to historical accounts of local coordinator for the Washoe tribes, reviewed past and present

teachers will be armed with the participants with as much they don't even know where to their expertise to figure out how

Romero said the curriculum

lifestyles of Nevada's four main mandated," she said, noting she

"We didn't want to focus on just the history because we're not gone," Romero said. "We're still

That is one of the challenges "unicorn concept."

inherently "What this will do, we hope, is

days reviewing the history and culture of Nevada's tribes, which were characterized as hunters history until college. Lynn Manning said she saw that and gatherers who followed food sources seasonally.

Teachers also visited displays at the Nevada State Museum and spent much of the day Thursday immersed in the culture at Stewart Indian School. In addition to boarding school, they listened federal Indian policy, and saw

"We've just bombarded our knowledge that can be nearly information as they can take in about American Indians," "Unless we provide it for them, Montooth said. "Now, we're using

Spearheaded by Fredina should be available to Nevada's Drye-Romero, Indian education teachers by next school year to be used as a resource. In the Department of Education, the future, she said, she'd like to see it

"I would love to have this tribes: Northern Paiute, Southern didn't learn about her own Paiute Earth," she said.



About 25 teachers spent three Wanda Batchelor, Washoe Tribe chairwoman, gave her blessing to the project.

The Carson High School graduate said it would have made a difference to have learned it

"I think I would have had more pride in where I came from," she said. "I would have had a better understanding of why education was so important."

Participants met with local tribal leaders during a traditional dinner consisting of beans and venison stew.

Wanda Batchelor, chairwoman of the Washoe Tribe, gave her blessing to the endeavor.

"We're revisiting how we're going to tell our story," Batchelor said. "And it's going to be from us. It's going to be from our elders. We're awakening our language, our song and our dance."

Montooth said it will not only fill in historical gaps, but will also pique the students' interest.

"It's the greatest story on

'Mount McKinley' is the official name of America's tallest mountain. The Alaska landmark is known to Natives as 'Denali.'

## Senator introduces bill to give America's tallest mountain its Native name back

**BECKY BOHRER** Associated Press

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) - U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski has introduced legislation to change the name of North America's tallest peak from Mount McKinley to Mount Denali.

It is the latest move in a decades-long fight over the name of the mountain, widely referred to as Denali by Alaskans.

For years, members of Ohio's congressional delegation have filed measures or included language in bills to retain the name Mount McKinley; Ohio is the birthplace of President William McKinley. One such measure is currently pending, introduced by U.S. Reps. Tim Ryan and Betty Sutton.

Murkowski said opponents of a name change can continue to refer to the peak as Mount McKinley. Under her bill, the Alaskan name for the mountain would become the "technically correct" term for what is an Alaska landmark,

"Making Denali - the name that Alaskans use anyway - the official name of America's tallest mountain means something to Alaska," Murkowski told a subcommittee earlier this week.

Murkowski has also introduced legislation to rename the Talkeetna Ranger Station in Alaska for Walter Harper, credited as the first person to reach the peak's summit.

According to a National Park Service history, McKinley, the name bestowed on the peak by William Dickey in 1896, stuck because of his "discovery' account" in the New York Sun in January 1897. This was in spite of the fact that Alaska Natives, Russians and American visitors had offered names of their own for the mountain over the years.

The name Denali is an Athabascan, or Alaska Native tribe, word meaning "the high one."

A move to change the name took hold in the 1970s, championed by then-Alaska Gov. Jay Hammond. The state Legislature, in 1975, passed a resolution urging the Interior secretary to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to rename Mount McKinley as Mount Denali and Mount McKinley National Park to Denali National Park, according to the history.

Ohio U.S. Rep. Ralph Regula vowed to fight the name change, and did, through measures or language included in bills until his retirement in January 2009.

The park's name, however, eventually was changed to Denali National Park and Preserve.

Crystal Patterson, a spokeswoman for Ohio Rep. Tim Ryan, said keeping the mountain's name is important to honor President McKinley. Patterson said Regula asked Ryan to continue the fight against a name change.

The Board on Geographic Names has taken the position that it won't address a geographic feature name pending before Congress. The board, comprised of representatives of some federal agencies, is involved in formally naming features and gets as many as 300 proposals a year to change a name or name an unnamed feature, the board's executive secretary, Lou Yost, said Friday.

The dispute over Mount McKinley is unusual, he said.

"Some names will cause some emotions and some consternation, but I don't think we've had any that have gone on this long, or (at) that high of a level," he said.

## **Businessman embraces** Tenn. Indian mound

(AP) - A Chattanooga businessman has welcomed visitors to his commercial property – the site of one of the city's oldest Indian mounds.

Kenny Wilhoit, an Amnicola Highway food manufacturer, was surprised about the discovery of the mound a few years ago. He listened intently to local American Indians when they called him, seeking a conservation easement on the

According to the Chattanooga Times Free Press (http://bit. ly/M4vvod), Wilhoit then did something very unusual - he encouraged visits to what they told him was a very sacred spot.

"It means something to them, and it's not hurting me," said Wilhoit, president and owner of Atlantic Distributors Inc.

The story resonates for the tri-state region, which has thousands of mounds.

Meg Lockhart, spokeswoman for the Division of Archaeology in the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, said there are 900 mound sites recorded to date across Tennessee alone.

Tom Kunesh of Chattanooga, a member of the Advisory Council on Tennessee Indian Affairs, calls the Amnicola mound "the oldest thing in Chattanooga that humans made."

And Kunesh, archaeologists from Nashville and a handful of other Chattanoogans interested in the region's earliest and American Indian history celebrated Sacred Sites Day at the mound on the summer equinox of June 20. In the ceremony, they honored Wilhoit, along with the ancestors buried there.

"He's been great to work with," Kunesh said. "He's allowed us



access, and we've been out maybe four times in the past year, cleaning it up. It's like cleaning up a cemetery."

The new friends renamed the mound. What had been labeled 40HA66 in the state Division of Archaeology is now the Chickamauga Mound.

The name is intended to reflect the mound's American Indian origin rather than the Euro-American name it sometimes carried: the Roxbury mound, because the Roxbury textile mill had been built nearby in the

Mark Tolley of Nashville was the first to contact Wilhoit and talk to him about the mound on his 25-acre plant site.

Wilhoit said he always thought it was just a small treecovered hill.

"He (Tolley) filled me in that this was an Indian mound -2,000 years old," Wilhoit said. "And Tom (Kunesh) came in and spent hours with me, talking to me about it and its history."

Wilhoit said what he heard about the mound on his property touched him.

"We know it is a sacred site. We know it's not to be disturbed," he said.

Information from: Chattanooga *Times Free Press, http://www.* timesfreepress.com

## Church fireworks stand targeted by Tulsa mayor

■ The fundraiser is located on a five-acre parcel that is considered Indian land and is not under the city's jurisdiction.

NATIVE TIMES STAFF REPORT

TULSA, Okla. - City officials and a church youth group are at odds over a fireworks stand on Indian land.

On June 26, the First Church of the Nazarene from Broken Arrow, Okla., opened a fireworks stand adjacent to the South Yale Smoke Shop at 111th Street and Yale Avenue in Tulsa, Okla. The smoke shop is on a Muscogee (Creek) allotment within a primarily residential area.

Meant to be a fundraiser for a

mission trip and the church's youth group, the stand generated about \$400 that day.

The next day, officers with the Tulsa Police Department and fire marshal's office placed signs around the allotment's perimeter, listing the city's fireworks policy and penalties for violating it. Mayor Dewey Bartlett announced that same day that anyone who purchased fireworks at the stand could have them confiscated upon leaving the property and re-entering the city's jurisdiction.

Mike Bergman, spokesman for Broken Arrow Residents for Red Clay Casino, told the Tulsa World last week that Bartlett's threat was an affront against Native Americans, who were being unfairly targeted.

"It appears Mr. Bartlett has the same agenda as (U.S. Rep. John)

Sullivan: attacking Native American sovereignty," Bergman said in an article published by the Tulsa World June 29. "Our group was able to expose (Sullivan's) agenda. I think now it is time to expose Mr. Bartlett's, as well."

The allotment is within the city limits. Since 1938, it is illegal to buy, sell, own or shoot off fireworks within the Tulsa city limits.

One of more than 30 original allotments within Tulsa, the five-acre parcel is considered Indian land and is not under the city's jurisdiction. The property owners got a permit from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to sell fireworks on their land and also received a license from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The stand was not operated in affiliation with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Their location from previous

years was unavailable and TNT Fireworks, the stand's owner, suggested and secured the site.

City officials claimed their actions were prompted by complaints to the mayor's office and to the area's city councilor, Phil Lakin. Earlier this year, Lakin warned the other council members the allotment could be used for a casino, despite the terms of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's financing agreements for its River Spirit Casino that prohibit the tribe from opening a second casino within 50 miles. River Spirit Casino is less than 10 miles from the allotment.

After last Wednesday's crack down, the church suspended sales and has not announced plans to relocate the



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL

editor@nativetimes.com Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie

WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE Advertising Sales

KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country









KC Willis opened the Lightshine Thrift Store to offer residents of Pine Ridge a nearby place to buy simple everyday items, such as books and clothes.

## New store opens in Whiteclay, caters to rez

Going down the street to pick up items at Walmart, Target or another store isn't possible on Pine Ridge.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

WHITECLAY, Neb. - In a tiny Nebraska border town that has become known more for alcohol than anything else, KC Willis is hoping to change perceptions.

Willis has opened LightShine Thrift Store in Whiteclay, a town of about 12 people just across from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

"I've been coming to Pine Ridge for a year," said the Longmont, Colo.resident. "Over the course of that year, I began to realize there was no place on the rez for people to get the essentials, at least on the southern half. There was no place for a mom to get socks or a shirt for her daughter for school without going to Rapid City or Chadron, Neb."

The reservation, home to the Oglala Sioux Tribe, spans more than 2.7 million acres and is located in one of the poorest areas of the country.

Going down the street to pick up

items at Walmart, Target or another store isn't possible on Pine Ridge, where even basic infrastructure like gutters and sidewalks are lacking. And traveling by car 100 miles northwest to Rapid City or 50 miles south to Chadron can be problematic for residents without reliable transportation.

Whiteclay, located two miles south of the reservation, is where many of the tribal members go for groceries. It's also where some go for alcohol. The Oglala Sioux Tribe has sued the town's beer stores and several distributors, saying they are knowingly contributing to alcoholism on the reservation, where alcohol is banned

Willis has both a simple and complex goal in opening the 7,500-square-foot store. She wants to offer a place where residents of Pine Ridge can go to buy simple everyday items such as books and clothes. She also wants people to see that Whiteclay and the Lakota people can do good things. The store is in Whiteclay and not on the reservation because rent is cheaper in Whiteclay and because the complicated process that non-tribal members must go through to rent on the reservation can be time-consuming, Willis said.

Plus, she added, "I'm close enough to the reservation to service them but I'm not inside the reservation taking up a building that could be owned by a Lakota business."

The store, which opened about two weeks ago, carries furniture, shoes, clothes and books. The items are mostly donated. Two tribal members work with Willis to run the store.

Willis hopes to open an art studio for tribal artists in the future in the back of the store. There's also a ministry component to the store, but Willis, who is white, said she will not be preaching to the Oglala Sioux people about what they should be doing.

"They've had enough white people trying to do stuff like that," she said.

Vic Clarke, the manager of Arrowhead Foods in Whiteclay, said he hopes the new thrift store can last in Whiteclay. However, catering to tourists is difficult, he said, because many are uneasy about the town and the people who line up on the street and panhandle there.

Willis also will have to work at building a reliable client base among the tribe, Clarke said.

"People are not going to come buy. They're going to want to come trade," he said.

is more equipped to meet its mission to raise the health status of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level.

For example, it includes:

· Authorities for new and expanded programs for mental and behavioral health treatment and prevention;

· Expanded authorities for longterm care services, including home health care, assisted living and community-based care;

 $\cdot New authorities for development \\$ of health professional shortage demonstration programs;

Expanded authorities for

funding of patient travel costs; for New authorities demonstration projects innovative health care facility construction;

· New authorities for the provision of dialysis services;

· Improvements in the Contract Health Services program, which pays for referrals;

· New authorities for facilitation of care for Indian veterans; and

· New authorities for urban

Indian health programs. The passage of the IHCIA on March 23, 2010 represented a 14 year-long effort by NCAI, tribal leaders, and advocates to make permanent the legislative commitment by the federal government to deliver health care for American Indian and Alaska Natives. The IHCIA was originally passed in 1976 and last reauthorized in 2000.

About The National Congress of American Indians: Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. For more information visit www. ncai.org

## PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

**INDIAN LAW** 

**PROBATE ADOPTIONS** RESTRICTED LAND **ISSUES** 

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY** 



J.D. Oklahoma City University: MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA

Visit us at www.facebook.Com/PearyRobertson

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? **ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!** 



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork** Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org



CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA | COURTESY

Team Tvshka Homma

## Choctaw stickball team wins 1st place trophy

**SHELLY GARNER** Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

DURANT, Okla. - Team Tvshka Homma, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma's official stickball team, captured the first place trophy at the First Annual Chikasha Stickball Tournament on May 19. The tournament was hosted by the Chickasaw Nation at their ceremonial grounds in Kullihoma, OK. Team Tvshka Homma (Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma), team Okla Hannali (community Choctaw team), and team Chikasha To'li (Chickasaw Nation) competed.

Jeremy Wallace, Chikasha Kaputcha To'li' Coach, presented the trophy to Josh Riley, representative of team Tvshka Homma, at the Jim Thorpe Native Games on Sunday, June 10. Teams Okla Hannali and Chikasha To'li took second and third places respectively. Selected members from all teams participated in the Jim Thorpe Native Games in Oklahoma City on June 15 and 16.

Choctaw stickball was recently featured as integral part of Choctaw Days at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC on June 21 and 22. Several members of team

Tvshka Homma, as well as other Choctaw tribal members, participated in exhibition games at the Reflecting Pool on the National Capitol grounds to demonstrate the basics of play and educate about the long-standing tradition of stickball. Team Tvshka Homma's next competitive game will be held at the World Series of Stickball hosted by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians in Philadelphia, MS on July 7.

To learn more about stickball, visit the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Cultural Services Division website at www. choctawnationculture.com

## **Cherokee Nation hosts new 2012 Bass Classic tourney**

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — Amateur anglers are encouraged to grab a fishing pole and compete in the Cherokee Nation's first Bass Classic from 6 a.m. to noon, Saturday, Aug. 18 at Chicken Creek Campgrounds on Lake Tenkiller.

The new event coincides with the 60th Annual Cherokee National Holiday, a threeday festival held over Labor Day weekend in Tahlequah.

The tournament features 50/50 drawings, door prizes and a plaque and cash prize for the biggest bass. Registration is \$100 per boat for two team members, including one adult

and one youth, between the ages of 3-18. Participants 16 and up must have a fishing license. Lake bass regulations apply.

"We would like to get the kids more involved in fishing to help keep them out of trouble," said John Mouse, Bass Classic event coordinator. "We want them to be able to see what the outdoors has to offer and give them an event to look forward to each year."

Drawing for boat positions will be held at 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17 at the Tsalagi Community Room behind the Restaurant of the Cherokees, 17793 Hwy. 62.

For more information about Cherokee

Nation's 2012 Bass Classic or to register, call John Mouse at 918-822-2929.

The tournament is part of a full slate of events happening at the 60th Cherokee National Holiday, a three -day festival that attracts more than 90,000 visitors annually to Tahlequah to celebrate the tribe's signing of its 1839 constitution and an Act of Union that formally joined factions of the tribe into one nation. Cherokee National Holiday showcases the best of Cherokee art, food, music, crafts, sports, culture and history and most events and attractions are free.

#### Deadline approaching for Miss & Jr. Miss Keetoowah Cherokee Pageant

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma is accepting applications for the Miss, and Jr. Miss Keetoowah Cherokee. The application deadline is Friday, Aug. 31, 2012. The pageant will be held on Thursday, Sept. 13, 2012 at 6 p.m. at the Tahlequah Armory Municipal Center, 100 North Water Street, Tahlequah, Okla.

Miss and Jr. Miss Keetoowah Cherokee will represent the tribe as a good-will ambassador during her reign. Education Scholarships will be awarded to the winner, first, second and third

The theme for the 62nd Annual United Keetoowah Band Celebration will be "One Tribe, One Family, Rising Together". Contestants must be between the age of 13 and 17 years old by Sept. 13, 2012 to compete for Jr. Miss, and 18 to 21 by Sept. 13, 2012 to compete for Miss Keetoowah Cherokee. Contestants must be an exclusive UKB tribal citizen and present a copy of tribal enrollment, show proof of school enrollment, provide two references, must not have been married or cohabitated, no children, and never convicted of a felony.

Applications may be downloaded from www. unitedkeetoowahband.org beginning Aug. 1st or picked up at the UKB Community Services building. Questions? Call Verlita Watie or Georgia Dick at (918) 456-8698 or 1-800-259-0093.

#### **Cultural Center hosts Kid's Festival**

SULPHUR, Okla. - The Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Okla., will host a Kid's Festival from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, July 7.

The special celebration, focused on young learners, will feature a presentation by the Chickasaw Nation Chipota Chikashshanompoli (children speaking Chickasaw) Language Club at 1 p.m., as well as language and horticulture booths from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Fun kid-friendly activities including stickball, archery, nani' (fish) catch, storytelling, mini family tree, face painting, paper sack turban and bean bag loksi toss are also planned during the day.

A stomp dance demonstration will be conducted at 11 a.m. and storytelling will shared at 1:30 p.m.

In addition, catch the family movie "Lilo and Stitch" in the Anoli' Theatre.

The Chickasaw Cultural Center is located at 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road. For more information, call (580) 622-7130 or visit www. chickasawculturalcenter.com.

## SHS re-organizing staff, job classifications

NATIVE TIMES STAFF REPORT

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — A triballyrun school is undergoing some personnel changes.

Sequoyah Schools, operated by the Cherokee Nation, serves about 300 Indian students in grades 7-12. Education officials with the tribe are claiming that the school's staff is undergoing a re-organization in an effort to save funds and better serve the students.

"Sequoyah Schools is in the process of a re-organization that involves administration and some departmental job classifications," Cherokee Nation

Executive Director of Education Neil in deleting some positions, adopting some new job descriptions and in some instances, lay-offs of personnel. New titles and job descriptions are now in place, as is the process for filling new positions at Sequoyah. Those who were laid off are eligible to apply."

Four new positions were created and two - athletic director and principalhave been advertised. Morton declined to comment on any additional specifics on the re-organization, including how many positions were eliminated, what the other two new positions are or when the process would be complete.

A representative for Cherokee Morton said. "The process resulted Nation Communications said that the staff re-organization did not extend to Tsalagi Tsunodeloquasdi, the tribe's immersion elementary school located on the same property.

> Morton did confirm that campus security is being re-evaluated and Sequoyah Schoolis considering entering a memorandum of understanding with the Cherokee Nation Marshal Service for Sequoyah School and the immersion school.

> "The campus is open on all sides," Morton said. "Our first priority is to protect our students."

Front row from left to right is father, Darrin Ingram; Alyxandria Ingram and her mother, Alisa Ingram. In back are Head Coach Nickie Williams and Assistant Coach Travis Murie.

## Ingram receives softball scholarship to Rose State

BLANCHARD, Okla. Alyxandria Ingram officially signs with the Rose State Raiders softball team, and earns a full scholarship to Rose State College in Midwest City, Okla.

"It's something I've been working for my whole life. I'm glad all the hard work paid off," Alyx, 18, said. Alyx, Comanche, Chickasaw and Ohkay Owingeh, graduated in May from Blanchard High School where she played shortstop, left field and third base for the Blanchard Lady Lions.

"We're really happy for her. Rose State is lucky to get a quality young lady like that. It's really great to get your education paid for and do something you love," Blanchard High School Principal Greg Jackson said. "We wish her all the luck."

Alyx played competitive travel ball and won many state, national and world series championships. Her favorite moment is when she played shortstop with the Moore Slammers in the USSSA World Tournament in Georgia and earned USSSA World Series

"Alyx started playing ball

when she was about 3, she's been playing ever since," Darrin Ingram, Alyx's father said. "She set an example on both sides of the family that with hard work and dedication you can meet those dreams and goals of

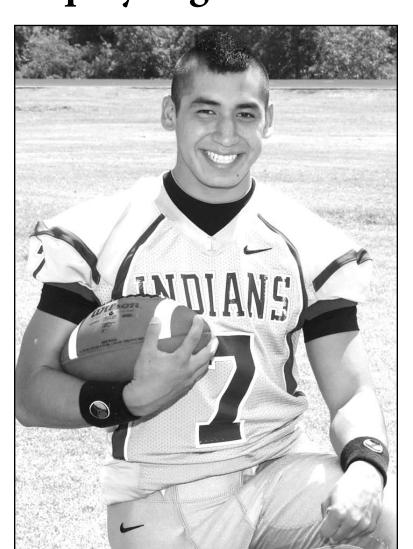
Alyx officially signed her letter of intent to play with the Rose State Raiders on June 25, 2012. Their first game is Sept. 7 against Oklahoma Baptist University JV. She will play as an outfielder.

Travis Murie, assistant coach, said when Alyx tried out for the team, they were impressed with her athleticism. Head Coach Nickie Williams said they needed a strong athlete with a good arm, and they want kids who are hungry. " If they want playing time, they have to earn it," she said.

Alyx hopes to eventually become a physical therapist.

"I hope I set a good example for my little brother, sister and all the Native American can kids out there," Alyx said. "Keep working hard and never give up and ... it will all pay off."

## Sequoyah grad earns football All-State



Sonny O'Field, a Sequoyah graduate from Jay, Okla., will play July 27 in the Oklahoma All State game at Union Tuttle Stadium in Tulsa.

SHS NEWS RELEASE

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - Sequoyah graduate and school record holder, Sonny O'Field has been named an All-State football player and will play in the annual football All-State game this summer.

"Sonny has 23 interceptions and over 300 tackles in his career here at Sequoyah," said Shane Richardson, Sequoyah Schools' defensive

He was a four-year starting player for the Sequoyah Indians and holds the school record for the most interceptions in his school career. He played in the wide receiver, free safety, punt and kick returner and holder positions for the team. He was named a district most valuable player and a first team all-conference player.

O'Field, 18, of Jay, is the son of Wendell O'Field and Paula Waldroop. He has committed to play football at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado where he is expected to play in the defensive back position.

The Oklahoma Football Coaches Association selected him for the All-State team. Other former Sequoyah Schools' football players who were named All-State players while at Sequoyah include Nathan Stanley, quarterback for Southeastern Louisiana University and Travis Boswell who played defensive end for the Northeastern State University football

This year's All-State fooball game will be Friday, July 27 at 8 p.m. at Union Tuttle Stadium at Union High School. Admission is \$5.

## COMMENTARY

## **Indian Press: From 'Talking** Leaves' to the Native Media Summit in Santa Fe, N.M.



TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

If ever you see one of the giant Sequoia trees in California you may wonder where they got their name. Well, they were named after a Sequoyah.

Born in 1775, he was the twitters in Indian country. son of Wuh-the of the Paint clan and was raised in the Tennessee country. Sequoyah written language.

In 1809 he began exciting and difficult. working to create a system of believed that by increasing Indian media. It is like the radio personalities, bloggers their knowledge, a written language would help them Of course he never anticipated of the day my Navajo friend American media folks from all the Trail of Tears.

he created a Cherokee alphabet. the syllables of the Cherokee Sasse, "The Indian media is language.

language could learn to read up to help move us forward." or write in two weeks. The It was a satirical way of telling July 13.

the Cherokee people that the white man's words dried working in the Indian media up and blew away like leaves on radio, television and finally when the words no longer as a newspaper publisher I

the issues of the day and give tell. all sides of an argument. It was words.

newspapers that are very directly to the nation-building important to the future of the Indian nations. But there are stations scattered on the

media has been like a boat journalists, TV people and cruising down a quiet river many that are involved in never learned to speak English, and suddenly splashing into but he was convinced that the the rapids. The escalation has will be a place where we can secret to power was in the been so swift that keeping all come together." up with the growth has been

writing for the Cherokee. He about when it comes to the invite all interested journalists, child that has just learned to and television people, to come walk and now is about to take and enjoy the beauty of Santa maintain their independence. off and run. It reminds me Fe and to meet and greet Native President Andrew Jackson and Loren Tapahe, then publisher across this great country. of the Navajo Times, and I, He experimented with then publisher of the Lakota joy if he could see how the pictographs and eventually Times, met with Jerry Sasse world of Native media has symbols that represented at the Gannett Foundation evolved since his "Talking the syllables of the spoken in Rochester, New York in Leaves" broke ground in the Cherokee language. In essence, 1984 and asked him to help Cherokee Nation. fund us so we could start a By 1821 he had designed 86 Native American journalists symbols representing all of organization. Tapahe said to like a child that is trying to It is said that anyone who grow up and catch up with the could speak the Cherokee white media. We need a hand

That is why I am excited syllabary allowed the Cherokee to have been invited to be Nation to start the first Native the opening keynote speaker American newspaper they at the Native Public Media called The Cherokee Phoenix. Summit to be held in Santa Fe, the South Dakota Newspaper Sequoyah called the words he New Mexico on the campus Hall of Fame in 2007. He can put on paper "Talking Leaves." of the Indian Art Institute on be reached at unitysodak1@

After more than 30 years of have seen so many changes in It was a bold beginning for Indian country, especially in an Indian nation to find a way the media, that I believe this to inform and educate the media summit comes at the readers of their newspaper. right time and the right place The newspaper could discuss and I have so many stories to

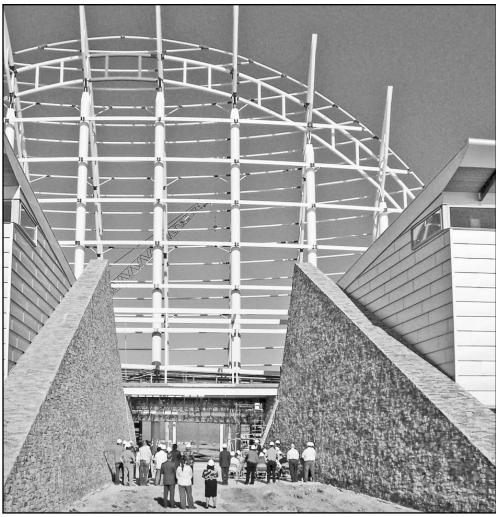
The founders of Native the beginning of the ability for Public Media have a motto that Native Americans to tell their goes, "Media has a vital role own story using their own to play in supporting tribal economic and community Today there are still Indian development and is tied efforts of sovereign tribes."

The theme for this summit now about 50 Indian radio is, according to Traci Morris, director of operations, "Our Indian reservations, the first Voices; Our Stories; Our beginning in 1972; a small Network." Morris, a member Cherokee warrior, silversmith, venture into television stations of the Chickasaw Nation of painter and linguist named and an explosion of Indian Oklahoma, said, "The summit websites, blogs, tweets, and will showcase what's going on in Indian country and it will The Native foothold in the be made up of radio, print online media operations. It

> In the name of CEO Loris Taylor, Hopi, and the rest of There is so much to talk the Native Public Media staff, I

> > Sequoyah would jump with

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1991. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. His book Children Left Behind was awarded the Bronze Medal by Independent Book Publishers and is available at amazon. com. Giago was inducted into knology.net



Available funds for the continuation of construction for The American Indian Cultural Center and Museum in Oklahoma City have been exhausted. Construction halts July 1.

## **MUSEUM**

The total price tag for the project is already up to \$91 million, with more than \$63 million coming from three separate bond proposals that passed the Legislature. The rest of the money is from private donors, Oklahoma City and federal stimulus funds.

Museum officials say they need an additional \$80 million to finish the project and are lobbying lawmakers for half that amount - \$40 million - to match private donations that have been pledged contingent upon the state support.

That's a tough sell in the Republicancontrolled Legislature, where many are loudly decrying more state spending. Gov. Mary Fallin and Senate President Pro Tem Brian Bingman both have said they support a bond issue to complete the project. However, some legislators are completely opposed to the concept of state bond issues while others think enough has been spent on the project already.

"I'm not opposed to the project by any means. I think it will be a great project for Oklahoma City, but for state taxpayers to continue to dump money into this thing, I don't think it's fair," said state Sen. Cliff Aldridge, R-Midwest City. "At some point you've got to draw a line in the sand, and I think we're at that point."

Aldridge said he will push for legislation that transfers ownership of the project and its oversight to the city, but he acknowledged House and Senate leadership likely will try another bond issue next year after the elections.

Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett didn't completely discount the idea of taking over the project, but said the next move must be decided by lawmakers.

"I think the ball is in the state's hands. They need to decide what they want to do with it," Cornett said. "I don't think it would be appropriate for the ideas to start coming from us. At some point, I will be more proactive, but at this point, I'm trying to let them figure out what's next."

The Oklahoma City Council agreed earlier this year to put an additional \$9 million into the project, but Cornett said that money was contingent on lawmakers approving a bond issue this year. He said he's not sure how the council would vote a second time.

"We'd have to be re-inspired," he said.

Developers have said the museum would house collections from the more than 30 federally recognized Oklahoma-based tribes, the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington and other tribal museums.

Several Oklahoma tribes are among those who have donated money to match a \$40 million state bond issue, and some tribal officials remain optimistic the project will be completed.

"Even in light of recent developments, we know there are many who continue to support completion of the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum," Chickasaw Nation Gov. Bill Anoatubby said in a statement. "We plan to continue working to help make this dream a reality."

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker said with Native American references on the flag, seal, place names and even car tags, the influence of American Indians is almost impossible to ignore in Oklahoma.

"Those references celebrate the nonnative view of our people, so it is particularly disappointing that the efforts to build a cultural center to celebrate our rich Native culture, history and traditions have fallen short," he said. "This is a project that could potentially be a boon to the state's tourism and hospitality industries and I would hope that given the current economic downturn, Oklahoma would take advantage of any opportunity to bring more dollars into Oklahoma."

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00

36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		_
Address:		_
City:	State: Zip:	_
Phone:		_

■ \$65.00 for 52 issues ■ \$32.50 for 26 issues ■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

# Study shows treating diabetes early, intensively is best strategy

**DEBBIE BOLLES** 

DALLAS, Texas – Intensive early treatment of type 2 diabetes slows down progression of the disease by preserving the body's insulin-producing capacity, a UT Southwestern study has shown.

"We can potentially change the course of this prevalent disease, which would represent a breakthrough," said Dr. Ildiko Lingvay, assistant professor of internal medicine and author of the study published online in Diabetes Care. "The intensive treatment regimen we propose is different from the stepwise approach recommended in standard guidelines."

As one of the fastest-growing diseases in the U.S., diabetes afflicts an estimated 25.8 million children and adults, or 8.3 percent of the population, according to the American Diabetes Association. A study by Population Health Management projects the number of diabetes cases to nearly double by 2025.

The UT Southwestern study was selected for presentation at the recent American Diabetes Association's Diabetes Care Symposium and will be published in the July print issue of ADA's Diabetes Care.

While intensive treatment has been the standard at UT Southwestern for at

least a decade, the industry norm has been to emphasize lifestyle changes first. The American College of Physicians, for example, suggests losing weight and dieting before drug treatment. The ADA recommends similar lifestyle changes, plus the use of metformin – the standard drug used to treat type 2 diabetes – for those newly diagnosed.

"We believe that the stepwise approach exposes patients to long periods of high blood sugar, which leads to complications," Dr. Lingvay said. "Unless dietary changes are significant and sustained long-term, diabetes is a progressive disease in which the body's ability to produce insulin declines."

If a patient can maintain insulin production, she explained, the disease is easier to manage. The study showed intensive treatment with insulin, followed by one of two drug regimens, enabled diabetes patients to maintain steady insulin-producing beta-cell function for three and a half years after diagnosis.

"This finding was true, regardless of the method used to attain intensive control," Dr. Lingvay said. "Intensive treatments led to excellent control of blood-sugar levels, they were well-tolerated, safe, and had good compliance."

In the UT Southwestern clinical trial,

participants were randomly divided into two groups. Both groups first had three months of treatment with insulin and the anti-diabetes drug metformin. After that, one group took three types of diabetes medications daily, while the other continued the insulin and metformin treatment. Out of 63 initial trial recruits, 58 completed the study and are still being tracked for six-year results.

Dr. Lingvay said the study did not show that any single regimen worked better than another; both intensive treatment regimens were just as effective.

"The point is that whatever you choose, make sure it's intensive," she said. "We have shown that this preserves beta-cell function, and that's the key in changing the course of the disease."

Other UT Southwestern researchers involved in the study were Dr. Lindsay Harrison, an endocrinology fellow; Beverley Adams-Huet, assistant professor in clinical sciences and internal medicine; and Dr. Philip Raskin, professor of internal medicine.

The research was supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and Novo Nordisk Inc., a supplier of insulin. Novo Nordisk played no role in the study design, conduct, analysis, preparation, or final approval.

## 5 tips for safe summer sun

Many believe a "base tan" will prevent damaging burns, that's not the case. There is no such thing as a healthy or base tan.

KEVIN RONNEBERG, M.D.

Summer has arrived. As the weather heats up, it's critical for beachgoers and outdoor fun-seekers to be sun-safe.

This begins with choosing the right sunscreen to protect yourself from harmful UV rays. Equally important are these five simple tips from the Skin Cancer Foundation, which also will help you mitigate sun damage and reduce the risk of skin cancer.

First, seek the shade. Simply minimizing exposure to UVA and UVB rays can go a long way toward protecting your skin. Taking a break from direct sun is especially important between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., when rays are strongest. And remember, clouds don't block UV rays.

Infants under 6 months should always be kept out of the sun -- protected with clothing, an umbrella or a stroller hood. Children and adults should wear protective clothing, including wide-brimmed hats and UV-blocking sunglasses.

Second, use a broad spectrum (UVA/UVB) sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher. Regardless of the season, this kind of sun protection should be used on a daily basis. Most people understand the importance of sun safety during the summer months, but many underestimate the need for year-round protection. The temperature may drop, but UV rays remains strong. And the cooler temperatures may actually prevent people from realizing the extent of the damage the sun is doing to their skin.

Next year, new regulations from the Food and Drug Administration will help consumers know they're getting the right protection by prohibiting manufactures from labeling their sunscreens as "broad spectrum" or making claims about protecting against skin cancer and aging unless they're SPF 15 or higher. And sunscreens with lower SPF values will have to sport a warning that the product may not offer protection against the harmful effects of exposure to

Third, apply 1 ounce of sunscreen to the entire body 30 minutes before going outside.

According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, for full SPF protection, sunscreen must be applied half an hour before sun exposure. If you are average size, you'll need a full ounce -- or about two tablespoons -- to adequately cover your skin. Studies show that most people apply less than half that amount, losing the full benefit of the SPF protection.

Reapplication is just as important as putting sunscreen on in the first place, as sunscreens tend to break down with exposure and can be rubbed off or washed off by sweat or water. So sunscreen should be applied every two hours, and immediately after swimming or a set of tennis. During a full day at the beach, one person should expect to use at least a quarter of an 8 oz. bottle of sunscreen.

Fourth, do not let yourself burn. Sunburn is the most immediate and obvious sign of UV damage. When immune cells race to the injured skin site to start healing the damage, they produce the reddening and swelling.

Tanning is the skin's response to this damage and may permanently affect skin cells. While many believe a "base tan" will prevent damaging burns, that's not the case. There is no such thing as a healthy or base tan.

Finally, check your skin regularly and ask your doctor for a skin cancer exam annually. One in five Americans will develop skin cancer. Tans and burns can be the first step. Intermittent but intense UV exposure is more closely associated with melanoma, the most deadly variety of skin cancer, than chronic sun exposure. One blistering sunburn in childhood or five in a lifetime doubles the risk of melanoma.

To check yourself for signs of skin damage, inspect your skin from head to toe, looking for spots or sores that heal too slowly, new growths, and any moles or beauty marks that change in color, texture, or size. And once each year, be sure to ask your physician for a skin checkup.

Sunscreens are an essential part of a healthy lifestyle. They keep skin looking young and reduce the risk of many skin cancers. They must be used properly, however. These five suggestions will help keep you and your skin safe.

Dr. Kevin Ronneberg is the associate medical director at Target.

# On the go: Diabetics have a few 'firsts' to look to forward to

GINNY GRIMSLEY
News & Experts

A whole industry has grown up around freeing diabetics to lead less restricted lives. Tubeless insulin pumps, a needleless blood-glucose monitoring system, and diabetic-friendly frozen foods are among the innovations helping people with the metabolic disorder to live lives on the go.

With the number of diabetics growing worldwide – 246 million at last count, according to the World Health Organization – businesses are motivated. In 2011, diabetes therapeutic products were a \$23.7 billion dollar industry feeding a growing population that's starving for a better quality of life, says Chef Robert Lewis, "The Happy Diabetic," author of two cookbooks for people with the metabolic disorder.

"It wasn't long ago that Type 1 diabetics had to be sure they packed ample sterile syringes and insulin, whether they were going to work for the day or on a road trip," he says. "Monitoring blood sugar levels, which is crucial to keeping vital organs healthy, was painful, primitive and hit-or-miss.

"And food? That's been the hardest. A diabetes diagnosis can feel like a life sentence of bland eating."

Among the "firsts" Lewis says diabetics can look forward to:

• The first tubeless insulin pump. Thirty years ago, people with insulindependent diabetes had to give themselves shots around the clock to control their blood sugar levels. In some cases, diabetics were hospitalized to

ensure they got the insulin necessary to prevent ketoacidosis, a condition that can lead to coma and death. In 1983, the insulin pump was introduced. It attaches to the body and provides continuous insulin injections. But while it was a major breakthrough, it can be bulky and awkward, with a dangling catheter. The most recent innovation is a streamlined version called the OmniPod. It has no tubes, it's smaller and it attaches anywhere on the body with adhesive. It also has a built-in glucose-monitoring system.

• The first needleless glucometer. The Symphony tCGM System uses ultrasound to monitor blood-sugar levels, which will free people from the painful pricks needed to get a small blood sample for testing multiple times a day. The device, which attaches with adhesive to the body, continuously tracks glucose levels day and night and can send the readings to your smart phone. Under development for more than a decade, Symphony is undergoing the studies necessary to win regulatory approval.

• The first diabetic-friendly frozen meals. Meals-in-a-Bun (www. lifestylechefs.net) will arrive in Northeast U.S. grocery stores beginning in July and roll out across the country through the end of the year. They're low on the glycemic index, low in sugar and carbs, high in soluble fiber, low in trans fat, high in lean protein and low in sodium, Lewis says. "And the best thing is, they are delicious." The five varieties – two vegan and three vegetarian – include selections like Thai Satay,

mushrooms, broccoli and tofu in wholewheat flax bun. "This is particularly exciting because, while there have been advances in equipment that makes life easier for diabetics, there haven't been for convenient, packaged foods."

Diabetics who do not watch what they eat may wind up suffering kidney damage, stomach problems, heart disease, pneumonia, gum disease, blindness, stroke, nerve damage, complications during pregnancy, loss of limb and other health problems, according to the CDC.

But many Americans are trending toward healthier diets, eating less meat, gluten, salt and sugar, Lewis says. Tasty foods developed for diabetics will be excellent choices for them, too.

"What's good for diabetics is good for everyone," he says. "And you don't have to give up one teaspoon of flavor.

"There's a reason why I am called 'The Happy Diabetic'; I have discovered the joy of nutrition-rich food."

#### About Lifestyle Chefs

Lifestyle Chefs is a Santa Clara, Calif., company specializing in creating meals inspired by world cuisines and using only natural, healthy and nutritious ingredients. Lifestyle Chefs' products are all vegetarian and diabetic-friendly, perfect for families who want fast, convenient meals that are low in calories, high in nutrition and robust in flavor. Chef Robert Lewis, "The Happy Diabetic," was diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes in 1998. He specializes in flavorful recipes that won't spike a diabetic's blood sugar.

## **MELANOMA**

Continued from Page 1

behind her ear and two lymph nodes nearby. She also took radiation pills and had frequent check-ups, but she did not require chemotherapy. She shares her experience with students and adults at presentations she makes all around the Cherokee Nation at schools and at area health care centers.

Focus in the CN Comprehensive Health Cancer Control Program is split into two directions: prevention of breast and cervical cancer and prevention of other forms of cancer, including colon, prostate and skin cancer.

In the last two months, Cierra, her mom and her grandmother, Leona Henderson, have driven from their Fort Gibson home to Jay, Tahlequah, Catoosa and other locations to add a push to CN's campaign for skin cancer awareness and prevention.

"Slip, Slop, Slap and Wrap" translates to slip on a shirt, slop on sunscreen, slap on a hat and put on a pair of wraparound sunglasses.

Bilby said this message is important especially now as summer hits and the sun is in full force. Cierra's presence bolstered his presentation to a key audience that can be difficult to reach.

Just before summer, "we always do a big push to encourage people to take care of their skin," Bibly said. "Cierra was ideal (to help) because she's so young, and that encourages, especially, young girls to take care of their skin."

Reaching teenagers is significant to educating the population because that is usually the time when they begin tanning outdoors or on tanning beds to achieve a summer look.

At a recent talk, Bilby made his presentation. The kids, said Henderson, didn't seem to pay much attention until Cierra stepped up. A few girls in her audience even said they planned to visit a doctor about their skin.

Cierra wanted all of the students to be aware of the damage caused by tanning under the sun as well as under a lamp. A tanning bed also emits UV rays. Tanning becomes popular as prom season draws near. Her own opinion of tanning bed use is not favorable, likening it to cooking bacon on a grill.

"That's gross," she said. "You look gross when you're old, and you look

leathery."

Bilby said he notices the difference with youth, too.

"I can put up a Power Point (presentation) to show how dangerous tanning beds are to them, but when they see someone younger than them, it makes them really think about it," he said.

Bilby became aware of Cierra and her work when he received an email about two months ago that she was collecting donations of coloring and activity books, crayons and other items for children undergoing treatment for cancer at the Children's Hospital at St. Francis in Tulsa. Gifts of stickers, puzzles, DVDs and more in addition to the coloring books came in from CN employees, students attending Sequoyah High School and other places around Tahlequah.

When she delivered the donations to the hospital, she visited with children on IV fluids and undergoing

intense chemotherapy treatment. The children were grateful for the gifts.

"It's just touching to see how much a coloring book can make a child so happy," Cierra said. "It makes me really glad that I didn't have to spend any of that hospital time (for her own treatment). I could go still go outside and play."

The children at the hospital could do nothing to prevent their cancer, but everyone, including Native Americans, can take precautions against skin cancer.

If you have a suspicious, nonsymmetrical mole that changes in color or shape, see a doctor.

Use a lot of sunscreen with at least a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 all parts of the body exposed to the sun. Try to avoid prolonged periods of sun exposure between noon to 4 p.m., when the sun is brightest.

Use hats and try to stay in the

## CLASSIFIEDS









#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

**Come Join Our Team!** We are expanding our education program and have opened the following positions:

**ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL/SCHOOLMASTER** 1ST/2ND GRADE TEACHER SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER **TEACHER ASSISTANT** 

Applicants must have a valid driver's license, pass ALL background checks, and pass drug testing. Oklahoma certificate is required for principal and teacher positions. Applicants must submit the following:

1) Resume 2) Choctaw Nation Employment Application 3) State Certificate(s) (if applicable)

For an application come by Jones Academy Administration Office or call 888.767.2518 and ask for Brad Spears or Shalon Roe.

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Tribal policies and procedures state that Native Americans will be aiven preference at initial hire



#### **Iowa Tribal Court Positions**

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma is accepting bids with resumés for the following positions in the Supreme Court of the Iowa Tribe:

#### **CHIEF JUSTICE** and **ASSOCIATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE**:

the Iowa Tribe Supreme Court Justice shall have the duty and power to conduct court proceedings and issue orders and papers incident thereto and administer justice in all matters within the jurisdiction of the Court.

All applicants must be twenty-five (25) years of age or older and not be a member of the Iowa Tribal legislative body or hold any other elective office. Applicants must be members in good standing of the Oklahoma Bar Association and have experience and knowledge of Federal Indian law. Indian preference is applicable but not a prerequisite.

Proposals should cover a term of 6 years and may be sent with resumés to Iowa Tribal Court, R.R. 1, Box 721, Perkins, OK 74059.

Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Finance, AD-0501-00**

Job Announcement Number: NIGC-NB-12-MM636759 SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Friday, June 15, 2012 to Monday, July 09, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-0501-15 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent **DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC** 

#### JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

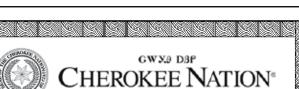
The incumbent is responsible for but not limited to overseeing the receipt of and reviewing the required annual audited financial statements for all Indian gaming tribal operations; determining audits have been conducted in accordance with GAAS and that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GAAP; analyzing and investigating disclosures.

This is a director level position.

The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758- \$155,500.

GetJob/ViewDetails/319051000

## For full job description and application information visit http://www.usajobs.gov/



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah. Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

> **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH #6719 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN #6720 Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN **POSITIONS CLOSE 7/3/2012**

#6470 TPT Medical Technologist #5998 TPT Medical Technologist/PRN #6493 RFT Medical Technologist II #5745 RFT Medical Technologist **POSITIONS CLOSE 7/6/2012** 

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

**NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?** 

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 

#### **Enrollment Clerk**

Part time position that is responsible for performing a full range of clerical tasks in the Enrollment Department. Must have the ability to learn Progeny Software. For more details of the position or for an application, please see our website at: www.omtribe.org. Closing date is 4:30 pm, July 11, 2012. Resumes are accepted but will not substitute for an application.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe is an equal Opportunity Employer. Native American preference will be observed.

#### Assistant/Associate **Professor of Exercise Science**

Full-time Assistant/Associate Professor of Exercise Science beginning Fall 2012. Doctorate required in Exercise Science or related field, ABD considered. College teaching experience preferred. Duties include instruction and advising in courses leading to a BS in Exercise Science, establishing and overseeing internship sites and engaging in college/professional service.

Salaries are competitive and commensurate with experience and credentials. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

Candidates should submit letter of intent, vita and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403.

Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to Indian students and employees. EOE

#### OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Responsible for analyzing data to

#### **RETIREMENT BENEFIT ANALYST**

determine retirement and death benefits for retirees, survivors, beneficiaries, as well as other benefit processes. Must have excellent customer service skills and experience. Must have job-related Excel and Word experience. Hiring rate: \$33,489 annually. Deadline for applications: 7/6/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http:// www.opers.ok.gov/jobs. EOE

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

Cherokee Nation Businesses, L.L.C. (CNB) is conducting a search for a chief executive officer to provide leadership and actively participate in business planning activities, including the development of the strategic business plan, annual operating plan and related tactical plans that provide direction to the company's business units.

Cherokee Nation Businesses is a privately-held Native American company that owns and operates a broad range of businesses, including gaming and entertainment, manufacturing, distribution, logistics, information technology, environmental and construction services, security and defense, and health care services. These businesses currently generate over \$700 million in annual revenues, with \$1 billion in assets and over 4,500 employees.

The CEO will be responsible for business planning, operations management, business diversification efforts, budget management, policy formulation, operational monitoring/reporting and tribal government reporting. This position will report to the CNB board of directors and oversee the diversified businesses' corporate officers and executives.

The successful candidate will possess a bachelor's degree in business administration, finance or a related discipline and at least 15 years of progressively responsible and relevant experience in operations, financial and marketing management, leading up to general management responsibility at the executive level. An MBA or graduate work in business or finance is highly desirable.

The beginning compensation package will include an attractive base salary, opportunity for short-term and long-term incentive compensation and a competitive package of benefits.

Interested parties may send resumes to bob.thomas@cn-bus.com. All inquiries will be handled confidentially.

Cherokee Nation Businesses is a Native American preference employer.



777 W. Cherokee Street • Catoosa, OK 74015 • cherokeenationbusinesses.com

#### DIVISION OF INDIAN WORK • MINNEAPOLIS. MINNESOTA **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

#### The Board of Directors of the Division of Indian Work (DIW) announces the opening of

its Executive Director position. Established in 1952, DIW is the oldest operating social service agency serving American Indians in Minneapolis. In 2012, DIW operates on a \$3.5 million dollar budget and has a staff of 42 persons in four major program areas. The programs include:

1. Healing spirit provides education and assistance to youth in the long-term foster care system and those transitioning to independent living. The program also serves American Indians who need support in maintaining sobriety.

2. Health Services operates a food shelf, teaches traditional Native uses of tobacco and smoking prevention, provides culturally-specific sex education and counsels women about infant mortality.

3. Strengthening Family Circles provides counseling, community outreach, classes and additional support in parenting, affordable housing, sexual exploitation, domestic violence and spiritual practice.

4. Youth Leadership Development Program encourages well-rounded success by providing youth with a wide variety of learning opportunities, including Ojibwe language, cultural enrichment, after-school tutoring and recreational, environmental and artistic activities.

DIW has a partnership with the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC), shares many support services with GMCC, and the executive director serves as a vice president of the GMCC as well as a member of the GMCC senior leadership team.

The ideal candidate for this position must have a demonstrated passion for the mission of organizations serving the social needs of urban American Indians, as well as knowledge of or the ability to learn the political contexts of tribal and governmental systems. The ideal candidate should have experience delivering at the program level similar programs to those provided by DIW. The ideal candidate should have demonstrated strategic skills as well as strong organizational management skills, including financial management skills; demonstrated an ability to be a seasoned, diplomatic, and unflappable decision maker taking into account multiple constituencies; and demonstrated an ability to develop and work with a community based non-profit board of directors. A BA degree in social services or social work is required with a Masters degree in social work or related field preferred.

Interested candidates should send a letter of introduction and a resume to our search firm in care of Kent Eklund, Cincinnatus Inc., Riverplace Suite 210, 43 Main Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414, or to employment@cincinnatus.com. The deadline for submission is July 31, 2012.

## **REQUEST PROPOSAL**

#### **LEGAL SERVICES RFP**

The Comanche Nation Gaming Commission (CNGC) is seeking Request for Proposals from qualified law firms and individuals to provide services for a tribal gaming commission.

The CNGC was established in 2005 in order to conduct oversight of the Nation's gaming operations to ensure compliance with tribal, federal, and state laws and regulations. The CNGC regulates four tribally owned and operated gaming facilities which is comprised of Class II and Class III

Interested law firms and attorneys may contact Jill Peters at the information below to obtain a copy of the RFP:

Jill Peters, Executive Director **Comanche Nation Gaming Commission** 1915 E. Gore Blvd. Lawton, OK 73501 (580)595-3300 jillp@comanchegc.com

Proposal Deadline: Monday, August 6,

# **True American Indian**

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES** FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

Native American Owned Business? Let the Native American Community know! The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Oklahoma! Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838





Play at all 7 locations!

TULSA **BARTLESVILLE** SAND SPRINGS **PONCA CITY** 

SKIATOOK HOMINY **PAWHUSKA**  Ride in style during Summer of Luxury at Osage Casino! On Saturday, July 14 from 5pm-9pm we'll hold 25 \$500 Free Play drawings at all locations. Then at 10pm, 20 guests will win \$5,000 Cash and five lucky guests will win a new Mercedes-Benz C-300 Sedan across all locations valued up to \$45,000 from Jackie Cooper Imports! Enter with every 20 points earned on your Club Osage card. Visit any Players Club for complete details. A Summer of Luxury could be yours – only at Osage Casino!

(918) 699-7777 · osagecasinos.com ·



Find us on Facebook!

©2012 Osage Casino. Must be 18 to participate. Guests must be actively playing with their Club Osage card to be eligible for Free Play drawings. Free Play is a non-cashable credit and must be redeemed at the location received. Need not be present to win Cash or Mercedes-Benz and must claim within 30 days of notification. Actual prize may vary. Management reserves all rights. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700



## EVENTS •

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact Community Center 1pminformation is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens** Meeting at Wyandotte 3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services JULY 7 of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**JULY 2-4 Kiowa Gourd Clan Celebration, Carnegie City** Park, Carnegie. This event will feature the tribe's Sun Dance, held in the middle of summer during the longest and hottest days of the year. Call 580-654-2300.

**JULY 4-7 Quapaw Tribal Powwow** at Quapaw Tribal Grounds, 5681 S. 630 Road, Quapaw. An annual celebration over the 4th of July weekend that includes dancing, contests, vendors and plenty of family fun. Call 918-542-1853.

**JULY 5-8** TeAta, a play by Chickasaw

playwright JudyLee Oliva at Rasmuson Theater, **National Museum of the** American Indian, Washington, D.C. For more info, call (202) 633-1000

- 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

Kid's Festival from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Chickasaw

**Cultural Center, 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Road,** Sulphur, Okla. For more information, please call the **Chickasaw Cultural Center at** (580) 622-7130 or visit www. chickasawculturalcenter.

**JULY 9 - SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, Oklahoma City

**JULY 12-15 Sac & Fox Nation Powwow** at Sac & Fox Nation Tribal **Grounds, Stroud. Features** Native dancing, singing, dance competitions, arts and crafts, a rodeo, food vendors, outdoor camping and much more. Call 918-968-3370.

**JULY 19-22 Otoe-Missouria Summer** 

Missouria Encampment Grounds, 7500 Highway 177, Red Rock. One of the most important gatherings for the Otoe-Missouria people, this event will include gourd dancing, a 5K run and contest dancing. Call 580-723-4273.

**Encampment at Otoe** 

**JULY 27-29** Kihekah Steh 43rd Pow-Wow, 193rd Street N & Javine Hill Road (52nd W.Ave) Skiatook, OK. Contest powwow - Stomp Dance -Sat. night. Info call Donna Phillips 918-381-7996 or donnak51@sbcglobal.net

**JULY 27-29 Oklahoma City Powwow Club** Indian Hills Powwow, 9300 North Sooner Road, Oklahoma City. Info call Yonavea Hawkins, 405-919-1572 or email yonavea@yahoo.com

**AUGUST 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**AUGUST 3-5** Kaw Powwow at Washunga Bay Powwow Grounds, 12613 E. Furguson, Ave., Kaw City. Numerous traditional dance contests such as fancy dancing. Call 580-269-2552 or toll free 1-866-404-5297.

**AUGUST 3-5 Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow at Concho** Powwow Grounds, Concho. Traditional singing, gourd dancing, war dancing and a drum contest. Dance contests in various categories. Call 405-476-1134.

**AUGUST 8-11** 81st American Indian **Exposition. Kicks off with** parades on Wednesday & Saturday at 10 am in downtown Anadarko. **Caddo County Fairgrounds,** Anadarko, OK. Nightly performances at 8 pm. americanindian exposition.org. Dance contest info: 405-334-9193

**AUGUST 11-12** Wichita Tribal Dance at Wichita Tribal Park, Anadarko. Dance competitions will be open to Wichita Tribal members and their descendants. Call 405-247-2425.

**AUGUST 17-19** Intertribal Indian Club of **Tulsa Powwow of Champions** at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis, Tulsa. Doors open 5pm Friday, 10am Sat and Sun. Call 918-378-4494 or 918-838-8276 for more information.

**AUGUST 18 Eastern Shawnee Children's** Powwow, 12615 S. 705 Road, Wyandotte. Native dance

competitions will include tiny tots and junior divisions. Call 918-666-7710.

**AUGUST 18 Cherokee Nation Bass Classic** from 6 a.m. to noon, at **Chicken Creek Campgrounds** on Lake Tenkiller. Features 50/50 drawings, door prizes and a plaque and cash prize for the biggest bass. Registration is \$100 per boat for two team members, including one adult and one youth, between the ages of 3-18. Participants 16 and up must have a fishing license. Lake bass regulations apply.

**AUGUST 30-31 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka Homma Capitol Grounds. Information call 800-522-6170.

Info call John Mouse at 918-

822-2929.

**AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the Cherokee Cultural Grounds, Southwest of the tribal complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

#### **Inside this issue:**

- NY holding on to seized cigarettes
- College profs learn about Native Americans
- Top blues guitarists performing at Osage









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 28

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

JULY 13, 2012

## **Moapa Paiutes blame** power plant for early deaths, sickness

**CRISTINA SILVA** Associated Press

MOAPA, Nev. (AP) - Beyond the ancestral hunting fields and the rows of small, sparse homes, the cemetery at the Moapa River Indian Reservation sprawls across a barren hill with the tombstones of tribal members who died young.

Their deaths haunt this small desert community outside Las Vegas. Children play indoors, afraid they might be next. Hoping to keep out the air they believe is killing their people, tribal elders keep

their windows shut and avoid growing food on the land where their ancestors once found sustenance.

The Moapa Paiutes need not travel far to stare down their perceived enemy: The coal-powered plant blamed for polluting the southern Nevada reservation's air and water is visible from nearly every home.

"Everybody is sick," said Vicki Simmons, whose brother worked at the Reid Gardner Generating Station for 10 years before dying at age 31 with heart

See PLANT Continued on Page 4



JULIE JACOBSON | ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this May 14 photo, the Reid-Gardner power station is seen near a farm on the Moapa Indian Reservation, in Moapa, Nev. Across the country, a disproportionate number of power plants operate near Indian tribal lands. Some tribes embrace the plants, which provide jobs and tax dollars to their communities. But a small group have begun to protest the plants in recent years, asking that they be closed.

## Tribe divided over new enrollment proposal

debate over whether to expand the to more tribal inclusion and unity. northwestern Montana reservation.

Enrolled citizens qualify for more health and social service benefits, plus they get to vote on tribal matters and hold office within the nation. But on both sides, the bigger question is whether expanding enrollment will

tribe's existence. eligibility has been determined by whether a person is at least one-quarter 2010 U.S. Census. Blackfeet, meaning that at least one grandparent must be a full-blooded Blackfeet. A majority of federally recognized tribes use that measure, known as blood quantum, to determine eligibility, according to the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission.

members want enrollment eligibility are excluded from tribal rolls. to include anyone who has proof of being the child, grandchild or greatgrandchild of an enrolled tribal member.

eligibility requirements to enroll as a Those opposed to the proposed lineal Blackfeet tribal citizen is dividing the descent eligibility include members of that he believes blood quantum system the Blackfeet Against Open Enrollment is racist. movement, who say blood quantum separates those with a close affiliation to system – people with certain genetic Native American life and cultural values from others with little or no personal connection to their ancestral heritage.

The Blackfeet tribe in 2011 had 16,924 create greater unity or threaten the enrolled citizens, according to tribal enrollment office statistics. But there For the past 50 years, Blackfeet tribal are about 105,000 people who identified themselves as 'Blackfeet Indian' on the

> The Blackfeet's original constitution, written in 1935, included a requirement that tribal members be at least 1/16th Blackfeet. The constitution was amended in 1962 to raise that requirement to a quarter.

All Blackfeet children living on the said. But an organization called Blackfeet reservation prior to Aug, 30, 1962, were Enrollment Amendment Reform is also included as tribal members. But in collecting signatures for a petition some cases their children do not meet seeking to change that standard. Its the blood quantum requirement and

> Robert Hall's parents are enrolled citizens but with a 15/64 blood quantum, he is not. He grew up on have won. Then we are a defeated the reservation, speaks the Blackfeet people."

GREAT FALLS, Mont. (AP) - A Supporters say the change would lead language and identifies with Blackfeet cultural values.

Hall told the Great Falls Tribune

"We are literally living in a caste qualities who are denied access to resources because of their racial makeup. If any other group in America was advocating this type of racial purity, they would be condemned as racists," Hall said.

Opponents of the proposed change are angered by racism allegations, saying those advocates are in effect campaigning to assimilate the Blackfeet people into white culture. Within a few generations, the cultural and ethnic characteristics that make the Blackfeet people unique would be lost by expanding enrollment, they

"When we go back and we look through history, Indians have fought assimilation and we have won - and we're still winning today," said Nathan DeRoche, an enrolled tribal citizen and an opponent of expanded enrollment. "But if we open that enrollment, they



The Native Pride Dancers will perform throughout the country of Jordan as artistic envoys.

## Dancers to tour Jordan

■ Native Pride Dancers, including two from Oklahoma, will participate in the Annual Jerash Festival in Amman, Jordan.

NATIVE PRIDE PRODUCTIONS News Release

Upon request from the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Jordan, Bronitsky and Associates, an International Cultural Marketing Company, contacted Larry Yazzie, Artistic Director of Native Pride Productions, Inc., to request the Native Pride Dancers to perform throughout Jordan as an Artistic Envoy to participate in a strategic cultural exchange to promote mutual understanding. This exciting opportunity will allow the Native Pride Dancers to tour Jordan to Educate, Inspire, and Motivate through music, stories, and dance

See DANCERS Continued on Page 4



The 27-member team Under 19 Iroquois Nationals team, including Seneca Ansley Jemison, assistant coach, will compete against teams from the United States, Great Britain, Canada and Australia, among others.

## Senecas going to Finland for lacrosse tournament

STEVE BELL Seneca Nation Release

ALLEGANY TERRITORY, Salamanca NY - Four Seneca Nation citizens, travelling on passports Haudenosaunee issued through the Onondaga Nation, are part of the Under 19 Iroquois Nationals lacrosse team competing at a 13-team international tournament in Turku, Finland.

Seneca players include Zach Williams, a midfielder; Frank Brown, midfield/attack, and Zach Miller, a midfielder. The

27-member team, including Ansley Jemison, assistant coach, will compete against teams from the United States, Great Britain, Canada and Australia, among others.

"We are all thrilled to see Seneca players and a coach on the Iroquois Nationals," said Seneca Nation Council Member Arlene Bova. "This is great exposure for all our Haudenosaunee players, coaches and fans and we know the team will do well. We are also proud that they are

See LACROSSE Continued on Page 3

## Navajo lawmakers reject water rights settlement

■ Tribes often trade what could be huge water claims for the promise of federal funding to deliver water to tribal communities.

FELICIA FONSECA
Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)

- Navajo lawmakers have rejected a settlement to recognize the tribe's water rights from the Little Colorado River basin, likely sending the tribe and its Hopi neighbor back to court to resolve their

The Tribal Council voted

15-6 against the settlement last week during a special session in Window Rock. The vote also puts a stop to legislation in Congress to move the settlement forward because it needed the blessing of both the Navajo and Hopi tribes.

"I think it's a missed opportunity," said Jared King, a spokesman for the Navajo Nation. "These things don't come by very often. It's disappointing."

Critics saw the settlement as an attack on their aboriginal rights and tilted toward corporate interests. They urged lawmakers to vote it down and continue fighting in court. A case in Apache County had been on hold while the tribes and 30 other entities worked



Tribal Council Speaker Johnny Naize

out a settlement decades in the making. Aside from Zuni Pueblo, no other Arizona tribe has acquired rights to the Little Colorado River.

Under the settlement, the tribes would have waived further claims to the river basin if the federal government funded more than \$300 million in groundwater delivery projects. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., sponsor of the water bill, had said the settlement would address the water needs of the reservations and provide certainty of the state's water supply for off-reservation communities.

Tribes often trade what could be huge water claims for the promise of federal funding to deliver water to tribal communities. A few American Indian water rights cases have been resolved through litigation.

Navajo President Ben Shelly ultimately backed the settlement as a way to avoid protracted courtroom battle and guarantee water delivery to tribal communities. He and Tribal Council Speaker Johnny Naize held public hearings across the reservation and received hundreds of comments on the settlement.

Shelly said Thursday that he would look for other ways to bring water to the communities on the western side of the reservation.

Naize has said lawmakers weren't willing to accept the settlement as is and had urged colleagues to table it for further discussion. He said he would advocate for an independent review of the settlement and renewed negotiations that would result in more favorable terms for the tribe, though it's unclear whether the other parties would be willing to work

toward another settlement.

"We will not be rushed into a settlement that a majority of our citizens are uncomfortable with," said Naize, who voted in favor of it July 5.

The Hopi Tribe took two separate votes on the matter – one to oppose Kyl's legislation and the other to support the settlement.

Much of the opposition to the settlement came from a provision that would provide the Navajo Nation capital with water from the Colorado River if the tribe extends the lease for a coal-fired power plant and the waiver language. But the failure of the Navajo Nation to extend the lease would not have killed the settlement in its entirety.

## NY holding on to seized Indian cigarettes

MICHAEL VIRTANEN Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) – New York officials are holding on to a truckload of untaxed Indian-made cigarettes they seized, challenging the recent order of a state judge who said the state had to give them back.

State police and the Cuomo

administration say they are not changing their enforcement practices despite the court ruling. New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman has filed an appeal notice that temporarily halts the order of state Supreme Court Justice David Demarest.

Demarest ruled on June 18 that there was no tax due on the 26,000

cartons of Signal-brand cigarettes going from the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation to HCI Distributors, a subdivision of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, finding no legal basis under current New York tax law or regulations to hold them. They were taken from a tractor-trailer stopped Jan. 23 at a U.S. Border Patrol checkpoint at Waddington in

northern New York.

Last November, administration officials said state law subjects unstamped cigarettes to seizure regardless of the origin or destination.

Richard Azzopardi, spokesman for Gov. Andrew Cuomo said: "This administration is enforcing the law and we will continue to do so."

Representatives of cigarette manufacturers on the Akwesasne Mohawk Reservation in northern New York, whose business has been hurt by seizures this year including some other truckloads, met with administration officials last week in Albany but declined afterward to comment. No progress was reported.

HCI sued state police, St. Lawrence County District Attorney Nicole Duve and her assistant, Jonathan Becker, arguing it had legally bought the cigarettes from Ohserase Manufacturing LLC on the Mohawk reservation and that it had accurate paperwork that specified its destination as the Winnebago reservation in Nebraska.

State police seized the tobacco. Demarest concluded no taxes were due and said no criminal or civil proceedings were ever begun, so the cigarettes should be returned.

Calls to Duve and Becker were not returned.

"Here, the New York State Police, at the specific direction of the St. Lawrence County District Attorney, has seized property owned by the petitioner, without a warrant and without commencing a criminal complaint," Demarest wrote. He rejected the state's argument that the cigarettes needed tax stamps.

Under New York law, cigarettes can be sold to tribe members without the state's tax of \$4.35 per pack but should be taxed when sold to non-Indians. That has resulted in a booming discount cigarette business for some tribes who say that as sovereign nations they shouldn't pay state tax at all.

The state has renewed enforcement efforts following nearly two decades of failures. Recent measures included crackdowns on Internet sales and requiring cigarette wholesalers to prepay the sales taxes before supplying reservation stores with non-Native brands.

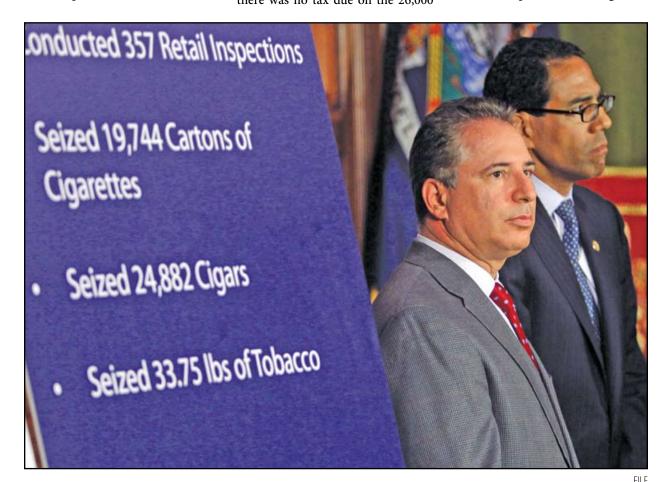
So far this year, troopers have seized more than 260,000 cartons of unstamped cigarettes.

The state Department of Taxation and Finance said it has taken possession of 180,000 cartons this year and has so far returned 108,500.

Newly elected St. Regis Mohawk Tribal Chief Paul Thompson, who was sworn in Sunday, told supporters economic development is his main objective and he wants to tackle the ongoing issue of state cigarette seizures, the Daily Courier-Observer in Massena reported Monday.

He said New York state "won't be happy until they take all our businesses."

Thompson said Demarest issued "a great ruling," that "hit it right on the head." He said he wants the tribal council to show public support.



Director of State Operations Howard Glaser, left, and Commissioner Thomas Mattox of the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance listen as New York Lt. Gov. Robert Duffy, not shown, speaks during a news conference at the Capitol in Albany, N.Y., on July 15, 2011. After decades of delay, New York began collecting taxes on cigarettes and tobacco products sold by Indian-operated companies.

### **DOI files counterclaim in Freedmen lawsuit**

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – The U.S. Department of the Interior has filed a counter-lawsuit seeking to stop the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma from denying tribal citizenship and other rights to the descendants of slaves once owned by some tribal members.

The counterclaim, filed in U.S. District Court in Tulsa last week, also seeks an injunction and a declaratory judgment that an 1866 treaty "provided Cherokee Freedmen and their descendants with `all the rights of native Cherokees,' including the right to citizenship in the Cherokee Nation."

The filing is the latest chapter in a longrunning dispute between the descendants of slaves, known as freedmen, and the secondlargest tribe in the United States.

The freedmen sued the Cherokee Nation after members voted in 2007 to amend the tribal constitution to restrict citizenship to those who could show at least one ancestor was listed on the Dawes Rolls. A federal court order has kept the citizenship of about 2,800 descendants intact pending the lawsuit's outcome.

Some Cherokees and members of other tribes in the southeastern U.S. were slaveholders, and were allied with the Confederacy during the Civil War. After the war ended and slavery was abolished, the Cherokee Nation and the federal government signed the Treaty of 1866, which said the freedmen and their descendants "shall have all the rights of native Cherokees."

The Interior Department wants the court to declare that the tribal constitution amendment is inconsistent with the Treaty of 1866. The tribe has argued that the treaty didn't give the freedmen perpetual citizenship rights and that, as a sovereign nation, it has a right to alter its constitution.

In a statement issued on the tribe's website, Principal Chief Bill John Baker said the claim will allow the case to move forward.

"We will have everyone at the table and all issues will be presented so we can get a definitive ruling," he said in the statement.

Marilyn Vann, president of the Descendants of Freedmen of the Five Civilized Tribes, called the filing "very positive."

"I'm very pleased with the filing," Vann said Wednesday. "I think they batted it out of the park."

An attorney representing the freed slaves' descendants, Jon Velie, told The Oklahoman the federal government could have requested the case be dismissed for technical reasons, but chose to fight it out in court.

## WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

#### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking – Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
   Lower Down Payment
- Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account.

\*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services.

Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details.

\*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com



Member FDIC TENOR



## Tribes say treaty fishing rights at risk

■ They say federal agencies have been overly focused on restricting harvest in recent years while ignoring improvements in habitat.

**PHUONG LE**Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) – More than 150 years ago, American Indian tribes in western Washington ceded much of the state to the federal government in return for guarantees of salmon and other fishing rights.

Now, those tribes say their treaty rights with the U.S. are at risk because the region is losing habitat that salmon need to survive. They say their treaty rights won't mean much if there's no salmon to harvest, and they're warning the federal government that they could resort to court action if more isn't done

"The tribes' treaty rights, the basis of their economy, culture and way of life are at stake," said Mike Grayum, executive director of Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, an organization of 20 treaty tribes including the Hoh, Upper Skagit, Puyallup, Tulalip, Nooksack and Nisqually.

"Their very being is dependent on these natural resources. They don't exist without them. From the tribes' perspective, everything is at stake here. Their backs are against the wall."

Frustrated by the lack progress in

recovering salmon in Puget Sound and along the coast, the western Washington tribes last summer took their concerns to the White House. In a report, they charged that the federal government has not lived up to its obligations under treaties signed in 1854 and 1855. The agreements preserved the tribes' right to harvest fish and shellfish in traditional grounds outside their reservation, a right reaffirmed in the 1974 Boldt decision

"We need a change," said Billy Frank Jr., chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and a member of the Nisqually Tribe, who was involved with fish-in protests in the early 1970s. "We're on a course that's going down. If we don't turn it around, there's not going to be anything left. ... We have to turn it around."

Last fall the White House Council on Environmental Quality directed regionalleaders of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to come up with a plan to address the tribes' concerns.

In May, those agencies agreed to better use their existing regulatory authorities and incentive programs to protect and restore salmon habitat. They also proposed a forum between tribes and federal agencies to resolve local habitat problems with tribes in Puget Sound and along the Washington coast.

Bob Turner, assistant regional administrator for the salmon

management division of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, said the agencies take seriously the issues the tribes raised.

"We need to do something to reverse the trends. We aren't gaining ground on habitat productivity," he said. "We are not in disagreement about the goal or concern."

The tribe is working on how to respond to the federal agencies.

"We would characterize it as a positive step forward ... but it's a small step," Grayum said. "It still comes up short of what we think is needed."

Despite millions of dollars spent on salmon recovery efforts in the region, steelhead and salmon such as the Puget Sound Chinook continue to struggle. Development, logging, loss of wetlands and floodplains, overfishing, pollution, bulkheads along shorelines, increased human activity and multiple other factors have contributed to their decline

"The fundamental problem is that we're losing habitat faster than we can restore it," Grayum said.

For many tribes that have lived for centuries along Washington's rivers and bays, fishing for salmon, digging clams and catching crabs are central to tribal cultural identity, as well as important for subsistence and commercial reasons.

"To be Jamestown is to walk down to the beach to get food for our families to share with our neighbors and to gather our foods in a fashion that we have done for centuries and know that they're going to be there," said Elaine Grinnel, 76, a member of the Jamestown S'Kallam Tribe on the Olympic peninsula.

"At no time did anybody have to go without food because it was so available. When you live on the beach and the tides are going in and out, there's food there. You could always go fishing, you could always go crabbing," she added.

Grinnel worried that the resources won't be there for future generations if more isn't done to protect habitat.

The tribes say federal agencies have been overly focused on restricting harvest in recent years while ignoring improvements in habitat.

Jeanette Dorner, salmon and ecosystem recovery director for the Puget Sound Partnership, said the tribes' concerns are very relevant to her agency's work. "To recover salmon, we have to recover the Puget sound ecosystem," she said.

"We have to stop destroying critical habitat and we need to restore natural processes and habitat. If we don't make progress on all of those things together than we can't recover the salmon," Dorner said.

The tribes blame the lack of political will and coordinated federal leadership, the government's failure to enforce its laws, as well as the uneven application of salmon conservation measures.

"We ceded all this land to the United States for a contract to protect our salmon, our way of life, our culture. We're gatherers and we're harvesters. And they forgot about us," Frank said.

## OKLAHOMA STATE BANK Thoroughbred Banking

VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com
Equal Housing Lender
Native American Owned



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

## NATIVE

TIMES
recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

## USFS, elders group at odds over fire

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) – The U.S. Forest Service extinguished a small fire being used in an indigenous group's religious ceremony in the Coconino National Forest and cited a group member after saying the fire was in violation of wildfire restrictions.

The agency let the fire burn into a third day before putting it out and issuing ceremony organizer Shawn Mulford a citation.

The action was low-key compared with the back-and-forth debate over the past couple of months between the two sides – one intent on maintaining its religious way of life and the other intent on protecting the forest from wildfires in a time of extreme fire danger.

The Indigenous Elders and Medicine Peoples Council prayed for a couple of hours before a law enforcement official walked over and doused the fire.

"It might be an end to this particular fire, but it's not an end to the prayers we're putting out in support of all people and all things," said Brett Ramey, who took part in the ceremony.

The ceremony was set to end July 7. The council had told Coconino National Forest officials that they wouldn't put out the fire after receiving an ultimatum July 5 to do

so or face legal action.

The group said the fire built in the shadow of the San Francisco Peaks, which many American Indians consider sacred, was vital to the ceremony. The fire was used to send prayers to the creator, while making an offering of tobacco, and was only big enough to keep one log smoldering.

"This is our church," the council said late July 5. "Why do you come with your non-(American) Indian beliefs and take it away? We can't stop our ceremony just because someone says, 'I'm going to give you a citation."

Forest Supervisor Earl Stewart said he respects the council's cultural and religious rights but must err on the side of public health and safety. The group also had set up camp in an area closed to camping. Stewart said he would continue working with the group to find an alternate location and time for the ceremony should fire be involved.

"We must often make tough decisions such as closing an area to any camping and fire and understand this is a difficult decision for the council to accept," he said.

Much of Arizona is in fire restrictions because of drought and high temperatures. Two years ago, a 15,000-acre wildfire burned in the Coconino National Forest near the area where the group set up its ceremony. Forest officials currently are battling a 7,620-acre fire in another part of the forest near the Mogollon Rim. That fire is 85 percent contained.

The group said its relationship with fire and respect for it would ensure no flames would escape a pit dug 2 feet into the ground and encircled at the top with large rocks. A water bucket also sat nearby.

Many of Arizona's American Indian tribes also have restricted open fires on reservation land but make an exception for ceremonies with notice and proper firefighting equipment.

Robert Lapaca, forest manager at the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Fort Apache Agency, said ceremonies are common in the summer – sometimes with a bonfire at night, an early morning fire and cooking fires. The agency requires a schedule for ceremonies and tools like fire extinguishers and water sources.

Some people even go so far as to rent fire engines for ceremonies, but Lapaca said it's not required.

"That's where the tribe is put in a hard place," he said. "They feel it's important for the ceremonies to occur and they, in turn, don't want to be the bad guy. They try to accommodate and ask that they take every precaution necessary to carry out their ceremonies."

## High court ruling may impact Wyandotte's tribal land case in Kansas

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) – A Kansas legal fight over the Wyandotte Nation's efforts to build a Park City casino could be swayed by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling last month in a different case.

U.S. District Judge Julie Robinson last week ordered both the state and Interior Secretary Kenneth Salazar to address the impact of the June 18 high court opinion in a case involving acquisition of land in trust for Indian tribes.

Robinson wants written arguments on how the decision affects Salazar's request to dismiss the state's claims. Kansas is seeking an injunction prohibiting the Interior Department from acquiring Park City land into trust

Kansas intervened after the Wyandotte Nation sued to force the Interior Department to accept Park City land the tribe bought in 1992 into trust.

#### Native Sun News announces expansion

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) – The largest Native American newspaper in South Dakota is expanding its operation.

The Native Sun News based out of Rapid City has announced that is has acquired an additional office suite for production of its paper.

The newspaper, with a circulation of 5,500, is the largest weekly newspaper in the state.

Native Sun News was founded in 2009

Native Sun News was founded in 2009 by longtime Oglala Lakota journalist Tim Giago.

United States like Benjamin Franklin.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Pullisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly probibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM
- News from the crossroads of Indian Country







LACROSSE
Continued from Page 1

traveling on their Native passports, recognized by Finnish authorities as those of sovereign nations."

The team leaves Sunday and returns

July 25.

The American Indian Program at Cornell is supporting Jemison on the team and he plans to blog about the

http://ansleyjemison2.

experience.

wordpress.com/.

"The American Indian Program has been extremely generous and has provided me with a camera to document the trip through photos and (possibly video)," Jemison said. "I am honored to be able to travel as a representative of the Haudenosaunee people. We have a very strong team and we feel as though we will be able to compete with the United States, Canada and Australia, all of which are

The last time the tournament was held, in England in 2010, the Iroquois Nationals were denied entry to compete because they insisted on using their

perennial powers in this tournament."

Native passports to travel and British authorities refused them entry.

The 2012 Federation of International Lacrosse U19 Men's World Lacrosse Championships will be played in Turku, the first European city to hose the event. Teams registered, in addition to the Nationals, include Australia, Bermuda, Canada, Czech Republic, England, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Iroquois Nationals, Netherlands, Scotland, United States and Wales.

Team members also include, Hank Delisle, attack, Mohawk; Orris Edwards, attack, Onondaga; Seth Oakes, attack, Mohawk; Ky Tarbell, attack, Mohawk; Anthony Patterson, defense/midfield, Tuscarora; Johnny Powless, midfield, Mohawk; Quinn Powless, midfield, Mohawk; Randall Staats, midfield, Mohawk; Brendan Bomberry, midfield, Mohawk; Jake Bomberry, midfield, Mohawk; Wenstar Green, defense/midfield, Mohawk; Lyle Thompson, midfield, Onondaga; Vaugh Harris, midfield, Cayuga; Chris George, defense, Mohawk; Kyle Isaacs, long-stick midfield, Cayuga; Jesse Jimerson, long-stick midfield, Cayuga;

Tyler Lafonte, defense, Hiawatha; Korin Sunday, defense, Mohawk; Thomas Oakley, defense, Mohawk; Trey Adams, goalie, Mohawk; Warren Hill, goalie, Mohawk; Dalston Day, attack, Mohawk; Tyson Bomberry, defense, Oneida; Kobi Johnson, goalie, Mohawk.

The coaching staff, in addition to Jemison, includes Gewas Schindler, general manager, Oneida; Freeman "Bossy" Bucktooth, head coach, Onondaga; Jim Barnes, assistant coach, Mohawk; Marty Ward, assistant coach, Cherokee; Delby Powless, assistant coach, Six Nations; Jason Johnson, assistant coach, Six Nations.

About The Seneca Nation of Indians: The Seneca Nation of Indians, one of the six nations of the Haudenosaunee [Iroquois] Confederacy, continues to live on its aboriginal lands in Western New York, including sovereign territories in Niagara Falls and Buffalo where the Nation operates resorts. The Senecas' long history includes passing on constitutional and governmental traditions used by founders of the

Historically a warrior nation, the Seneca Nation traditionally controlled trade and protected the Western territories, earning the title "Keeper of the Western Door." The Nation's five sovereign territories are comprised of 31,095 acres along the Allegany River and the Southern Tier Expressway, known as the Allegany Territory; 22,011 acres along Cattaraugus Creek near Lake Erie known as the Cattaraugus Territory; one square mile in Cuba, called the Oil Spring Territory; 30 acres in Niagara Falls, and 9 acres in Buffalo. The Allegany Territory contains the City of Salamanca within its boundaries. Tens of thousands of acres of land in southern New York and northern Pennsylvania were taken from the Nation when the federal government built the Kinzua Dam and forcibly evicted Senecas from their land in the early 1960s. The Nation today operates a \$1.1 billion economy that employs more than 6,000 people,

Native and not.

## Colleges profs learn about Native Americans

■ Educators across the country are taking part in the two-week workshop visiting Native American sites in Nebraska and Kansas.

JULIE BLUM Columbus Telegram

GENOA, Neb. (AP) – The walls that surrounded Judi Gaiashkibos once enclosed the classroom where her mother was educated more than 80 years ago.

Her mom was one of the students at the Genoa Indian School, a federally operated boarding school where Native American children received vocational training. The school was open from 1884-1934 and now is a museum.

It served as a training ground for assimilation into white society. Unlike some children, Gaiashkibos' mother went to the school willingly.

"The transition to the Genoa Indian School at that time wasn't as brutal," Gaiashkibos said.

When it first opened, children were sometimes

stolen from their homes and placed in the school. Their long hair was cut, and they were even doused in gasoline to get rid of lice. They would be without contact from their family for years at a time.

The later years of the school were much more civil. That is what made the decision for Gaiashkibos' mom to attend Genoa Indian School in the 1920s easier.

"My mother came here to the school partly because it was a necessity. She was one of nine siblings, so that meant one less mouth to feed. But it was also because of education," Gaiashkibos said.

The effects the school had on her mother were long-lasting, and even rubbed off on Gaiashkibos as she grew up. She shared some of those feelings during a Native Americans workshop for community college teachers hostedbyCentralCommunity College-Columbus.

Educators across the country are taking part in the two-week workshop visiting Native American sites in Nebraska and Kansas. The main focus of the workshop is on indigenous people of the eastern part of the state, including the Pawnee, Ponca



Judi Gaiashkibos

and Omaha tribes. Part of their day Tuesday was spent in Nance County, viewing the Indian School and stopping by the Pawnee Reburial Memorial in Genoa's Valley View Cemetery.

AnnMarie Beasley, a teacher at Cosumnes River College in Sacramento, Calif., was one of the 50 educators to take part in the workshop.

She said reading about the sites they visited in textbooks doesn't compare to witnessing the sites firsthand. That is the reason she took part in the workshop.

"It definitely gives you a better understanding of the Plains culture. The place is part of that," Beasley said. In particular, she said, Nebraska seems to be proud of its

Native American culture.

Part of the experience was visiting with scholars, researchers and tribal leaders. Among them was Pat Leading Fox, head chief of the Nasharo Council of the Pawnee Nation. He performed a song at the Valley View Cemetery that was specifically created for the Pawnee Scouts. The bodies of several Pawnee Indians were reburied at the cemetery after being held at museums for years. Among the reburied in the cemetery are six Pawnee Scouts.

The Scouts were recruited to be part of the United States Army in the mid-19th Century. They were a key asset in America's westward expansion and in the building of the Union Pacific railroad.

A scholar in the program, Gaiashkibos, is executive director of Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs.

She said the impact of her mother going to the Genoa Indian School was both positive and negative. Her mother learned cooking skills, which she used her entire life, and also a strong work ethic. But also mixed in were messages of shame that Indian people weren't good enough. That stuck with her mother and was also passed on to Gaiashkibos, who said she still struggles with self-esteem at times.

In her position, Gaiashkibos works to improve and promote cooperation between state and tribal government. One of the battles she faces is breaking down stereotypes.

"When you say Native American, usually something comes to mind. It is an image, a stereotype. We are very limited in your mind what we can do," she said, adding that it isn't a challenge that European descendants have to face.

But one of the messages that she preaches is overcoming preconceived notions.

"Sometimes we are our own worst enemies, but you can't paint us all with one paintbrush. All Indian people are not all one thing, but we can be everything we think we can be," Gaiashkibos said.

## DANCERS

Continued from Paae

from the Native American cultures represented by the dancers who make up this troupe.

The Jordan troupe members represent many First Nations Tribes, hometowns, and residential areas in the USA:

Jessup Yazzie: Meskwaki/ Dine/Lakota Nations, Meskwaki Settlement, IA & Eagle Butte, SD

Leya Hale and Tawny Adson (sisters): Dakota/Navajo Nations, Sisseton, SD & Oak Springs, AZ. Residents of Minneapolis, MN

Larry Yazzie: Meskwaki/ Dine Nations, Meskwaki Settlement, IA. Resident of Savage, MN

Rebecca Roberts: Taos Pueblo Nation, NM. Resident of Ada, OK

Michael Roberts: Choctaw & Chickasaw Nations of OK. Resident of Ada, OK

Russell Harjo: Seminole/ Pawnee Nations, Pawnee, OK. Resident of St. Paul, MN

Jessica Moore: Otoe-Missouria/Pawnee/Osage Nations. Fairfax, OK. Resident of St. Paul, MN

Lowery Begay: Dineh (Navajo) Nation, NM and AZ. Resident of Jonesborough, TN

Christal Moose: Anishinaabe, Mille lacs Band of Ojibwe. Resident of Sawyer, MN on the Fond du Lac Reservation of Lake Superior Chippewa.

The Dancers will hold Outreach events and public performances in Aqaba, Tafila, Karak, and Jerash. Notable performance or outreach venues include the University of Jordan, Revolution Yard, Queen Rania Center for Children, Al-Hassan Cultural Center and the Northern Theatre. Several members will participate in a media roundtable and will give a televised interview on Jordan Congratulations television. are extended to Native Pride Productions, Inc., for going forth and representing our First Nations People on this international tour to Jordan.

Contact Christal Moose at 218-565-2508 or at christal. ikwe@gmail.com for more information.

Please visit: http://www. nativepridearts.org Follow us: https://www.facebook. com/pages/Larry-Yazzieand-The-Native-Pride-Dancers/116359428430927; http://www.twitter.com/ NativePrideArts

## Harvard Med could pair with IHS for training

MICHAEL NEARY Capital Journal

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) – The corridors of Harvard Medical School might be leading to Native American communities on the Plains.

Representatives from the Indian Health Service and Massachusetts General Hospital – the teaching hospital for Harvard Medical School – visited South Dakota Urban Indian Health in Pierre recently to explore the possibility of bringing resident physicians to underserved Native health care centers in the state.

The Global Primary Care Program, part of Massachusetts General Hospital, already has partnerships in Chelsea, Mass., and in rural Uganda to reach underserved populations. The Indian Health Service, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, invited Global Primary Care Program members to look at South Dakota – both for their own medical training and for the services they can bring to the Native communities.

"I think it's a terrific fit," said Dr. Patrick Lee, director and founder of the Global Primary Care Program at Massachusetts General Hospital. He noted not only health care challenges but also cultural richness as factors that could help young physicians make real contributions as they broaden

their own understanding.

Lee said the project might involve a rotation of residents who spend two to four weeks in South Dakota serving Native populations. Those populations include South Dakota Urban Indian Health centers in Pierre, Sioux Falls and Aberdeen, as well Indian Health Service agencies on the Pine Ridge and Rosebud reservations.

One resident physician, Dr. Matthew Tobey, is already in the state and will write a description of his experience for other residents who might consider coming after he leaves.

But Lee stressed that it's important to know if the presence of visiting resident physicians is welcome before giving the program a green light.

"That would be crucial," he said.

Tobey, visiting the South Dakota Urban Indian
Health recently, will be staying in the state for several

Health recently, will be staying in the state for several weeks. Tobey is a resident physician in internal medicine/global primary care at Massachusetts General Hospital.

"This is a chance to work with communities facing a lot of challenges in their health care," he said.

As for the knowledge his colleagues in Massachusetts currently have about the area, he said: "essentially none."

But Lee and Tobey said they'd seen both problems and unusual courage in tackling those problems during their time here. That sort of challenge, they suggested, could be welcome to young physicians back in Massachusetts.

"They have a lot to teach," said Tobey, speaking of the Native residents he has encountered.

Lee said that if the program does proceed, young physicians would be in a position to learn about a region that's unfamiliar to them – and to consider it as a place to do some of their later work.

"They would be learning a tremendous amount," he said. "We've heard that this may serve as a recruitment opportunity as local providers have a chance to interact with them and share with them what it would be like to come back and serve for a longer term."

Lee said the residents would likely be in their final or second-to-final year of their residency – or "very close to fully trained."

If the program goes forward, Lee said, resident physicians will gather information from the community – including from Native health facilities – as they craft what he called "teaching cases." The teaching case, he said, would be a 15- to 20-page document with graphs or pictures that lets readers understand how care is given and spark discussion about that care

"There's so much complexity here, and we want to challenge the ideas that one size can fit all, especially as we move toward health reform," Lee said.

## **PLANT**

Continued from Page 1

A growing backlash has some tribal leaders questioning whether the health and environmental risks associated with energy production has put their people in harm's way.

Across the country, a disproportionate number of power plants operate near or on tribal lands. NV Energy maintains its plant near the Moapa Paiute reservation is safe and has been upgraded with the required clean emissions technologies.

Meanwhile, local, state and federal health agencies say they cannot conduct accurate health studies to verify the tribe's complaints because the sample size would be too small.

In all, about 10 percent of all power plants operate within 20 miles of reservation land, according to an Associated Press analysis of data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Many of those 51 energy production centers are more than a half-century old and affect roughly 48 tribes living on 50 reservations. Fewer than 2 percent of all people in the United States identify as Native American and only a small portion live on tribal land.

In many cases, Native American leaders have long embraced energy

development as an economic opportunity for communities battling widespread unemployment.

But a growing backlash has some tribal leaders questioning whether the health and environmental risks associated with energy production has put their people in harm's way. While it's not conclusive that coal operations pose a direct danger to reservation residents, the Moapa Paiutes are one of several tribes demanding the closure of their neighborhood power plants.

Sherry Smith, a history professor who co-edited the book "Indians and Energy: Exploitation and Opportunity in the American Southwest," said hardly anyone paid attention or were aware of potential environmental consequences when the power plants were built decades

"These are not simply people who have been duped by the government or the energy corporations," said Smith, director of the William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies at Southern Methodist University in Texas. "They are simply 21st century people who are coping with the same issues the rest of us are about economic development and the environmental consequences and having to weigh these things."

Among the nation's 564 diverse tribal entities, energy production is widely debated. Many support environmental protections as a natural extension of American Indian values. But tribal leaders also aspire to protect their culture by keeping

members on the reservation. Jobs and economic opportunity are necessary, energy production proponents say, and power plants fill the gap.

On one end of the spectrum is the Navajo Nation, the country's largest reservation, with five power plants near or on its sprawling territory in the Southwest. The tribe has embraced coal production as a central component of its economy, and Navajo officials traveled to Washington in June to oppose proposed EPA regulations to make the plants more environmentally sound. The new requirements would kill jobs, tribal leaders said.

On the other side of the debate have been members of tribes such as the Moapa Paiutes and the Northern Cheyenne of Montana, which for years blamed local energy companies for the health woes plaguing residents on their reservations.

In Moapa, Yvette Chevalier said she became ill within weeks of moving last year to the reservation, which sits 2 miles from the decadesold coal plant that sometimes infuses nearby skies with gray fumes. Gary Lee said he recently lost 40 pounds because of health troubles.

Former Tribal Chairman Vernon Lee said it's not unusual for members to be hospitalized.

"There have been a lot of heart attacks," Lee said. "Many young people died."

When coal is burned, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and mercury compounds are released into the air, according

to the EPA. Research has shown those fine particles can be linked to serious health problems, including premature death.

Children, who breathe more often, and senior citizens, who tend to have health problems agitated by pollution, are particularly vulnerable, said Colleen McKaughan, an associate director in the EPA's air division.

In Montana, the Northern Cheyenne live near the state's largest coal-power plant, the Colstrip Steam Plant. The four-unit power plant operated by PPL Montana produces 2,200 megawatts of electricity and is one of the largest employers in eastern Montana with roughly 400 workers. Many in the tribe want it shut down.

In northeastern Utah, the Ute Indian Tribe has threatened to sue Deseret Power over pollution from its 30-year-old plant on the reservation, which generates 500-megawatts of electricity. Ozone readings in the region can reach nearly twice the limit considered safe by the EPA, especially during winter months.

"They are legitimately concerned about the impact the power plant has on the reservation," said Michael Harris, a lawyer representing the tribe.

Harris said some tribal members have complained of asthma attacks and cancer clusters and the plant might be to blame. Deseret Power did not respond to a request for

To be sure, tribes fighting energy companies are the exceptions.

The massive Four Corners Steam Plant sits on Navajo land in Fruitland, N.M., where the Arizona Public Service Company says it generates 2,040 megawatts of electricity and serves New Mexico, Arizona, California and Texas.

Tribal members who work at the power plants earn roughly triple the average Navajo family income of about \$20,000 per year. The tribe expects to receive more than \$7 million annually from the two power plants on its land under its latest lease proposals.

"A lot of our own people who are critical of coal are not understanding the economic benefits," said Stephen Etsitty, executive director of the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency. "It's easy to perceive a problem when you see a big power plant smoke stack ... but that often causes you not to look at other areas of concern."

In Moapa, Simmons – whose 31-year-old brother passed away after working at Reid Gardner Generating Station – can see the Nevada power plant from her kitchen window. It reminds her of her brother's death.

She also frets for her 24-year-old son, who works at the plant and comes home with ash-covered skin. His wife is pregnant with Simmon's first grandchild.

"The land is poisoned," she said. "I don't even open my window because I don't like to look at it."

## COMMENTARY

## Chris Rock was only telling the truth



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Comedian Chris Rock sent out a tweet that went, "Happy white peoples independence day the slaves weren't free but I'm sure they enjoyed the fireworks."

Was he not telling the truth? Of course he was, but some people took it as offensive and unpatriotic. Those are the same people who bury their heads in the sand whenever Blackness," defended Rock. anyone speaks about the not so happy history of America.

Native Sun News, a weekly newspaper based in Rapid City, that showed an Indian and an "Which country was built on genocide and slavery?" There have probably been several, but the first country that came to the minds of most Native Americans was America.

When America celebrated its 200th anniversary in 1976, Indian activist Russell Means made an announcement that he and the American Indian Movement would "blow out the candles on America's birthday cake."

Means, like most Native Americans, knew their own history. He knew that America had built this Nation on genocide of the Native population and on the backs of Black slaves. He didn't sugarcoat this dark history of the birth of this Nation.

Comedian and activist better place as a Nation." Elon James White who hosts

African American standing Really? Someone tells the truth side-by-side with the caption, and you mad? I'm American. I never claim otherwise. I never give the 'We didn't land on Plymouth Rock' speech unless it's in a really funny way. But part of being American, to me, is that I have to acknowledge all the bullshit that comes with it. Basically some folks came over, stole other people's land, killed them, then started a country on the backs of my people while killing them, and then at some point, freed the slaves, but then oppressed them and killed them some more. Do I have the ability to do things here that I wouldn't in some parts of the world? Yes. But my family paid the price for that in actual blood, sweat and tears. If more people were these inglorious Medals of like Rock and acknowledged Honor.

He went on to say on Knee on December 29, 1890, purchased 828,000 square left school. In fact, there were 1991.

the truth maybe we'd be in a

S. D., recently ran a cartoon HuffPost, "I find this Chris 300 Lakota men, women and miles of land from France in a lot of terrible things that Rock backlash ridiculous. children were slaughtered. what became known as the happened to the indigenous Women and children were Louisiana Purchase. How did chased down in the hills and valleys and shot down like They simply planted a flag on but much of it is not taught in animals. When the Lakota it and said this is now ours. people speak of this massacre Never mind that thousands they always say, "Wokiksuye of indigenous people had wrote about America, from an Cankpe Opi" or Remember been living on this land for indigenous perspective, that Wounded Knee. To them it thousands of years. The land your heroes are not necessarily is like when Americans said, "Remember Pearl Harbor." The United States of America awarded 20 Medals of Honor to troopers of the 7th Cavalry for the killing and maiming of these innocent Lakota men, now deceased, often said chastised for that then those women and children.

Was that wrong? Of course it was wrong, but the honorable government of the United States has never apologized for this massacre, and what is worse, has refused to rescind

Most Native Americans As White pointed out, there of Independence as a time

France come to own this land? France was stolen land.

There are so many things in the Black community. America's history books that written from one point of view. Seldom, if ever, was the story written about.

I attended school at the Holy Rosary Indian Mission on the Pine Ridge Reservation. In our history classes we were look back at the Declaration never told that just 15 miles Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. down the road from the He was a founder of the a show called, "This Week in are some things in the history in their history when the school was the place where the Native American Journalists of America that are ridiculous inevitable destruction of their worst massacre in the history Association and of Indian "I just want to ask everyone and some that have never homes, lives and territory of America happened. Most Country Today newspaper. who's mad at Chris Rock: Is he been addressed or corrected. was about to begin. On April of us Native Americans had to He was a Nieman Fellow at For example, at Wounded 30, 1803 the United States learn our own history after we Harvard with the Class of

people after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, America's classrooms.

Twenty-five years ago I the United States bought from our heroes. The same can be said from the perspective of

From a historical point do sugarcoat the truth. Ojibwe of view, Chris Rock spoke activist Vernon Bellecourt, the truth and if he is to be that the story of America is offering the criticism should "His-Story" because it was ask themselves whether what he said was the truth.

If he is lying then our history indigenous other side of the books are wrong on more than one count.

> Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and educated on the

## The case of Lawton's missing hospital



my fortune cookie. It said, itself known through your words." These old fashioned destiny tweets give me a quick buzz of serendipity, that magic elixir that tells me that I am exactly where I am supposed to be at any given time.

sense of control. This was no exception although I was

tiptoed over them.

I read the slip of paper on Hospital opened. At the time, vintage version of the Indian record. the brass plaque heralded hospital. "Your heart will always make the federal government's commitment to Indian health for bemoaning the state of care. As if in a hazy fairy hosted a variety of health care in federal appropriations that initiatives including inpatient is inevitably whittled down We all love that Other services. Today, that has all by lawmakers each year.

quit verbalizing every internal tribal leaders from eight area \$2,741 per capita in health never materialized. Theories sits halfway finished in the source about something I refer times ten in Lawton. to as the Case of the Missing Remarkably, our part of the loaded down with documents that it does not yet have a new

Indian Health Care. But. IHS

received information from a government for improvements the rest of America, statistics lack is still profound.

Hospital in Lawton, OK. I was state is a rarity in Oklahoma in advocate plopped a copy of forgotten or discarded. This hospital. The yellowing papers of new facilities (for several of Subcommittee on Labor Priority System was revamped for the Southern Plains area. paper clip and I did not write Indian Health Services (IHS) and Education in 1996. It Lawton's impassioned plea for with breathless bureaucracy, about it although my mind makes their new hospitals was well spoken and succinct a new facility. According to budget possible. I admit Claremore but destined to fade into a the 2011 IHS funding request, allocations amnesia-- I have In 1967, the Lawton Indian and Tahlequah each have their Congressional fog of public some 23 of 28 proposals for learned that the team that

This is more than a soapbox longer in office) asked the waiting list. In 2009, one Senate committee for funding facility was built, according to that would secure about \$37 federal records. tale, Lawton's Service Unit (to itself remains in the Intensive million for a new hospital babies into the world and state.IHS gets around \$4 billion Lawton. That kind of money there are other things, like an was astronomical 15 years area office recommendation of Oklahoma's School of ago. I was told that such was that could resuscitate Lawton's the effort to get a new Lawton faded plea for a new hospital. cost of health care on a per to the top of the wait list (a elected state delegates could The Southwest Intertribal capita basis continues to inch perennial ledge in Indian likewise help. In Oklahoma, making a serious attempt to Health Board (comprised of up. IHS patients use about Country). A new hospital a controversial cultural center based in Oklahoma.

thought. A while back, I tribes) has petitioned the dollars compared to \$6,900 for abound on why not, but the state's capital. I noticed that we

One Indian health care netherworld where things are Indian health care. This tribal chairman (no on the (new and improved)

have a habit of letting things Limbo is a kind of just sit around here - including

Meanwhile, the Southwest testimony in my lap written by sums up the fate of Lawton's Intertribal Health Board that lent credibility to a long hospital. The reasons vary and a local tribal leader that was missing hospital. IHS' revised continues to lift their collective ago call for a new Indian I admit that tribal sponsorship presented to the U.S. Senate Health Facilities Construction voice for a new Indian Hospital sat on my desk hedged by a the Five Civilized Tribes) with Health and Human services in 1990, some six years before And despite a path fraught new facilities were placed wants to win finds a way to do

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen If common sense accounts of the Wichita and Affiliated court hospital lingo) brought Care Unit for its coma-like to serve the tribes in and by for anything, I gleaned that Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University Iournalism and has written for the Tulsa World and is Worldly jolt; it gives us a but vanished and the culprit is Meanwhile, the mainstream Indian Hospital that it moved Lassoing the attention of our currently a special contributor to the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00

36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

J	
ATI	
VE	
A۸	
1ER	
ICA	
N	
ΓΙΜ	
ES	

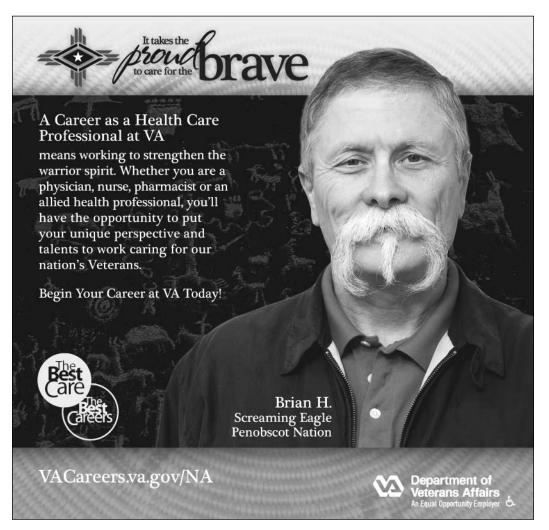
Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	

■ \$65.00 for 52 issues ■ \$32.50 for 26 issues ■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Come Join Our Team!
We are expanding our education
program and have opened the
following positions:

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL/SCHOOLMASTER
1ST/2ND GRADE TEACHER
SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER
TEACHER ASSISTANT

Applicants must have a valid driver's license, pass ALL background checks, and pass drug testing. Oklahoma certificate is required for principal and teacher positions. Applicants must submit the following:

1) Resume 2) Choctaw Nation Employment

Application
3) State Certificate(s) (if applicable)

For an application come by Jones Academy Administration Office or call 888.767.2518 and ask for Brad Spears or Shalon Roe.

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Tribal policies and procedures state that Native Americans will be

**FOR** 

**PROPOSAL** 

**LEGAL SERVICES RFP** 

The Comanche Nation Gaming

Commission (CNGC) is seeking Request

for Proposals from qualified law firms

and individuals to provide services for

The CNGC was established in 2005

in order to conduct oversight of the

Nation's gaming operations to ensure

compliance with tribal, federal, and

state laws and regulations. The CNGC

regulates four tribally owned and

operated gaming facilities which

is comprised of Class II and Class III

Interested law firms and attorneys may

contact Jill Peters at the information

**Comanche Nation Gaming Commission** 

Proposal Deadline: Monday, August 6,

below to obtain a copy of the RFP:

**Jill Peters, Executive Director** 

1915 E. Gore Blvd.

Lawton, OK 73501

jillp@comanchegc.com

(580)595-3300

gaming.

a tribal gaming commission.



#### **Iowa Tribal Court Positions**

The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma is accepting bids with resumés for the following positions in the Supreme Court of the Iowa Tribe:

#### CHIEF JUSTICE and ASSOCIATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE:

the Iowa Tribe Supreme Court Justice shall have the duty and power to conduct court proceedings and issue orders and papers incident thereto and administer justice in all matters within the jurisdiction of the Court.

All applicants must be twenty-five (25) years of age or older and not be a member of the Iowa Tribal legislative body or hold any other elective office. Applicants must be members in good standing of the Oklahoma Bar Association and have experience and knowledge of Federal Indian law. Indian preference is applicable but not a prerequisite.

Proposals should cover a term of 6 years and may be sent with resumés to Iowa Tribal Court, R.R. 1, Box 721, Perkins, OK 74059.

## DIVISION OF INDIAN WORK • MINNEAPOLIS. MINNESOTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR The Board of Directors of the Division of Indian Work (DIW) announces

The Board of Directors of the Division of Indian Work (DIW) announces the opening of its Executive Director position. Established in 1952, DIW is the oldest operating social service agency serving American Indians in Minneapolis. In 2012, DIW operates on a \$3.5 million dollar budget and has a staff of 42 persons in four major program areas.

1. Healing spirit provides education and assistance to youth in the long-term foster care system and those transitioning to independent living. The program also serves American Indians who need support in maintaining sobriety.

2. Health Services operates a food shelf, teaches traditional Native uses of tobacco and smoking prevention, provides culturally-specific sex education and counsels women about infant mortality.

3. Strengthening Family Circles provides counseling, community outreach, classes and additional support in parenting, affordable housing, sexual exploitation, domestic violence and spiritual practice.

4. Youth Leadership Development Program encourages well-rounded success by providing youth with a wide variety of learning opportunities, including Ojibwe language, cultural enrichment, after-school tutoring and recreational, environmental and artistic activities.

DIW has a partnership with the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC), shares many support services with GMCC, and the executive director serves as a vice president of the GMCC as well as a member of the GMCC senior leadership team.

The ideal candidate for this position must have a demonstrated passion for the mission of organizations serving the social needs of urban American Indians, as well as knowledge of or the ability to learn the political contexts of tribal and governmental systems. The ideal candidate should have experience delivering at the program level similar programs to those provided by DIW. The ideal candidate should have demonstrated strategic skills as well as strong organizational management skills, including financial management skills; demonstrated an ability to be a seasoned, diplomatic, and unflappable decision maker taking into account multiple constituencies; and demonstrated an ability to develop and work with a community based non-profit board of directors. A BA degree in social services or social work is required with a Masters degree in social work or related field preferred.

Interested candidates should send a letter of introduction and a resume to our search firm in care of Kent Eklund, Cincinnatus Inc., Riverplace Suite 210, 43 Main Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414, or to employment@cincinnatus.com. The deadline for submission is July 31, 2012.

# 6 lines your boss should never cross

Unacceptable Employment Scenarios and What To Do If They Occur

DETROIT – Most working adults have experienced an uncomfortable situation at work; that's the reality of interpersonal relationships in a professional setting. However, while no work situation is perfect in every respect, your workplace should be more positive than negative, and never a place where you feel distressed or ill at ease the majority of the time.

This can be difficult if you have a boss who frequently crosses the line of professional behavior, according to the employment experts at Allison & Taylor Reference Checking.

Your boss is crossing the line if he/she:

1. Makes references to your salary in front of other staff. This is private and confidential information, not public. Other employees don't need to know what you're being paid, and it's true regardless of the type of comment that's made. Whether the boss is saying, "I don't pay you enough," or "I pay you too much," this type of comment will lead to resentment among staff members. Broadcasting your earnings undermines your position with the rest of the staff. They'll either think you're willing to work for peanuts, ruining their chances of earning more, or that you're overpaid.

2. Reprimands you in front of other employees. This is a form of bullying, and it's never acceptable. While you may have made a mistake or error that deserves discussion, a good employer will handle this professionally - and in private. A good boss should never denigrate your skills, either, with comments like, "This job is so easy, anyone could do it."

unreasonable

could do it."

3. Has
expectations.

Managers need to communicate their expectations for work performance clearly, assist employees when needed, and set reasonable deadlines for projects. This one can be tricky... at times every employee has probably felt that he or she been dealt an impossible task. But if you're consistently receiving demands, unreasonable you need to speak up. It could be a communication issue; perhaps something as simple as unclear directions are bogging you down. Or it could be a case of micromanagement (in which case, you were hired because the boss felt you were qualified to do your job, and it's fine to remind him/her to let you do it). Just be sure you address it in a courteous and non-confrontational manner.

4. Shares too many personal details. This is a work situation, not the therapist's couch. A good boss shouldn't share problems or inappropriate personal details. If you find the conversation often veers in this direction, lead the way by being very brief in your responses and then change the subject back to business. And don't bring your own problems to the office.

5. Makes inappropriate references. Any comment that makes you squirm is one that shouldn't have been made in the office. This includes water cooler jokes, emails, or comments about your physical appearance. Include in this category any type of

implication that the boss is interested in a relationship of a personal nature, even if it's not something you're entirely opposed to. Workplace romances are NEVER a good idea, and it's beyond unprofessional to even make the suggestion. All of these things are a sexual

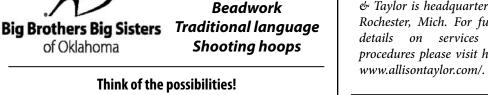
harassment lawsuit waiting

to happen.
6. Implies that sex, race, age or religion is a factor in work performance. None of these things have anything to do with your ability to do the job you were hired for. The suggestion that it might is not only unfair, it's discriminatory. Address any such implication immediately.

If you find that you're experiencing one or more of these problems with regularity, you need to speak to your boss about your discomfort. This isn't always an easy thing to do, but it's necessary to maintain a professional working relationship. Keep in mind that he/she may not even be aware that it is bothering you. The key is to open up a dialogue that can deal with the issues. Approach your boss in a free, calm moment, and let him or her know that you feel there are some issues that need to be addressed. Then calmly discuss the issues; discuss the problem in an open and honest manner. And always keep in mind, that having respect for yourself and your needs will allow the boss to see you're there to do your best work. If discussing with your boss does not change things for the better, then consider going up the chain of command or to HR for help.

About Allison & Taylor:

Allison & Taylor and its principals have been in the business of checking references for corporations and individuals since 1984. Allison & Taylor is headquartered in Rochester, Mich. For further details on services and procedures please visit http://



Stickball · Drawing

· Fancy dancing ·

Step up and mentor a Native American child.

Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org
Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back  $\ldots$  you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Catching the Dream (formerly Native American Scholarship Fund) seeks an executive director. Superior writing ability, knowledge of proposals and fund raising, knowledge of private scholarships, knowledge of college admissions process, three years of budget and finance experience, and knowledge of school improvement processes.

Send resume, sample of writing, and salary requirements to CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs!

-New jobs posted throughout the week-

## Native American Owned Business? Let the Native American Community know! The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Eastern Oklahoma! Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838



#### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

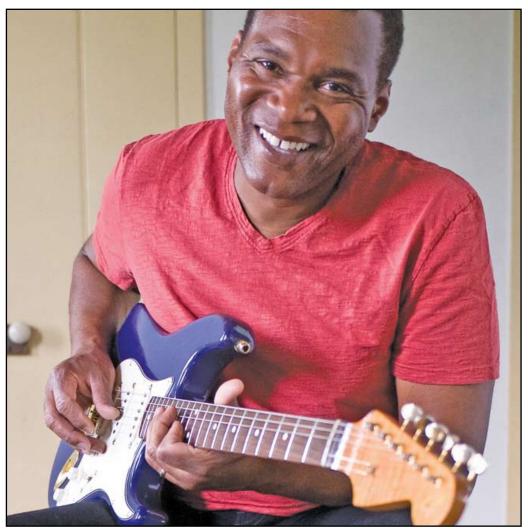
Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

 $Native\ American\ Contractor$ 





Blues guitarist Robert Cray will be playing the Osage Event Center Sept. 13. Tickets are on sale now.

## **Osage Event Center featuring top** blues guitarists Robert Cray and Kenny Wayne Shepherd Sept. 13

**CHRIS BARTON** Osage Casino

TULSA, Okla. - Five-time Grammy Award winning guitarist Robert Cray and popular blues guitarist Kenny Wayne Shepherd will perform during a live show 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 13, at the Osage Event Center.

Tickets are \$48 general admission and are available by visiting the Osage Casino gift shop at 951 W. 36 Street North or by calling (918) 699-7667. Tickets are also available at https://tickets.osagecasinos.

com/. Guests age 18 and over are welcome.

Robert Cray was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in 2011. He released Live From Across the Pond in 2006, a two-CD concert set from a series of shows when he opened for Eric Clapton at London's Royal Albert Hall. His albums Strong Persuader in 1986 and Don't Be Afraid of the Dark in 1988, both were winners of the best contemporary blues performance Grammy.

Kenny Wayne Shepherd has had four No. 1 blues albums and a string of No. 1

mainstream rock singles and his project, 10 Days Out; Blues From The Backroads, was the # 1 selling Blues Album of the Year in 2007. He won two Billboard Music Awards, two Orville H. Gibson Awards, the Blues Foundation's Keeping The Blues Alive Award, and a Blues Music Award among many other accolades.

Osage Event Center in Tulsa is located a few minutes north off the L.L. Tisdale Expressway. For more information visit www.osagecasinos.com

#### 131st Annual Otoe-Missouria Summer Encampment July 19-22 2012 Encampment Grounds Red Rock OK

#### Head Staff

**Head Gourd Dancer Singer** Phil "Joe Fish" Dupoint

**Head War Dance Singer** Little Bear Littlecook

**Head Man Dancer** Vernon Quinn Harragarra

> **Head Lady Dancer** Regina Waters

**Head Gourd Dancer** Abraham Dent Jr

**2011-2012 Princess** Jessica Arkeketa

**2012-2013 Princess** Rickielynn Hughes

**Co-Hosts Red Rock Creek** 

**Invited Guests Kiowa Gourd Clan Otoe War Mothers** 

> **Emcees Wallace Coffey Oliver Littlecook**

**Arena Directors** John Arkeketa **Pat Moore** 

**Water Boys Hunter Childs** Me-Way-Seh Greenwood Roy Childs II

#### Contests & Events

**Thursday** 2012 Princess Crowning First Timers Specials **Family Special** 

Friday Morning Youth Olympics & Games

**Friday Tiny Tots All Junior Categories** Teen Fancy Shawl & Jingle **Teen Grass & Traditionals** 

**Saturday Morning** Youth Olympics & Games **Horseshoe Tournament** Kathage Akiwena liwere 5k & 1 Mile Fun Run

Saturday **Teen Cloth & Buckskin Teen Straight & Fancy** 60+ Golden Age Women Women's Fancy Shawl & Jingle Men's Grass & Traditional Visitor's Only Straight Dance

> **Sunday Morning Church Services Archery Contest**

**Sunday** 60+ Golden Age Men Women's Buckskin & Cloth Men's Straight & Fancy

Food concession vendors-\$300 Contact Charmain Brown at 580-402-5574 Arts & Crafts vendors 10' x 10' area-\$150 Contact Diana Plumley 405-255-8999



## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact Community Center 1pminformation is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte** 3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL **The Native Nations Youth** Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm -8:30pm @ the Youth Services Women's and Girl's "3 on 3 of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**JULY 10-12 DINO CAMP 2012 (for** kids age 4-7) 9 - 12pm at Museum of the Red River, Idabel, Okla. Join us for a unique three day summer camp exploring the world of dinosaur extremes. Dino Camp is a children's camp, designed expressly for young explorers ages 4-7. During the three days of discovery we will learn about the dinosaurs that fall in the extreme category, compare them to our own Acrocanthosaurus, and much more. For more information on this event, please call 580-286-3616.

**JULY 12-15 Sac & Fox Nation Powwow** 

at Sac & Fox Nation Tribal **Grounds, Stroud. Features** Native dancing, singing, dance competitions, arts and crafts, a rodeo, food vendors, outdoor camping and much more. Call 918-968-3370.

**JULY 14 Basketball Tournament**" Men's and Boy's Game of Horse, Dunk, 3-Point and Best of 15 Free Throws at Sac and Fox Nation, 5.5 miles south of Stroud on Hwy. 99 More info call Catherine Walker at(W) 918-968-0705 or 0706 OR (C) 405-788-0899

**JULY 19-22 Otoe-Missouria Summer Encampment at Otoe** Missouria Encampment Grounds, 7500 Highway 177, Red Rock. One of the most important gatherings for the Otoe-Missouria people, this event will include gourd dancing, a 5K run and contest dancing. Call 580-723-4273.

**JULY 20-21** Indian Taco Sale, 11am-4pm at Tulsa Indian UMC, 1901 N College, Tulsa. Info call 918-834-1956 or Fred, 918-798-2845

**JULY 27-29** Kihekah Steh 43rd Pow-Wow, 193rd Street N & Javine Hill Road (52nd W.Ave) Skiatook, OK. Contest powwow - Stomp Dance -

Sat. night. Info call Donna

dkphillips2002@gmail.com

Phillips 918-381-7996 or

**JULY 27-29** Oklahoma City Powwow Club Indian Hills Powwow, 9300 North Sooner Road, Oklahoma City. Info call Yonavea Hawkins, 405-919-1572 or email

**AUGUST 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

yonavea@yahoo.com

**AUGUST 3-5** Kaw Powwow at Washunga **Bay Powwow Grounds,** 12613 E. Furguson, Ave., Kaw City. Numerous traditional dance contests such as fancy dancing. Call 580-269-2552 or toll free 1-866-404-5297.

**AUGUST 3-5 Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow at Concho** Powwow Grounds, Concho. Traditional singing, gourd dancing, war dancing and a drum contest. **Dance contests in various** categories. Call 405-476-1134.

**AUGUST 8-11** 81st American Indian **Exposition. Kicks off with** parades on Wednesday & Saturday at 10 am in downtown Anadarko. Caddo County Fairgrounds, Anadarko, OK. Nightly performances at 8 pm. americanindian exposition.org. Dance contest info: 405-334-9193

**AUGUST 11-12** Wichita Tribal Dance at Wichita Tribal Park, Anadarko. Dance competitions will be open to Wichita Tribal members and their descendants. Call 405-247-2425.

**AUGUST 17-19** Intertribal Indian Club of **Tulsa Powwow of Champions** at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis, Tulsa. Doors open 5pm Friday, 10am Sat and Sun. Call 918-378-4494 or 918-838-8276 for more information.

**AUGUST 18** Eastern Shawnee Children's Powwow, 12615 S. 705 Road, Wyandotte. Native dance competitions will include tiny tots and junior divisions. Call 918-666-7710.

**AUGUST 18 Cherokee Nation Bass Classic** from 6 a.m. to noon, at **Chicken Creek Campgrounds** on Lake Tenkiller. Features 50/50 drawings, door prizes and a plaque and cash

prize for the biggest bass. Registration is \$100 per boat for two team members, including one adult and one youth, between the ages of 3-18. Participants 16 and up must have a fishing license. Lake bass regulations apply. Info call John Mouse at 918-822-2929.

**AUGUST 30-31 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka Homma Capitol Grounds. Information call 800-522-6170.

**AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the Cherokee Cultural Grounds, Southwest of the tribal complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

**AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and** Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

## Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma urges Congress to restore pay to Native vets

REBBECCA REDELMAN

country celebrated Independence Day, first Native nation to adopt an official resolution in support of restoring improperly withheld pay to eligible members.

"Historically, Native Americans serve our U.S. Military at a higher rate than of our military veterans has been a sacred tradition since the founding of always keep. They have put their lives on the line to protect us and this country. citizens of the United States, we need Chairwoman of the Tribe.

The service and loyalty of American Indian people to the United States military was instrumental in the formation of this country and continues to be instrumental in ensuring the freedom of the United States and its citizens today. As pointed out by Chairwoman Rowe-Kurak, Native Americans have the highest rate of military service of any other ethnic group in the Nation. Nearly 16% of the Native American population aged 16 years and older are veterans.

From the World War II era to 2001, the United States military withheld state income tax from the paychecks of Native American service members who claimed Indian land as their home. Under federal statutory law and federal legal principles related to state income taxation of Native American individuals, Native American military service members domiciled on Indian land are

PERKINS, Okla. – A week before the decades of improper state income tax he was a citizen ... he is one among many withholding, hundreds, if not thousands, the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma became the of Native service members and veterans did not receive the full pay to which they were entitled for their committed in Operation Desert Storm. Speaking service. Under current law these Native about his active duty service, Adame oversight hearing on Native Veterans' Native American veterans and service service members have little if no ability

In 2001, the Department of Defense any ethnic group. Ensuring the welfare halted the practice of improperly withholding state income tax from such Native American service members' pay this country and a promise that we must in response to a memorandum opinion issued by the U.S. Department of Justice. The Department of Justice opinion As citizens of the Iowa Nation and as stated that federal law and federal legal principles regarding the taxation of to fight for them like they have fought Native American individuals preempted for us," stated Janice Rowe-Kurak, the withholding of state income tax from the military pay of Native service members domiciled on Indian land. The Department of Defense now employs Form 2058-2, which enables a Native service member domiciled on Indian tax withholding from his military compensation. But this relatively new practice does nothing for those Native service members who were improperly taxed in years prior to 2001.

> One such veteran is Richard Adame, a member of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and a retired Sergeant First Class who served 20 years in the United States Army. During the time of his service, his domicile was his family's allotment on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation. Adame believes that during his tenure with the U.S. Army, 20 years' worth of state income tax was improperly withheld from his military pay.

who served this country in the armed get this issue the attention it deserves. forces before citizenship was granted," shared Adame. Adame himself served revealed feelings that he, like nearly to recover the money that is owed to every veteran who has served during war time, experienced. "I cried. I was scared. I thought I would never come

members improperly taxed, Adame did come home. Adame has championed the restoration of improperly withheld veterans' issues spurred her to then income tax monies to eligible Native present the improper taxation issue to veterans and service members for nearly a decade. When he and his fellow Prairie Band veterans discovered that comprised of several Native veterans state income tax had potentially been itself, was quick to take action. The improperly withheld from their military IBC drafted and unanimously passed a pay throughout their careers, he began tribal resolution in support of restoring to seek assistance in rectifying the improperly withheld pay to eligible injustice. Adame feels that this issue requires urgent attention by Congress, members. The resolution urges Congress land to voluntarily stop state income Tribes, and concerned citizens. "I have a dire feeling that if I cannot get withheld pay to eligible Native service anything done about a decades old injustice whose victims are almost all passed away, that nothing will ever be done. I feel like it is my responsibility to do what I can for my Grandfather and the relatives of thousands of my fellow tribal veterans."

According to Adame, his voice went largely unheard until he gave a nations will follow the Iowa tribe's presentation before United Nations lead. The more tribes that adopt similar Special Rapporteur James Anaya during resolutions, the more united the front Anaya's visit to the University of in Indian country to press the United Tulsa in May 2012. Three Indian law States to restore improperly withheld attorneys, including one who specializes pay to Native heroes. "I truly appreciate in taxation in Indian country, took notice the support of the Iowa Tribe," Adame Adame hails from a long line of the injustice presented by Adame. remarked.

exempt from state income tax on their dedicated U.S. military service members. Each coming from military families military pay. It is believed that over the "My grandfather served in WWI before themselves, the attorneys agreed to volunteer their services to help Adame

> The attorneys helped Adame submit testimony on the improper taxation to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs' issues. One of the attorneys presented the issue on the Native Veteran's panel at the 25th annual Sovereignty Symposium in Oklahoma City. In the panel audience sat an employee of the Iowa Tribe of Luckily for those Native service Oklahoma whose Native veteran spouse returned 70% disabled from a recent tour in Iraq. Her commitment to Native the Iowa Tribe.

> > The Iowa Tribe's Business Committee, Native American veterans and service take action to restore such improperly members and veterans. It also urges the National Congress of American Indians to adopt a similar resolution in support of restoring pay improperly withheld as state income tax by the U.S. Military to eligible Native service members and veterans.

It is Adame's hope that other Native



OTOE-MISSOURIA PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE | COURTESY

For 131 years, the people have gathered near the Old Agency in Red Rock, Okla., to celebrate and remember their Otoe-Missouria ways.

## Otoe-Missouria Summer Encampment July 19-22

**HEATHER PAYNE** 

Otoe-Missouria Press Release

RED ROCK, Okla. - In today's digital age, life has a way of distracting us. We text and Google and Facebook our lives to the world, but we rarely stop to take a moment to think about our place in it. We move so fast that we don't take root, but a tree without deep roots cannot stand. Each year, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe gathers on the third weekend of July to slow down, reminisce, teach and take root.

For 131 years, the people have gathered near the Old Agency in Red Rock to celebrate and remember their Otoe-Missouria ways. For many people the gathering, held this year July 19-22, is the most significant social and cultural event of the year.

Encampment Committee Chairman Hank Childs welcomes those tribal members to enjoy the four day event. He says that he understands that people sometimes have to move away, as he did many years ago, but they should not forget they are Otoe-Missouria people.

"The ones that moved away, like my back," Childs says. "Come back, dance. Meet your family. Introduce your in and all the trees are strong." children into the arena. Catch up with old friends."

join the Encampment Committee thirty years ago he had to be reminded of the importance of the Otoe-Missouria way. For his part, Childs says he was schooled on the ways of the Otoe-Missouria encampment by elders who wanted to ensure that practices and traditions were carried out properly. Today, he is the elder who must pass on the customs of his people to the next generation.

"It is handed down to us through all days. these years and we try to keep it our way," Childs says. "Sometimes you go to different powwows and see how other tribes do it and you wonder why Otoes do it differently. We do it our way. We do it the Otoe way."

This spring the Encampment Grounds flooded when Red Rock Creek broke its banks after days of heavy rains. This was not the first time the river had flooded the campgrounds, but after two years of enduring drought and temperatures over 100 degrees at Encampment, Childs looks at the flooding as a good sign.

"We needed the rain," Childs says. Trees around the arena broke last year because it was so dry. They just came family, to get a better life because there crashing down onto peoples camps. The wasn't any work, we want them to come rain was good. The ground needed to be washed clean. Now the grass is coming For more information about the 131ST

Childs says that when he was asked to a footstep. Each generation leaves its mark. Over the years the roots have grown deep for the trees and the people that sit around the arenas edge. It is a special place where the people do not have to walk in two worlds. At encampment, you are only Otoe-Missouria and it is the most important thing. Childs says he wants to invite all Otoe-Missouria people to come experience the power of those four

> "Don't forget who you are," Childs says. "Come back. Dance. Meet your family. Find your place. Think about your parents and your grandparents. Think of what they survived to put you here-to give you these traditions. Remember those things when you dance."

A wide range of events are scheduled for the four day encampment this year including health screenings, kid games, archery contest, turtle races, a horseshoe tournament, arts & craft vendors, Gourd Dances, contest dances, a historical photo display, an Elder Round Table, a cultural Challenge Bowl and a 5K race. Friday, Saturday and Sunday there is contest dancing. Annual Otoe-Missouria Summer After 131 years of Summer Encampment visit www.omtribe.org or Encampments, the arena has felt many call Hank Childs 580-233-7509.

#### In the details -

131st Annual Otoe-Missouria **Summer Encampment** July 19 through 22, 2012 **Encampment Grounds,** Red Rock, Okla.

**Head Staff** Head Gourd Dancer Singer: Phil "Joe Fish" Dupoint Head War Dance Singer: Little Bear Littlecook **Head Gourd Dancer:** Abraham Dent Jr Head Man Dancer: Quinn Harragarra Head Lady Dancer: Regina Waters Emcees: Wallace Coffey & Oliver Littlecook Arena Directors: John Arkeketa & Pat Moore Water Boys: Hunter Childs, Mewayseh Greenwood, Roy Childs II 2011-2012 Princess: Jessica Arkeketa 2012-2013 Rickielynn Hughes

Co-Hosts: Red Rock Creek

Invited Guests: Kiowa Gourd Clan, Otoe War Mothers

Concessions

Food concession vendors, \$300 for weekend. Contact Charmain Brown at 580-402-5574

Arts & Crafts vendors, 10' x 10' area, \$150 for weekend. Contact Diana Plumley 405-255-8999.

Camping

Traditionally, no one is to set up camp before the blessing of the grounds. The Buffalo Clan is the first clan to set up camp. Tribal members camp at their inherited family campsites. All campsites on the inner circle are already assigned. Any new campsites will be located on the North or South ends of the **Encampment Grounds. ALL NEW** campsites must be approved by **Encampment Chairman Hank** Childs before moving onto a site. Any conflicts regarding campsite assignments, locations or dimensions will be addressed by the Encampment Committee and the Otoe-Missouria Police Department on a case-by-case basis.

Hotels

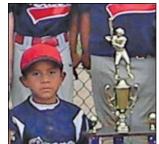
Hotels are available for visitors, competitors, runners & guests. Visit the Ponca City Tourism Bureau website for details on accommodations in the area http://www.poncacitytourism. com/accommodations.htm or call them toll free 866-763-8092.

#### **Inside this issue:**

- OSBI seeks help solving 31-year-old case
- North vs. South: Setting the record straight
- Tahlequah Braves win state tournament









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 29

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

JULY 27, 2012

### Tribal clinic refusing chronic care service to non-tribal citizens

■ An official says the tribe puts in three times the money they get from IHS and a tight economy was a factor in the decision.

S.E. RUCKMAN Native American Times Special Contributor

CAPE FLORAL, Fla. - Kay Haering gets up every morning and checks her blood sugar before breakfast. Her insulin level will determine what she eats for breakfast. A diabetic, she learned how to eat for her chronic disease at a local Indian clinic in nearby Immokalee, Fla.

Beginning in July, Haering, a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, is among those whose care is restricted for non-Seminoles at their health clinics. The Seminole Tribe of Florida notified Haering that Immokalee patients termed "Direct Care Patient" will no longer have chronic health care

at the facility.

In a letter from Seminole Tribe of Florida to Haering, the facility outlined that it will be able to provide limited dental care and acute care for illnesses that are short term, but not care for those with diseases like arthritis, heart problems or diabetes.

The letter, dated May 15, notified Haering that she had about a month to find services for her two chronic

See CLINIC Continued on Page 3



The Seminole Tribe of Florida outlined in a patient letter that it will be able to provide limited dental care and acute care for illnesses that are short term, but not care for those with diseases like arthritis, heart problems or diabetes.



The Eastern Shoshone Tribe filed a written argument in federal court in Cheyenne last week, objecting to the Northern Arapaho Tribe's plan to kill eagles on the Wind River Indian Reservation.

### Eagle kill permit: Shoshone claim closer ties to land

**BEN NEARY** Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - A dispute over the Northern Arapaho Tribe's push for a federal permit to kill bald eagles for religious purposes has prompted the Eastern Shoshone Tribe to assert that it has older,

deeper ties to the central Wyoming reservation the two tribes share and that its opposition should prevent killing the birds there.

The Eastern Shoshone Tribe filed a written argument in federal court in Cheyenne last week, objecting to the Northern Arapaho Tribe's plan to kill

eagles on the Wind River Indian Reservation. The Shoshone were already on the reservation when the federal government settled the Arapaho there in 1878.

The dispute highlights the difficulty of having separate tribal

See PERMIT Continued on Page 4

### **Senate passes HEARTH Act** Wahzhazhe: Original ballet

■ Tribes may soon approve own land leases.

**ASSOCIATED PRESS** and STAFF REPORTS

WASHINGTON (AP) - A bill giving Native American tribes authority over agreements to lease their lands for development awaits the president's signature.

Supporters say the legislation, called the HEARTH Act, will hasten housing construction, clean energy and business or industry development on tribal lands. It allows tribes to approve their own land leasing agreements rather than the Bureau of Indian Affairs, if they choose. The Navajo Nation already has this sort of

"The HEARTH Act had



strong bi-partisan support. unanimous passage demonstrates that Congress can make progress on important legislation for Indian Country to help create jobs and improve the economy," Jefferson Keel, National Congress of American Indians president, said.

The HEARTH Act allows tribal leases to be approved by

the tribe under tribal leasing regulations. The law will enable tribes to move much more quickly on leasing and economic development, while maintaining the Secretary's trust responsibility to oversee trust lands.

"This new law will speed housing and other development on tribal lands because we can do it ourselves under tribal government regulations," Keel said. "NCAI is very appreciative of Rep. (Martin) Heinrich (D-N.M.) and Sen. (John) Barrasso (R-Wyo.) for taking the lead introducing the HEARTH Act in the House and Senate. We also appreciate the strong support from the (Obama) administration. Working together with the

See ACT Continued on Page 4

# tells story of Osage people

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

Dance has always been an important part of Osage life and culture. Now it will be used to share the tribe's history with the rest of the world.

In the Art of Motion Dance Studio in Bartlesville, Randy Tinker Smith listens to the music of Wahzhazhe, a new ballet to premiere in Tulsa Aug. 3. It's playing over the speaker in the next room where dancers learn the choreography of a village scene.

Wahzhazhe began with music, said director and producer Randy Tinker Smith. Two years ago, she worked at the Osage Tribal Museum in Pawhuska. Researcher Lou Brock had written eight songs and occasionally played them at work.

"When I heard it, I thought immediately, 'That needs to be a ballet," Tinker Smith said.

The ballet will be at 8 p.m. Aug. 3-4 at Holland Hall in Tulsa and 8 p.m. Aug. 10-11 at the Bartlesville Community Center.

As a researcher, Tinker Smith has seen many historical texts of the history of the Osage. The word "Wahzhazhe" is what the people call themselves and it roughly means "people of the middle water."

The tribe was known to have lived throughout an expansive portion of the Ohio River valley area before Iroquois tribes began to push the Osage westward. The tribe migrated to a region touching present-day Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma

See BALLET Continued on Page 8



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Wahzhazhe, the ballet, will be at 8 p.m. Aug. 3-4 at Holland Hall in Tulsa and 8 p.m. Aug. 10-11 at the Bartlesville Community Center.

## DOJ supporting inmates in ceremonial tobacco suit

**DIRK LAMMERS** Associated Press

ceremonies.

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) -The U.S. Department of Justice is supporting Native American inmates in their lawsuit challenging South Dakota's ban on tobacco in religious

Inmates Blaine Brings Plenty and Clayton Creek in their 2009 federal lawsuit against the South Dakota Department of Corrections contend that a prison policy that bans the use of tobacco during religious ceremonies is discriminatory. The state said ceremonial to bacco

inside the state penitentiary was becoming increasingly abused, and the policy is not overly restrictive because it allows other botanicals such as red willow bark to be burned.

The Justice Department, in a brief filed late last Friday, said the state's position runs contrary to the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act and U.S. Supreme Court precedent.

"The court should decline this invitation to determine the importance of tobacco use to practitioners of Native American religions," the Justice

Department attorneys wrote.

"Accordingly, the court should also reject defendants' argument that they have not placed a substantial burden on plaintiffs' religious exercise."

The South Dakota prison system went tobacco-free in 2000 but made an exception for tobacco used in Native American ceremonies. But officials in October 2009 eliminated that exemption, saying tobacco was being sold or bartered and inmates had been caught separating it from their pipe mixtures and prayer ties.

Members of prison-based

See TOBACCO Continued on Page 4

## Victim specialists urge teamwork on Indian cases

DAVE KOLPACK Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) – Federal prosecutors said last week they're heeding the call for teamwork by victim specialists who handle child abuse and neglect cases on American Indian reservations.

Experts told attendees at a conference on family violence in Indian country that successful prosecution

for crimes against children depends on cooperation among law enforcement, social workers, doctors and attornevs.

"It takes a lot of people to be able to make this work," said Joan Halvorson, a Native American victim specialist with the FBI.

Rick Volk, an assistant U.S. attorney from North Dakota, said in an interview Wednesday that is office has

for several years led regular meetings on the reservations with agency representatives to review child abuse cases. The sessions have become "more of a priority" in the last few years, he said.

"Essentially, we determine what's been reported, what's going on with the case, what needs to be done yet, and where it's at in the process to make sure there aren't those falling through the cracks,"

Panelists said Wednesday networking among agencies can help with simple problems, such as finding addresses for a victim or figuring out who has legal custody of the child, or with more complex cultural issues, such as use of traditional Native American healing methods in medical care.

"It's very important we find out the needs of that particular

reservation," Halvorson said. "All of them are a little different."

Halvorson said that while face-to-face contact with the victims and their families is essential, several prefer to conduct interviews off the reservation "so the rumor mill doesn't start, as in any small community."

Dr. Arne Graff, of the Fargobased Sanford Child Advocacy Center, told the group of

police officers, social workers, prosecutors, counselors and community leaders from North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota that healing is a long and involved process.

"Mostly what I want you to take away is this: Caring for these kids is a team effort," Graff said. "There is no one person in this room who has any more power or need for these kids than the entire team."

### Prosecutors warn about human trafficking

■ American Indian girls are particularly at risk.

DAVE KOLPACK Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) - Top federal prosecutors from North and South Dakota have added human trafficking to their list of crimes affecting Native Americans at an increased rate in the

U.S. attorneys Brendan Johnson of South Dakota and Timothy Purdon of North Dakota said during a conference on family violence last Tuesday that both states are seeing more cases of girls and young women being recruited for prostitution and drug rings.

Three new indictments for human trafficking have been handed down in South Dakota in the last three months, Johnson said.

"You have people who treat their victims like they're not humans," Johnson said after talking to a group that included police, social workers, prosecutors, counselors and community

The operations are formed mainly in populated areas, but American Indian girls are particularly at risk, the prosecutors said. Some of them were recruited by a Sioux Falls-area man who was convicted last year of sex trafficking

"These young girls were brutalized. They were humiliated," Johnson said.

Brandon Thompson, 28, of Tea, S.D., was sentenced to life in prison on the sex trafficking charge.

"This is one area where the federal government has gotten it right," Johnson said of the penalty.

A recent sex trafficking case in North Dakota involved several victims from the Fort Berthold Reservation. Dustin Morsette, 22, of New Town, was convicted of sex trafficking, sexual abuse, drug trafficking and witness tampering. He is awaiting sentencing.

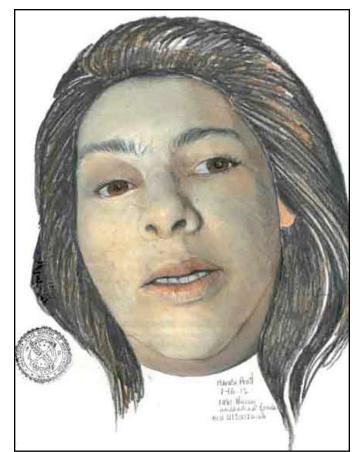
Authorities said Morsette recruited minors and young adults to be part of a gang he described as the Black Disciples. He allegedly forced gang members to distribute marijuana for him and engage in sex acts with him.

One of the investigators in that case, Bureau of Indian Affairs agent Mike White, said the increase in oil workers has added to worries about sex trafficking. But he said recent convictions on human trafficking and other violent crime has made victims and others more willing to help law enforcement.

"I have hope. I've seen it already," White said in an interview last week. "Once they know people are being prosecuted, they are coming forward."

Purdon, the U.S. attorney from North Dakota, said the campaign against violent crime on the reservation is a long process. He noted that an American Indian woman born in the United States has a 1-in-3 chance of being sexually assaulted in her lifetime.

"Improving public safety in Indian country is not something you are going to knock out in two years," he said. "If we can sustain this for a period of years, I am hopeful, I am confident, we can impact some of these statistics we find to be unacceptable."



OKLAHOMA STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS

Forensic reconstruction drawing by Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigations Forensic

## **OSBI** seeks help solving 31-year-old crime

This young woman is approximately 35 years of age with American Indian descent. She has black hair, brown eyes, 5'3" and weighed approximately 130 lbs. with a full upper denture place.

The victim was beaten on the head and face.

On May 25, 1981, the body of the unidentified deceased female was recovered from a low water crowing off of Highway MM, north of Dixon, Missouri.

She was wearing a dark

blue long sleeved blouse with white pinstripes, brand name Try 1, blue jeans, brand name Gear. She had on blue bikini panties and a bra with Jubel or Julie written inside the bra in magic marker.

If you have any information about this woman or this case, please contact the Missouri State Highway Patrol Troop I at (573) 368-2221 and the Missing Persons Clearing House at (573) 526-6178. You may also visit www.namus.

## Lakota man sues S. Dakota hospital over surgical scars

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

the letters KKK were carved into his stomach during surgery has filed a federal civil rights lawsuit against the South Dakota hospital where the operation took place, the hospital's board of directors and others.

YouTube videos featuring 69-year-old Vern Traversie, a Lakota man who lives on the Cheyenne River Reservation, went viral in Native American communities earlier this year. In them, Traversie talks about being mistreated at the hospital and shows his abdomen. Though he himself is blind, Traversie says he was told by others that the scars left after his heart surgery form the letters.

A May rally in support of Traversie

said his story exemplifies the racism Native Americans experience in Rapid investigated his allegations and hospital officials. No criminal charges have been filed in the case.

Chase Iron Eyes, a lawyer for Traversie, filed a lawsuit Monday in U.S. District Court in South Dakota against Rapid City Regional Hospital, its board of directors, physicians and TRS Surg Assist Inc. The lawsuit alleges a civil rights violation based on race and cites the scarring from Traversie's double-bypass surgery done in August 2011 as evidence. It seeks a jury trial and damages.

"Defendants injured, carved, burned, and/or cared for Plaintiff's abdomen in such a manner that scars resembling three letters 'K' were permanently placed

drew hundreds of people, many of whom on Plaintiff's abdomen for no medically necessary purpose or reason, and in the process injured, carved, burned, and/ SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - A lawyer City. But others say they can't make or cared for other portions of Plaintiff's for a Native American man who claims out the letters, including police who body to cause injury, specifically his abdomen and back," the lawsuit stated.

Tim Sughrue, chief executive of Rapid City Regional Hospital, said in a statement that the hospital will "vigorously defend this claim."

"We at Rapid City Regional Hospital are confident the care we provide meets or exceeds standards of care and is without bias or consideration of race, religion, color, age, sex, disability, national origin, or any other classification protected by law," he said.

Traversie said he hadn't been aware the lawsuit was filed Monday, although he knew a lawyer was planning to file one at some point on his behalf.

"I think the Native people have been fighting racial hatred for many years in South Dakota, but you know, it's not all the people that are hateful toward Native Americans," said Traversie, who recently had another heart surgery in Bismarck, N.D. "We have a good segment of our society – white society – in South Dakota that are Christian people and they get along good with the Native Americans. In my instance, I believe I'm dealing with the Ku Klux Klan, and that's a small minority."

Iron Eyes, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and Cody Hall, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, which Traversie belongs to, organized the May rally in an effort to bring attention to what they say is continued mistreatment of Native American people. Iron Eyes declined to comment about the lawsuit.

While Traversie's story spurred the protest, many Native Americans who attended referred to broken treaties, unsolved murders and incarceration rates among Native Americans as their reasons for showing up. They included Dennis Banks, who helped found the American Indian Movement in the late 1960s to protest the U.S. government's treatment of Indians and demand the government honor its treaties with Indian tribes.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty Jackley said last Tuesday that his office would release information in the "near future" about its investigation.

### Fla tribe accuses former chairman of \$26M theft

MIAMI (AP) - A Florida Indian tribe has accused its former chairman of stealing \$26 million from its members to spend on gambling trips, shopping sprees, real estate and luxury cars.

In a federal lawsuit filed in Miami federal court, the Miccosukee tribe accuses Billy Cypress of conspiring to hide the "massive web of financial theft, embezzlement and fraud."

Cypress served as the tribe's chairman from 1987 until he was voted out in 2009.

The lawsuit also lists two former Miccosukee financial officers, two former U.S. attorneys and a Miami brokerage firm as defendants. One of the former Miccosukee financial officers, Julio Martinez, tells The Miami Herald that the tribal council under Cypress' leadership was fully aware of his spending.

The Herald could not reach Cypress or his attorneys for comment at press time.

### **Shoshone-Paiute leader** sentenced on theft charges

BOISE, Idaho (AP) - The former chairman of a tribe in Idaho and Nevada will spend nearly a year under the supervision of the federal Bureau of Prisons after pleading guilty to theft.

A federal judge has recommended 38-year-old Kyle Prior of Caldwell serve his time at a residential reentry center in southwestern Idaho.

Prior, a former chairman of the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes in southern Idaho and northern

Nevada, was also ordered to pay nearly \$36,500 in restitution at his sentencing Tuesday.

Prior was executive director of the Upper Snake River Tribes Foundation from September 2008 and July 2009. It was during that time that prosecutors say he stole money intended to help enact a fish and wildlife program.

Prior pleaded guilty in January to using a foundation debit card to enrich himself.



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JUSTICEFORVERN

Vern Traversie talks about being mistreated at the hospital and shows his abdomen. Though he himself is blind, Traversie says he was told by others about the scars.

## No answers in killing of 2 kids on reservation

PATRICK SPRINGER AND CHUCK HAGA

Forum Communications

ST. MICHAEL, N.D. (AP) - Family and friends searched several days for Destiny DuBois and her little brother Travis DuBois Jr., after the children were reported missing by their father.

Their mother, Mena Shaw, decided to go to the home where she had lived with the children's father. Some said the couple had recently separated; others that they recently had reconciled.

Immediately entering, the mother knew something was terribly wrong - witnesses would later describe areas inside the house as covered with blood, some of it in pools.

In one bedroom, small bloody handprints later were found on a wall a couple of feet above the floor.

The search ended when Shaw found the lifeless bodies of 9-year-old "Des" and "Baby Trav," 6, under a mattress. Authorities said the children appeared to have been dead several days, slain by a knife or another cutting weapon.

The same day the bodies were found - May 21, 2011 – the children's father, Travis DuBois, was arrested and taken into custody. He pleaded guilty to public intoxication and reckless endangerment, according to a tribal prosecutor, and remains in jail serving sentences for those charges.

Now the search here on the Spirit Lake Nation is for answers to crimes that shook the community and have been cited as a grave example of endangered children on the reservation.

Almost 14 months later, nobody has been charged in connection with the siblings' deaths, and people wait anxiously for investigators to produce results.

"It's really sad that we have these two children murdered and who's going to pay for it?" asked Cheryl Good Iron, a grandmother who resides in Fort Totten, expressing a common sentiment on this Dakota Sioux reservation. "Who's going to be charged for it?"

Federal authorities insist that the investigation, jointly conducted by the FBI and Bureau of Indian Affairs police, has not stalled and remains on track.

"We've been working very hard on this case since the day it happened," said Timothy Purdon, the U.S. attorney for North Dakota, whose office would prosecute the case. "A great deal of forensic evidence has been gathered in the investigation, and some of that forensic evidence is still being processed."

He would not say whether investigators collected DNA evidence, though he said it is standard procedure for the FBI to do so, and added: "The FBI and BIA have conducted

numerous interviews." Purdon declined to say whether investigators have identified any suspects in the case. He said he understands the frustration at Spirit Lake, and the need for information, but that he can say little about an ongoing investigation.

The BIA declined to comment, deferring to the FBI. A spokesman for the FBI, agent Kyle Loven, was tight-lipped.

"We are looking into this," he said. "It is an active investigation, and we are moving forward. I can't give any details."

Betty Jo Krenz was the Spirit Lake tribe's child case worker on call the weekend the DuBois children's bodies were found. Her phone rang a few minutes before 4 p.m. on a Saturday afternoon. She rushed to the home in St. Michael, where police and ambulance crews already were on the scene.

Krenz was called in to take care of the mother's other children - including a 4-yearold boy who was in the house when the bodies were found.

"They were really shaken," she said of the mother's several teenage daughters. "They were hysterical."

Inside the house, Krenz saw a lot of blood, including areas that looked like a paint can had spilled.

"It was a brutal way to die," she said. "The girls told me they fought hard. They watched their mom cradle those dead kids."

The floors were strewn with empty bottles and clutter.

"It looked like there had been a three-day party or a frat house party," Krenz said, adding that she'd heard that people had been in and out of the house before the bodies were found.

As neighbors began to gather outside the home, BIA and FBI investigators told Krenz, who no longer works for the tribe, to take the children to the nearby St. Michael recreation center, which has shower rooms.

There, she washed blood off the boy, and gathered the bloody clothing in plastic bags, which she gave to an aunt to be washed.

More than a year later, she hasn't heard anything from investigators or prosecutors.

"There's no closure for me," Krenz said, "and I can't imagine how the family feels."

Travis DuBois, an army veteran who worked for the reservation's fire department, has misdemeanor convictions for drunken driving and simple assault. The tribal prosecutor said he was intoxicated when taken into custody.

Mena Shaw also has had a few scrapes with the law. Her record in state court includes misdemeanor convictions for possession of a controlled substance and drug paraphernalia.

Nothing has been heard publicly from DuBois since he was taken into custody. He has served about half of his consecutive sentences, which total two years and two months, for public intoxication and reckless endangerment. Forum Communications reporters were unable to speak to DuBois in the Lake Region Corrections Facility, where he is being held.

His mother, Violet Robertson, said nobody on her side of the family has been interviewed by investigators. Her family is as bewildered as everyone else.

"We know nothing," she said. "Maybe people think we do. We know nothing."

The family can't afford to hire a lawyer, and Robertson said she didn't know if her son has legal representation.

She last saw her two DuBois grandchildren just days before they were found dead. They were in a program at the Four Winds School.

Destiny, whose family said she loved school, had just completed third grade. Translated, her Dakota name was Many Stars Woman.

Travis Jr., who had been born premature and was small for his age, had finished first grade. His Dakota name was Walking Elk Boy. His uncle, Burton "B.J." Robertson, thought of his diminutive nephew as a little warrior.

"I know in my heart I couldn't believe my son would do something like this," Violet Robertson said, her eyes welling with tears. "He took care of his kids.

"They're saying he was a meth head. He didn't do stuff like that. He worked," she said.

A friend gave her a piece of paper retrieved from the house, a note in large printed letters Robertson said was written in Destiny's penmanship.

"My dad is the best dad and he will always be," the note said, with a heart shape as a period. "The best dad."

Robertson, like so many at Spirit Lake, is left wondering what happened in that home to those two children, and by whose hands.

"I want answers," she said.



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

## NATIVE

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL

advertising@nativetimes.com

SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

> > Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







Continued from Page 1

illnesses - diabetes and polymyalgia (arthritis-related illness). Haering and patients like her "will no longer be eligible to receive treatment and annual maintenance prescriptions at Seminole Tribe of Florida Health Clinic for chronic medical conditions," Connie Whidden, the Seminole Tribe of Florida's (STOF) health director, stated in the letter.

Whidden said the tribe gave it plenty of thought before they decided to discontinue services to even one group. She said the numbers are high for the amount of people who will be affected by their policy change but added that a tighter economy was a factor in the decision.

"The tribe puts in three times what we get from IHS (Indian Health Service)," Whidden said. "A lot of nonresidents reside in the state of Florida. They feel like Seminoles are rich they can provide services. Our tribe doesn't think so."

Meanwhile, Haering said the cut backs are severe for non-Seminoles.

"If it's not a cold, flu or ant bite, we're not going to be seen in the clinic," Haering said.

Haering, a semi-retired real estate agent, lives about 40 miles from the southern Florida Seminole health facility and the loss of her chronic care means no more diabetic supplies, blood work and related consultation (foot care and dietitian). She cannot afford a supplementary insurance policy for \$370 a month that could cover her expenses, she said.

In the notification letter to Haering, Whidden stated that all of her medical records would be available on request  $and \, upon \, completion \, of a \, STOF \, records$ release form. The letter outlined chronic illnesses as any medical condition requiring management over time.

"Therefore, you need to locate another medical provider and/or facility which will be able to treat you for your chronic disease and you must pay for the medical care that you receive," Whidden stated.

Confused by her pending lack of services, Haering said that she wrote several letters to Seminole for answers but received no response. In her

letter from Seminole Tribe of Florida, Haering was referred to area county health facilities for health care. Haering said she contacted IHS for help. IHS officials in Nashville, Tenn. told her in a June 8 letter they were reviewing the

"It is a complex issue due to the fact that the Seminole Tribe owns and operates their health program under Title V of Public Law 93-638," said Martha Ketcher, acting area director. "It will take some time to investigate the issue, and will probably require review by the Office of General Counsel."

IHS officials said they would not respond regarding specific tribes but recognized tribes "going 638" for health care programs. According to IHS statistics, more than half of the IHS budget authority appropriation is administered by tribes. This is done primarily through Self-Determination contractsorSelf-Governancecompacts. Nationally, there are roughly 82 Title V compacts totaling approximately \$1.35 billion. So while Seminole is exercising provisions under Title V, some Indian patients may find themselves out of the health care loop.

"We didn't say we were cutting

services completely, just we no longer provide certain services," Whidden said.

Whidden added that future revisions in their policy may be to allow children of descendents who do not fulfill their one-quarter blood quantum requirement for enrollment access to health care in their facilities.

"You can't throw the baby out with the bath water," she added.

Meanwhile, Haering said she will probably return to selling real estate soon. She needs to find insurance that covers her health care needs and maintains she would have not dropped her insurance while still "healthy" if she knew she could not count on care through IHS in her area. The thought crosses her mind that she is being forgotten by Indian Health Services, she said.

"They (IHS) are not offering anything of value to these Native American patients here in Florida," Haering said.

For more information on which tribes have Self Governance contracts with IHS, visit online at: http://www. ihs.gov/SelfGovernance/documents/ SelfGovernanceTribesMap.pdf

### SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

### CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: **lisa@nativetimes.com** 

### PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

> **INDIAN LAW PROBATE ADOPTIONS**

RESTRICTED LAND **ISSUES** 

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY** 



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA

VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

## Natives aim to fight cancer through art

"One of the biggest risk factors for cancer is getting older. Decades back, Native folks never lived long enough to get cancer," said Kris Rhodes, executive director of the American **Indian Cancer Foundation** in Minneapolis.

**JON WALKER** Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) -Specialists in Native American health are turning to art to correct a problem in medicine.

The problem is cancer, the leading cause of death among all South Dakotans and a greater menace to Indians in particular.

A project called Circle of Life will take root this fall as an attempt to close that gap in cancer care. Sponsors will use Native art, stories from survivors and lessons on nutrition, exercise and screenings as online tool kits to encourage healthier living among tribes. The larger society has been saturated with anti-cancer messages since the 1960s, but the voices in this project are new and exclusively Native American.

"This is cancer education for Native Americans by Native Americans," said Charlotte Hofer, spokeswoman for the American Cancer Society, which is sponsoring the project.

The curriculum will be available at cancer.org as a resource for what Hofer calls "a positive, holistic message based on common tribal values of spirituality and respect for the natural world." She expects

community leaders and school teachers to use it in seminars and classrooms and for individuals to do the same online.

The effort rises out of a knotty health challenge. Half of South Dakota's Indians smoke, a rate three times worse than the full population and a leading indicator of cancer. Indians are more obese, eat less nutritiously, get less exercise and see doctors less often, all factors in causing cancer or failing to catch it before it grows out of control. They develop the disease more often, and they have a death rate, at 252 per 100,000, that is 37 percent higher than cancer mortality for whites. On top of that, they've had to deal with a reluctance to face the problem in their own tribes and external challenges that keep rural Indians at a medical disadvantage.

"We do less cancer screening because we're underfunded, and the result is we do not have the services that are considered standard for others. When you diagnose it later, people die," said Dr. Donald Warne, a senior policy adviser to the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board and a consultant to Sanford

Cancer is becoming a more visible problem, ironically, at a time tribes are seeing a gain in life expectancy. Average lifespan moved from 78 to 80 overall for South Dakota in a decade ending in 2007, and tribal people specifically jumped from the 50s to the mid-60s. Efforts to cut drinking on reservations had a hand in that, as did progress in reducing deaths to pneumonia and influenza.

But living longer has its side effects, and one of them is cancer.

"One of the biggest risk factors for cancer is getting older. Decades back, Native folks never lived long

enough to get cancer," said Kris Rhodes, executive director of the American Indian Cancer Foundation in Minneapolis.

The power of imaging is central to the Circle of Life, with the color illustrations, photography and text from and for Indians. It is to be a work of art with personal impact, no small matter for minorities often left at the margins of health messages.

"If you're from the majority society, and people all look like you, you don't even think about that," said Warne a South Dakota native and member of the Oglala Lakota tribe. "But if you're not from the majority society, you start to wonder if this is for me. Health messaging is more effective when it's culturally tailored and culturally appropriate and when the messenger is from the same cultural group as the person receiving the messages."

Success in this case will require a shift of opinion on smoking, a greater openness to health screening and a willingness to get past a barrier to acknowledge a problem. Roberta Cahill, director of community partnerships for the American Cancer Society in Pierre and a Yankton Sioux member in her 60s, said tribal people for years have had trouble owning the

"People did not talk about cancer much," Cahill said. "A lot of time people were unaware of others who had survived cancer. In other instances, there's a belief if you talk about something it's going to happen. It's been a very difficult topic to bring up in communities."

Smoking complicates the challenge. Indians use traditional tobacco in spiritual ceremonies, which is distinct from the addictive commercial tobacco people smoke for periodic pleasure. It's the commercial tobacco

that now plagues Indian country with a 49.9 percent smoking rate, in contrast to the steadily falling 15.3 percent rate for whites in South Dakota. The government might have had a hand in this disparity by sending surplus smokes to the tribes after World War II and thus fostering an addiction for huge numbers of

"It is definitely the social norm to smoke. It's the affordable luxury when there are high rates of poverty. The cultural context is huge," said Rhodes from the cancer foundation. Rhodes, 43, from the Anishinaabe tribe in northern Minnesota, experienced it herself. "I smoked as the thing to do in high school and college. Then I just quit. I was one of the lucky people," she said. She later taught tobacco control classes in Indian country and found the social connection to other smokers the hardest link to break. The new curriculum will need to finesse the point.

"Messages around tobacco need to be sensitive to separate out the spiritual use. When it's our most sacred medicine, you can't just say 'tobacco kills.' It takes a bit more messaging than that."

The effort comes alongside state health department efforts to make breast, cervical and colon cancer screening accessible to all residents and as the major health system try to cover more rural areas.

"There's a lot to be learned," Rhodes said. "For too long Native folks weren't at the table. Now with Circle of Life we are engaging communities to ask the question, what's not working and what needs to be changed."

For more information visit http:// www.cancer.org/subsites/CircleofLife/

National American Indian Housing Council and many tribal leaders, the bill passed with unanimous support in both the House and Senate, such incredible support and many sponsors on both sides of the aisle."

The Interior Secretary still must approve the tribes' leasing regulations. The bill does not apply to oil and gas leases. The administration issued new leasing regulations last November that set deadlines for approval of leases to end long delays.

The House approved the bill in May. The Senate approved it July 17 by voice vote. The president's signature would make it law.

### **TOBACCO**

Other states, including Nevada and New Mexico, have prison smoking bans but allow Native Americans to use tobacco during religious ceremonies.

Native American Council of Tribes sued, arguing that for Native American prayer to be effective, it must be embodied in tobacco and offered within a ceremonial framework.

Brings Plenty and Moore in their suit said the policy change violates their U.S. Constitutional rights ensuring that no prisoner be penalized or discriminated against solely on their religious beliefs or practices.

Their attorney, Pamela Bollweg, argued before U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier in March that prison officials have to show there's a compelling interest in limiting access, and even if there is a compelling interest they have to use the

James Moore, the attorney representing prison officials, argued that South Dakota's policy change followed more than 10 years of conversations with tribal elders and traditional healers, some of whom perform pipe ceremonies without tobacco. He said prison officials stopped short of banning the use of pipes.

Moore did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment on the Justice Department's intervention.

Other states, including Nevada and New Mexico, have prison smoking bans but allow Native Americans to use tobacco during religious ceremonies.

### **PERMIT**

governments on a single reservation. While other reservations in the country are home to more than one tribe, officials have said the Wind River Indian Reservation is the only case where two tribes with separate governments share common ground.

"The Eastern Shoshone Tribe is the only tribe with aboriginal ties to this region, including all areas within the Wind River Indian Reservation," wrote Kimberly Varilek, attorney general for the Eastern Shoshone Tribe and a member of the tribe.

"And the Northern Arapaho Tribe can neither demonstrate that same interest, nor any other reason why their permit can only be satisfied on the Wind River Indian Reservation in complete disregard of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe's interests, beliefs, traditions and practices," Varilek wrote in the brief she filed Friday in federal court in Cheyenne.

Varilek said Monday that the Arapaho could seek permission from the state of Wyoming to kill eagles outside the reservation.

Although the Shoshone use eagle feathers in their own ceremonies, Varilek said, "There's not a process

in the Shoshone beliefs to kill eagles." She said the Shoshones traditionally captured live eagles, took some feathers, and then released the birds.

William C'Hair, a Northern Arapaho elder, said Monday that his response to the Eastern Shoshone Tribe's argument that it has deeper ties to the Wind River Reservation is that the Shoshone received full payment long ago from the federal in the reservation that went to the Northern Arapaho Tribe.

C'Hair said the federal government also docked payments it made to the Northern Arapaho Tribe for the loss of ancestral lands to recoup the cost of payments to the Eastern Shoshone Tribe. "So actually, we bought and we own the reservation. Bought and paid for," he said.

C'Hair noted that the federal government holds other reservation lands in trust for other tribes throughout Indian Country. "The federal government just loans them the land for them to reside on," he said. "But the Northern Arapaho Tribe owns this land. That is their property. And that is the way that I would respond."

The Northern Arapaho Tribe sued the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service last fall for a permit to kill bald eagles

on the reservation for the tribe's Sun Dance. This spring, the federal agency issued a permit allowing the Arapaho to kill two eagles, the first of its kind ever issued to an American Indian tribe.

In specifying that the Northern Arapaho could only kill eagles off the reservation, the Fish and Wildlife Service stated it had conferred with the Eastern Shoshone and government for the one-half interest learned that tribal members were opposed to eagles being killed on the

The Fish and Wildlife Service stated in March that the Northern Arapaho wouldn't need permission from the State of Wyoming to kill eagles off the reservation with the federal permit. However state officials maintain state law prohibits killing eagles off the reservation.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne is presiding over the Northern Arapaho Tribe's case against the federal agency. He signed an order in May allowing the Shoshone to intervene as a "friend of the court."

In his order allowing the Eastern Shoshone to enter the case, Johnson said the federal permit provisions left the Arapaho Tribe boxed in.

"(T)he permitted take area expressly excludes lands within the Wind River Indian Reservation, which is the only place in the State where Wyoming law criminalizing the taking of eagles does not apply," Johnson wrote. "The permit thus confoundingly allows the Northern Arapaho Tribe to take eagles only on lands where doing so is a criminal offense...."

Johnson noted that the federal permit would require the Northern Arapaho Tribe to follow state laws. Accordingly, he wrote, the federal permit "offers no real permission to take eagles at all." He has set a hearing for arguments in the case for Sept. 28.

The federal government in recent years prosecuted Winslow Friday, a young Northern Arapaho tribal member, who killed a bald eagle for use in the tribe's annual Sun Dance without a permit. Despite the tribe's legal support, Friday pleaded guilty after his case was transferred to tribal court, and he was ordered to pay a fine.

Andy Baldwin, lawyer for the Northern Arapaho Tribe, said last Tuesday that he believes the Shoshone Tribe's legal brief missed the point entirely. "This case is about the constitutional right of Northern Arapaho tribal members to the free exercise of religion," he said.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Naı	me:		
Add	dress:		
<b>~</b> :.		<b>C</b>	<b>~</b> .
City	y:	State:	Ζιp:
Phone:			
	□ \$65.00 for 52 issues	<b>⊔</b> \$32.50 f	or 26 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

■ \$1.25 single copy

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues

### **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## COMMENTARY

## Remembering when Nape Waste Winyan came to Pine Ridge



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

The first thing that came to my mind when I read about the arrest of Kerry Kennedy, the daughter of Robert F. Kennedy, was; this is not true.

comes to the Kennedys any Before leaving for the Pine news reports about them are immediately sensationalized. Not only sensationalized, but greatly exaggerated.

Kerry was in an automobile accidentandafterthefactscame out the truck driver that ran Kerry and yet the newspapers and television stories led with, "Kerry Kennedy Charged." How misleading are those headlines?

Ken Sunshine, a spokesman for Kennedy, said, "Kerry Kennedy voluntarily took breathalyzer, blood and urine tests - all of which showed no drugs or alcohol whatsoever in her system. The charges were filed before the test results were available."

20 years ago at her Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights office. to teachers and students. We talked about some of the reservation in South Dakota come out to the reservation.

We set a time and place and It seems that when it Kerry came to Rapid City. Ridge Reservation, Wicasa Wakan (Holy Man) Rick Two Dogs, held an inipi (sweat lodge) ceremony in the sweat lodge built at my home and gave Kerry the Lakota name, Nape Waste Winyan or Good Hands Woman. It was a name

great pride.

In 2008 Kennedy, a devout Catholic wrote the book, "Being Catholic Now: Prominent Americans Talk About Change in the Church and the Quest for Meaning." It was a book that addressed the Catholic faithful's.

to do after the Inipi Ceremony reservation. I took her to the I first met Kerry more than Rockyford School near Kyle on the Pine Ridge Reservation

problems on my home Indian to the students ranging from Grade 1 to Grade 8, it was easy and Kerry said she wanted to to see the compassion and on their homelands. caring she exuded. She went from classroom to classroom and ended up visiting the teachers in the principal's office. She asked about the needs of the students and inquired about what she could do to help.

> respect for the Kennedy family in Indian country. There are still those who vividly recall

Cloud Indian School on the pretty harsh sentence, but it all over the country urging Pine Ridge Reservation in did the trick and Bobby never them to stand up to injustice. 1968 while on the campaign trail that would eventually take

When Kerry's brother oftentimes uncertainty among Bobby came to Pine Ridge many years ago I remember The first thing she wanted we were greeted by the Pine Ridge police at the border of was to visit a school on the the reservation. We traveled to several communities on the reservation with a police squad car leading us and where she spent the day talking another coming up the rear. It was a show of respect that Watching her speak softly the Pine Ridge Public Safety Commission wanted Bobby Kennedy to feel safe and secure

When Bobby was 29 years old he was stopped, ironically, at the airport in Rapid City and a search of his carry-on bag uncovered 183 milligrams of a drug. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two years' There has always been great probation, periodic drug tests, treatment by joining Narcotic Anonymous and 1,500 hours of community service by

backtracked.

him to his death in California. several years later Bobby was given the Lakota name Wanbli Gleska, or Spotted Eagle.

> Kerry was a very close friend to Mary Richardson Kennedy, the former wife of her brother Bobby. Mary committed suicide on May 16, 2012.

I suppose that being a Kennedy carries with it much life for children everywhere, more responsibility than would be expected of the rest of us. But the news media is prone to jump on and elaborate on any news story about the Kennedys. For a very brief time Kerry Kennedy's name was dragged through the mud by a hasty press and even now, after all of the facts have come out, there will still be those who believe she was arrested and charged with drug-related driving. It seems Native American Journalists so many Americans never wait Association and of Indian long enough to hear the rest of Country Today newspaper. the story.

Robert F. Kennedy Center for 1991.

into her car was charged, not she always remembered with the visit Kerry's father, Robert Judge Marshall P. Young. Justice and Human Rights, F. Kennedy, made to Red Some would say that it was a Kerry has spoken to students You can be sure that many of In a Lakota Inipi Ceremony the students who listened to her immediately came to her defense because, after all, the way she was treated by the media was the perfect example of an injustice.

> I found Kerry and Bobby to be warm and friendly people who truly believe in truth and justice and a better especially for those living on the Indian reservations.

> They truly do not know how much the Kennedy family is loved in Indian country.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and educated on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He was a founder of the He was a Nieman Fellow at In her job as director of the Harvard with the Class of

## Tom Parsons was a double hero



DR. DEAN CHAVERS **Around the Campfire** © 2012

A few weeks ago we lost one of the original advocates for Native language preservation. His name was Tom Parsons. Tom was one of my best friends. My buddy Jerry Roybal told me in 1976 that I needed to meet this great guy who was working at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California. It was Tom. A few weeks later Jerry took me by to introduce me to Tom. It was a propitious meeting. I worked as a consultant for Tom for the next two years.

He was working to preserve the Tolowa, Hupa, Yurok, and Karuk languages. He had developed his own way of doing it. He was not a trained linguist, but he had developed a way of writing the languages down. I accompanied him to Karuk a couple of times and watched him work with the elders for a couple of hours

man they had ever known had were very disappointed. tried to destroy their language and culture.

haven't heard of any.

He wanted me to help him further institutionalize the Native language programs through the university. The

We had one of the Bilingual

But Tom did not give up. He called on his considerable Tom was sui geneis, one of lobbying skills and got other a kind. I literally mean he was people to help him. The the only one. He worked for Bilingual people decided they hundreds of hours for more could change the regs and than twenty years to preserve their focus and let Indians the four languages. And he restore languages that were worked out a way to get elders in danger of dying out. The from the four tribes certified next year, 1978, they funded to teach the languages. He had the proposal. In fact, it was to go all the way through the ranked the highest proposal state legislature to do that. in the competition that year. But the legislature created a It was funded for three years, category for Indians called and at the end of three years Eminence Credentials to let was funded for another three them be hired to teach in years. It started producing classrooms. I wonder if any certified Indian teachers with other states have done this; I teaching credentials and the of friends over France and ability to be fluent in their language.

After I moved to Oklahoma, Tom and I still kept in touch. Someone, not Tom, asked way we did that was to write a me to come out and evaluate proposal to the U. S. Bilingual the program at the end of six program to fund teacher years. It had done really well. training for young Indian I met the first certified Indian people who wanted to learn graduate of the program, their languages and teach Loren Bommelyn (Tolowa), who was in his twenties.

But Tom was a double hero. staff ladies to come out and He had flown 31 missions in meet with the whole group. the 44th Bomb Group in World we needed to do, and we did it it. He was a bombardier on the South, got upset at the way the of Alabama Press, is titled CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

each time. They loved Tom, in 1977. The proposal got shot B-17. He had volunteered for Atlanta schools were dragging "From Southern Wrongs to who was the only white man down-not even read. The the Army Air Corps in 1943 at their feet on integration. She Civil Rights: The Memoir of who was trying to help them people in the head shed said we the age of 19. He left his home won a seat on the school board a White Civil Rights Activist." preserve their language and could not get federal dollars to in Niles, Michigan, seldom to with the announced intention I imagine George Wallace, ulture. Every other white restore a Native language. We return. He got his education of integrating the Atlanta Lester Maddox, and the rest of at the University of Michigan schools. and soon moved to Atlanta.

> But he wouldn't tell you a about his wartime flying unless was you asked. I learned after Tom southern conservative and retired in 1986 that he was a segregationist. proud member of the Eighth plowed on, and was still going Air Force Society. When he strong when she met Tom, retired and moved back home who had never been married. to Atlanta in 1986, he was close They moved on to Humboldt to the headquarters, which is State in 1967 when Tom was in Savannah. He got me to join as an honorary member.

Tom and I had lunch a few times in Atlanta over the next two decades. He would get teary-eyed when I would ask him about his wartime experiences. He had lost a lot Germany.

Tom didn't need to work as hard as he did at Humboldt State. He had made a nice bundle writing federal grants in the early days of the Great Society in the 1960s. And he had married way up. His wife, Sara Mitchell Parsons, was a great lady and a real fighter on

Martin Luther King, his wife Coretta Scott King, and President Jimmy Carter. Sara, She explained in detail what War II and lived to tell about as an up-scale white lady in the in 2000 by the University

Her activism cost her the book. husband. first died-in-the-wool hired as the first Director of the Center for Community Development.

Sara didn't sit on her laurels out there, either. She won as the first woman to sit on the board of commissioners for Humboldt County, which was largely loaded with people from Georgia, anyway.

Sara died only ten months before her beloved Tom did. She had helped to integrate the Atlanta schools, made friends with Dr. and Mrs. King, and helped to put Jimmy Carter in the White House. Not bad for a little lady from Cartersville, Georgia. They are both entombed at the Mighty She was friends with Dr. Eighth Air Force Museum in

> Sara's book, published

the segregationists are turning over in their graves because of

I was stationed in Georgia for two years, 1965-1967, during the time of the initial integration of the schools. I got there after the Albany Movement had happened. But segregation, on its last legs, was still the law of the land everywhere in the South. Sara and her courageous friends helped change that.

Tom was always a gentleman. I never saw him without a suit and tie or at least a sport coat and a bolo tie on. He was old school, but completely dedicated to preserving Native languages. Tom had typewriters fitted with special keys to be able to write the languages. His books are still being used today.

Dr. Chavers is the author of "Racism in Indian Country" published by Peter Lang. He is Director of Catching the Dream, which provides scholarships to high-potential Native college students. It also provides grants and technical assistance to Indian schools. Contact him at

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? **ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!** 

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

### **OK Health Care Authority**

Medical Director • Salary - \$142K

The medical director is responsible for leadership and direction as assigned to promote policies and standards that lead to more efficient delivery of quality health care to beneficiaries and staff. Closes August 10, 2012

RN - Medical Audit Supervisor • Salary - \$65,246

Program Integrity develops comprehensive statistical profiles and utilization patterns of health care delivery of individual providers and recipients to safeguard against unnecessary or inappropriate use of Medicaid services and associated payments, assess the quality of those services, and identify suspected instances of fraud and abuse according to 42 CFR 456.3. The Medical Audit Supervisor position has oversight and review responsibilities for ongoing audit fieldwork and reporting. This position will supervise audit staff and provide guidance regarding processes and procedures. Closes July 25, 2012

Dental Hygienist- Medical Audit Specialist • Salary - \$56,370

Program Integrity develops comprehensive statistical profiles and utilization patterns of health care delivery of individual providers and recipients to safeguard against unnecessary or inappropriate use of Medicaid services and associated payments, assess the quality of those services, and identify suspected instances of fraud and abuse according to 42 CFR 456.3. Acts as the clinical specialist to the Provider Audits staff when analyzing traditional fee for service and managed care claims related to federal and state regulations. This position will be responsible for dental record review and providing guidance for dental claims review.

Closes July 25, 2012

RN - Medical Audit Specialist • Salary - \$52.5K

Program Integrity develops comprehensive statistical profiles and utilization patterns of health care delivery of individual providers and recipients to safeguard against unnecessary or inappropriate use of Medicaid services and associated payments, assess the quality of those services, and identify suspected instances of fraud and abuse according to 42 CFR 456.3. The Medical Audit Specialist acts as the clinical specialist to the Provider Audits staff when analyzing traditional fee for service and managed care claims related to federal and state regulations.

Closes July 25, 2012

Provider Education Specialist • Salary - \$46,850.27

Ideal candidate will responsible to identify and develop a plan of action related to areas of focus for provider education related to policy and billing compliance. Closes July 25, 2012

Reasonable accommodation may be made for individuals with disabilities.

#### See full job descriptions online at www.nativetimes.com/jobs

To apply visit: www.okhca.org/jobs

(Selection may occur prior to closing date)

OK Health Care Authority Attn: Human Resources 2401 N.W. 23rd St., Suite 1-A Oklahoma City, OK 73107 personnel@okhca.org EOE

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



#### **Deputy Attorney General**

**DEPARTMENT: Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma** 

DEADLINE: August 24, 2012, by close of business 5:00pm START DATE: As Soon As Possible SALARY: Negotiable

**JOB FUNCTIONS:** 

The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Administration Office has an opening for a motivated individual to perform legal services as the Deputy Attomey General for the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, including a spectrum of highly complex, in-depth legal services to routine legal matters pertaining to the Tribe as a governmental entity, its programs and designated representative.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** 

Required: A license attorney with an Oklahoma State license to practice law and minimum five (5) years law practice experience with a preference in Tribal government emphasis, or other Tribal-related or Federal Indian law experience.

For more information about this position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send your resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com

or mail: Kickapoo Tribal Court P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

#### **Administrative Assistant** to Human Resources

This position is responsible for assisting the Human Resources Director in processing new employee paperwork, performing background checks, advertising for vacancies, filing, enrolling employees in benefits programs, special projects, and other duties as assigned.

Must possess excellent computer skills with knowledge of Excel or similar spreadsheet program. Must be professional with good interpersonal skills. Must have good written and oral skills. Must be a self-starter and capable of working with little Experience in/or supervision. knowledge of human resources laws, procedures and practices.

Send resume to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403, or send an e-mail from this website. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to Native American students and employees. EOE

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN**

**HIRING PREFERENCE?** Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



**Prosecutor** 

JOB FUNCTIONS:

The Kickapoo Tribal Court is posting a Prosecutor position that will start

- Will be required to work on Criminal and Indian Child Welfare cases in Tribal Court and assist the Indian Child Welfare department in state Court, if needed;

- Knowledge of Indian Child Welfare

- Understanding of Tribal jurisdiction in regards to criminal and Indian Child Welfare cases;

- Have an OBA license; Reside in Oklahoma:

· Will be compensated a monthly flat

 Able to communicate with the Kickapoo Tribal Police department on investigative criminal cases;

- Able to make decisions relating to investigative criminal cases;

- Be able to attend two court dockets each month or if needed for emergency I.C.W. situations;

QUALIFICATIONS:

Required: A licensed attorney with an Oklahoma State license to practice law and minimum ofthree (3) years prosecutor experience.

For more information about this position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send your resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com or mail:

Kickapoo Tribal Court P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

**Native American Times** is on Facebook!

#### **College Instructor- Adjunct**

Bacone College is seeking to build the Adjunct instructor pool for the Division of Academic Support for the Fall 2012 semester. Candidates should be prepared to teach developmental courses in writing, to accommodate a schedule with a fluctuating workload. Previous work involving college-age youth is a plus especially in Developmental Education.

Applicants must have an appropriate degree. A bachelors degree is required and a master's degree is preferred. Salary is competitive. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Candidates should submit a letter of interest, vita, and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Rd, Muskogee, OK 74403, Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



#### **District Court Judge**

**DEPARTMENT: Kickapoo Tribal Court** DEADLINE: August 24,2012, by close of business 5:00pm

JOB FUNCTIONS:

The Kickapoo Tribal Court is posting a District Court Judge position that will start ASAP.

- Will be required to attend quarterly **Judicial meetings** 

- Have an OBA license;

- Reside in Oklahoma: - Will hear the following type of cases: Civil, Family (divorce, child support, custody), Criminal, and Indian Child Welfare

- Will be compensated for each Court docket and Administrative duties

- Have experience in Tribal Court

- Attend trainings related to Tribal Law

QUALIFICATIONS:

Can review the Kickapoo Tribe's Judicial Ordinance, Section 5

www.kickapootribeofoklahoma.com

For more information about this position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send your resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com or mail:

Kickapoo Tribal Court P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

#### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

#### **LEGAL SERVICES RFP**

The Comanche Nation Gaming Commission (CNGC) is seeking Request for Proposals from qualified law firms and individuals to provide services for a tribal gaming commission.

The CNGC was established in 2005 in order to conduct oversight of the Nation's gaming operations to ensure compliance with tribal, federal, and state laws and regulations. The CNGC regulates four tribally owned and operated gaming facilities which is comprised of Class II and Class III gaming.

Interested law firms and attorneys may contact Jill Peters at the information below to obtain a copy of the RFP:

Jill Peters, Executive Director **Comanche Nation Gaming Commission** 1915 E. Gore Blvd. Lawton, OK 73501 (580)595-3300 jillp@comanchegc.com

Proposal Deadline: Monday, August 6,

Native American Owned Business? Let the Native American Community know! The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Northern Oklahoma. Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES** 

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

#### SPEEDY LOANS Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

Professional & Affordable Web Design



376-3428

www.ganica.net



### North vs. South: Ed Little Cook sets the record straight

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

RED ROCK, Okla. -Ed Little Cook has spent a lifetime singing and drumming at powwows. As younger generations step up to continue the tradition, he finds himself in the new role of educator.

A few years ago, the Ponca City resident read an article about powwow drumming - that healing beat and soul of the people. In the piece, a drummer from a northern tribe was quoted as saying there is a difference between northern and southern drumming.

"He made the statement that we (in the south) beat the drum four times through in the middle," Little Cook, Ponca, said. "We beat the drum hard three times. Everyone in Oklahoma does that."

In most songs played at powwows, the middle portion features a bar of distinctly harder drum beats. Ever since he read the article, Little Cook has wanted to set the record straight. Most southern Native American tribes will beat the drum hard only three times, and they are not "honor beats," as the same source called them. That's not to say that Ponca drummers don't get carried away from time to time.

"If the song is really good, say, there's a lot of spirit in the singing, one of the drummers might hit the drum really hard, and that would be strictly for emphasis. He's feeling good, feeling the spirit," he added.

Little Cook complaining. He only wants readers to know how he was taught to drum and how he has taught his son, Little Bear Little Cook.

At the recent annual Otoe-Missouri Encampment in the

Red Rock community south remembers hearing of Ponca City, Little Bear Little Cook was honored as head war dance singer.



Ed Little Cook talks about the drum and singing during the annual Otoe-Missouria Encampment powwow in Red Rock. Okla.

Friday night, father joined son and the rest of the singers around the drum to play through the night under the summer sky, trees and along the encampment's branchladen arbors. When Little Cook talks of "spirit," he knows of what he speaks. Listening carefully, he closes his eyes to the drumming and singing as he participates and is caught up in the rhythm.

"We treat that drum just like a person. That's the heart beat of our people. We don't put that drum in the garage," he said. "... I was told by older people and grandpa that the drum can make you well. They used to take sick people to walk around the drum and get a blessing and healing." Little Cook

elders who spread it through the southern half of the U.S. grandfather talk about the beginning of powwow in

"We brought the style of dancing and singing when we were brought to Oklahoma, when we were forcibly removed. What we call powwow today, we brought that to Oklahoma," he said.

When the tribe arrived in Oklahoma from its native lands in Nebraska, members shared their traditions with other tribes already removed to Indian Territory, Little Cook said.

"Nobody was dancing here," he added.

It all came from the White Eagle area, also south of Ponca City. In the early 1900s, the Ponca shared their songs and dance with other tribes suddenly displaced in Oklahoma. Elders were often

invited to other communities to create songs for those tribes. When the Miller Brothers 101 Ranch near Ponca City created the 101 Ranch Wild West Show on the advice of neighbor and showman Pawnee Bill, powwow dance took another turn, he said.

Around the 1920s, the ranch featured Indian dancers suddenly dressed in regalia outside of the earthy color palette traditionally seen. Bustles were bigger and feathers more numerous and richly dyed. The flashier regalia created to attract tourists, Little Cook said, was the beginning of powwow's flamboyant fancy dancing.

Over the years, tribes and even clans have created their own songs and hallmarks. New dances were influenced by tribes from the north and south. The powwow spread and changed, and that's a good thing if it is to survive, Little Cook said.

"Everything evolves. It (powwow) may even evolve further. If I'm here (when it does), I may not even recognize it," he said. "We don't still ride horses and use teepees. We have doctors and lawyers now. But as long as the spirit is there, whatever you do, if done in the right spirit, can't go wrong."

Just don't tell him that the powwow came to Oklahoma by any other route. Little Cook is up for discussing powwow's origins in Oklahoma, "but no one can claim the dance. They have to come and tell us how they originated it," he said smiling.



KAREN SHADE I NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Ed Little Cook (center) sings with his son, Little Bear Little Cook (left), and Phil "Joe Fish" Dupoint of Carnegie around the drum at the annual Otoe-Missouria Encampment powwow in Red Rock. Little Bear Little Cook was the event's head war dance singer. Dupoint was the head gourd dance singer.



## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact 
The Pawnee Service Unit information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

THIRD THURSDAY The Veterans' Administration Council (NNYC) bimonthly is partnering with the to enroll all Native American and non-Indian Veterans for health care benefits the third of Peoria). Call to confirm Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered

about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma**  Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759 **EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens** cherokeeartistsassociation.org Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

> Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

**YOUTH COUNCIL The Native Nations Youth** meetings from 6:30pm -Pawnee Indian Health Center 8:30pm @ the Youth Services Cherokee Nation Elders in of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**JULY 27-29** Kihekah Steh 43rd Pow-Wow, 193rd Street N & Javine Hill Road (52nd W.Ave) Skiatook, OK. Contest powwow - Stomp Dance -Sat. night. Info call Donna Phillips 918-381-7996 or dkphillips2002@gmail.com

**JULY 27-29 Oklahoma City Powwow Club** Indian Hills Powwow, 9300 North Sooner Road, Oklahoma City. Info call Yonavea Hawkins, 405-919-1572 or email yonavea@yahoo.com

JULY 28 Fund raising taco dinner for kidney transplant expenses for Ralph "Jay" Marcus & family. 11:30 am-? at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1904 N Pecan, Ponca City. \$6 incl. taco, drink and desert. Dine in, take out or delivery. Call 580-559-3070.

**AUGUST 3** Need program deadline. Info contact: Crystal Thomas, **Human Services assistant** manager, at 918-453-5627 or crystal-thomas@cherokee. org.

**AUGUST 3** Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead

for Speedy Service. Free

Delivery on Orders of 10 or

More (405) 321-5640 **AUGUST 3-5 Kaw Powwow at Washunga** Bay Powwow Grounds, 12613 E. Furguson, Ave., Kaw City. Numerous traditional

dance contests such as fancy

dancing. Call 580-269-2552

or toll free 1-866-404-5297. **AUGUST 3-5 Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow at Concho** Powwow Grounds, Concho. Traditional singing, gourd dancing, war dancing and a drum contest. **Dance contests in various** categories. Call 405-476-

1134.

**AUGUST 8-11** 81st American Indian **Exposition. Kicks off with** parades on Wednesday & Saturday at 10 am in downtown Anadarko. Caddo County Fairgrounds, Anadarko, OK. Nightly performances at 8 pm. americanindian exposition.org. Dance contest info: 405-334-9193

**AUGUST 11-12 Wichita Tribal Dance** at Wichita Tribal Park, Anadarko. Dance

competitions will be open to Wichita Tribal members and their descendants. Call 405-247-2425.

**AUGUST 17-19 Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Powwow of Champions** at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis, Tulsa. Doors open 5pm Friday, 10am Sat and Sun. Call 918-378-4494 or 918-838-8276 for more information.

**AUGUST 18 Eastern Shawnee Children's** Powwow, 12615 S. 705 Road, Wyandotte. Native dance competitions will include tiny tots and junior divisions. Call 918-666-7710.

**AUGUST 18 Cherokee Nation Bass Classic** from 6 a.m. to noon, at **Chicken Creek Campgrounds** on Lake Tenkiller. Features 50/50 drawings, door prizes and a plaque and cash prize for the biggest bass. Registration is \$100 per boat for two team members, including one adult and one youth, between the ages of 3-18. Participants 16 and up must have a fishing license. Lake bass regulations apply. Info call John Mouse at 918-822-2929.

**AUGUST 28** Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Diabetes Awareness Summit** at Okemah First Baptist

Church, 120 S. 6th Street, Okemah. Summit is free. Info call 918-636-8735.

**AUGUST 30- SEPTEMBER 3 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka Homma Capitol Grounds. Information call 800-522-6170.

**AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the **Cherokee Cultural Grounds,** Southwest of the tribal complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

**AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and** Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

New at nativetimes.com **Enter your powwow** info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select Powwow Entry

### **Tahlequah Braves win Little League State Championship**

■ The boys on the team belong primarily to the Cherokee, Keetoowah, and Creek Tribes.

**JACQUELINE COOK** NAT Reader Submission

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - "It's OK if you make a mistake." Jim Teehee, coach of the 8- and - under coach pitch Tahlequah Braves baseball team, would tell his players all

season. The Braves' season was hardly

Fortunately for the Braves, they didn't have to do too much of shaking it off at the State Tournament held in Durant, July 12 - 15.

During the first game at State, the Braves stayed focused as they waited out two weather delays to beat The Raptors, 11 – 0.

"It was a perfect game! "Jim Teehee described his team's first outing. "No errors!"

The Braves' next game, however, was a different story. Mistakes in the infield made the game against The Braves from Bryant County a

question was, would the State Tournament get to be played out or would the final four teams have to return to Durant later in the week to complete the games?

"We would have tried to come back, but it would have been a hardship for the parents. It's a three - hour drive from Tahlequah." Coach Teehee stated.

On Sunday, the Braves were instructed to return to the field early, ahead of their scheduled 5:00 p.m. game, in hopes of getting the games in before the rain arrived. The players and coaches waited

inning when they can score up to 10 runs. The Braves not only scored five runs, each batter scored with no outs recorded. Aggressive base running and solid hitting made for a quick lead that they never game

In the Championship Game,

final 5th inning.

Tahlequah leading evaporating,

The Tahlequah Oklahoma Pitch Champions.

When asked how Champs, "Bobbo" Major League!"

"We want to thank all our sponsors and supporters. We could not have done it without them. Li'l Ceasars, Dream Catchers Sports, Cherokee Nation, Keetoowahs, Baker's Furniture." Jim Teehee stated. "It was a great season. The

Keetoowah, and Creek Tribes.

up. The Braves had another shut out, 12 - 0.

the Braves were the home team. The Braves of Bryant County had beaten an undefeated team, The Hooks, to force a rematch. The top of the first inning saw them take a three - run lead. Again, good hitting and base running gave the

Braves a 5 to 3 lead and gradually built up this lead until the

12 - 3, the Braves of Bryant County staged a comeback. They could score as many as ten runs in the 5th. Errors led to BC Braves runs. With the lead Cherokee County Braves, playing up to their names, put together the final three outs and won 12 - 6.

Braves are the 2012 State Little League Coach

it felt to be the State **Bobby** Spradlin replied, "It feels like a winner! It feels like

Boys did it!"

The boys on the team belong primarily to the Cherokee,

#### Filing dates set for UKB Officers, District Rep candidates

**MARILYN CRAIG** UKB Public Information Office

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The UKB Election Board will be accepting applications from tribal members wishing to file for candidacy for UKB Officer or District Representative on the UKB Tribal Council. Filing opens Wednesday, August 1 at 9 a.m. and closes on Tuesday, August 14 at 6 p.m. All candidates should file in person at the UKB Election Board office, located at 20525 Jules Valdez Road in Tahlequah.

The UKB Tribal Council is made up of four officers; Chief, Assistant Chief, Tribal Secretary, and Tribal Treasurer and nine district representatives from the Canadian, Cooweescoowee, Delaware, Flint, Goingsnake, Illinois, Saline, Sequoyah, and Tahlequah districts. Terms of office are four years for officers, and two years for district representative Filing fees are as follows: Chief - \$500; Assistant Chief, Secretary and Treasurer - \$400; and District Representative -

For more information, call the Election Board at 918-456-8421.

### **Oklahoma Sales Tax Holiday August 3-5**

OKLAHOMA CITY - Oklahoma's annual sales tax holiday begins on the first Friday in August and continues through the following Sunday. In 2012, the three-day holiday begins at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 3, and runs through Sunday, Aug. 5. Certain clothing and shoe purchases are exempt from sales tax for this time period only. This includes state, city, county and local municipality sales taxes.

Retailers are required to participate and may not collect state and local sales or use tax on most footwear and clothing that are sold for less than \$100 during the holiday.

More information regarding the sales tax holiday, including rules and faq's can be found on the Oklahoma Tax Commission website at www.tax.ok.gov.



The Tahlequah Braves are: Front row (left to right) Coach James Gourd, J Garcia, Tilon Rattling - Gourd, Talen Gann, Andon Pritchett, Bobby Spradlin, Ithyan Johnson, Austyn Holt, Coach Anthony Pritchett, back row: (left to right) Coach Jim Teehee, Jaydun Teehee, Dylan Leep, Thomas Pablo, Jackson Coon, Sammy Girty, Robert Holt, Jr., Andrew Pritchett and Coach Matt Teehee.

a breeze, even though they only lost one Cherokee County League Game. They sought out tournaments that were at first learning experiences and later the Braves would be in contention for tourney championships. Ultimately, the Braves' would learn that they could depend on themselves to shake off mistakes and come back if they had to.

tighter contest. The boys' bats were the difference, as they outscored their opponents, 12 - 6. The win put the team in the semifinals on Saturday Night.

The Braves next opponent turned out to be the weather. Lightning and heavy rain forced the State Games to be played out on Sunday. Weather reports showed rain was predicted for all day Sunday. The

for several hours, but tournament officials decided to play at their regular time. Luckily, the rain never showed up and the State Tournament continued.

The long wait didn't seem to bother the players, as the Braves exploded out of the gate against The Sea Dogs of Pittsburg County. The teams were limited to five runs each inning until the final 5th

and Arkansas.

"We don't have a lot of Osage history written by Osages," Tinker Smith said. "This is a really good way to teach our little ones; and they can see it up there, and start learning about who we are."

The story opens with a pre-European contact scene of village life. A boy and girl show interest in one another and the families come together to negotiate a marriage, which was mostly left to the uncles. The next scene shows Spanish and French military and settlers moving into the area and beginning to push the Osage even further west.

Successive scenes tell about Osage customs and socials, the Indian boarding schools; the oil years; the Osage Indian murders or "Reign of Terror," to honoring veterans and the state of walking in two worlds.

In 1871, the Osage had sold their last lands in Kansas and purchased land for their own reservation present day Osage County. The tribe lived in Indian Territory where other Native American tribes were being removed to from all over the country. Osage country, however, drastically changed after vast oil deposits were discovered. The tribe owned the land in common, although business was conducted by federally appointed agents. Allottees of the land and families with head rights to the mineral deposits underground soon found themselves overwhelmed with outsiders bringing business, alcohol and other influences to the reservation and its center, Pawhuska.

That stage of the ballet is set to ragtime-style music at a quicker tempo.

"It's really manic, because that's how Pawhuska was," Tinker Smith

Her father, Geoge Tinker, the son of an original allottee, was born in

1918. He remembered seeing fine houses go up in the present-day Osage Nation capital. He also saw traditional Osage longhouses in the backyards. Everyone wanted to do business with the Osage and would talk them into buying homes, cars and other luxuries, Tinker Smith

Pawhuska even had a Rolls Royce dealership, one of the first in the U.S., she said.

Those years, 1921-1925, were called the "Reign of Terror" because of a series of deaths within the tribe. White men would marry into families, and through a number of sudden deaths, they would inherit head rights to the land.

Tinker Smith said an FBI investigation uncovered a plot wherein a banker in Fairfax hired nephews and other men to marry Osage women, preferably those with children with head rights. They killed the women and the children and gained them all. Osage men were also victims. Later autopsies showed the people were killed by alcohol poisoning or gun shots in the head. Houses were even blown up.

The scene is meant to make the viewer understand the fear and loss, she said.

The final scenes show resilience and the people coming back through their traditions, including the tradition of caring for soldiers before and after war.

By telling this story as a ballet, Wahzhazhe also honors the art of dance in both ritual and as a legacy of two of the most famous ballet dancers in the world. Sisters Maria and Marjorie Tallchief were Osage and from the Gray Horse area. They were among the five Oklahoma Indian Ballerinas, each of whom became acclaimed on the world stage. The other ballerinas were the late Rosella Hightower (Choctaw), Yvonne Chouteau (Shawnee) and Tulsa Ballet co-founder Moscelyne Larkin (Peoria-Shawnee), who died in April.

"The Osage are about ballet with Marjorie and Maria Tall Chief," Tinker Smith said. "Little girls in Gray Horse grew up wanting to be ballerinas because that's where Maria and Marjorie are from. It's common in our tribe."

Smith, Ienna another Osage ballerina, is doing the choreography and leading the mix of professional and advanced student dancers through the steps. Smith, an Oral Roberts University graduate with a degree in dance education, is Tinker Smith's daughter. She came on board when funds were leaner and they needed to begin working on the project.

Concert and film composer Joseph Rivers, University of Tulsa Film Studies Department Chair and professor of music, worked with Brock to turn his eight songs into a symphony. Larkin's son, Roman Jasinski, formerly of Tulsa Ballet, joins the staff as artistic director.

Tinker Smith also credits the late Leonard Maker, Osage elder, and Kathryn Red Corn of the Osage Tribal Museum for their help in researching the project. Wendy Ponca and Terry Wann, Osage clothing designers, are working on the costumes. Alexandra Ponca is the set designer.

Tinker Smith said she also spoke with some 50 Osage elders.

"I wanted (their) permission if I could tell it, and what I could tell," she said.

Funded through a \$50,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, Wahzhazhe is also supported by a group of oil and gas exploration companies. Spyglass Energy Group, Nadel and Gussman and Michael L. Graves pooled together \$50,000 toward the \$300,000 production, and they offered a \$50,000 match of other money contributed to the project by other oil companies. The project also receives support from Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP, and from



COURTESY

This painting of a ballet dancer was created by Joe Don Brave especially for Wahzhazhe.

Osage, LLC, which operates the business enterprises of the Osage Nation.

The funds are crucial since Wahzhazhe is being created from scratch. Organizers receive donations through the Allied Arts and Humanities Council of Bartlesville, but thus far, Tinker Smith estimates more than 500 volunteer hours have gone into the ballet.

Some of the work has also been done by college interns working under mentors.

They're all driven to create a production unlike anything seen before, but Tinker Smith is encouraged by something more.

"What really drove me," she said, "one of our elders, who passed away a few months ago named Leonard Maker, said 'Randy, there's a little kid in California right now, and in 30 years he's going to look in the mirror and he's going to say, 'What does it mean to be Osage?' and he's going to be able to watch this ballet and see."

For more about Wahzhazhe, go online to www.osageballet.com or call (918) 704-4668.

Editors note: For an account of the times as told by Maria Tallchief, see online http://www.washingtonpost. com/wp-srv/style/longterm/books/ chap1/mariatallchief.htm

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Expert explains hurdles to protecting rez kids
- Chief Joseph's war shirt sold at auction
- Depp's Tonto stirs up Native community









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 30

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**AUGUST 3, 2012** 

### Senecas move to evict non-Indians

■ Seneca officials say only the Tribal Council has the power to grant permission to live on the territory.

BRANT, N.Y. (AP) - The Seneca Nation, a tribe in western New York known for its defiant stances on sovereignty, said Friday that it would evict around 80 families living in a lakeshore community on its territory because the residents aren't citizens of the tribe.

The action covers an area on the shores of Lake Erie called Snyder Beach, now dotted with summer cottages, many of which are occupied by people who have been there for decades. Tribal leaders said in a written statement that they



Robert Odawi Porter, Seneca President

want the families out by Nov. 8.

"This is a long-standing issue of unlawful occupation and is key for the Seneca Nation. The Cattaraugus Territory is for Senecas and removing the unlawful occupants will make more land available for Senecas," Seneca President Robert Odawi Porter said in the

statement. "It is quite clearly an illegal occupation, even if that may surprise some of the current residents and the general public."

The statement said tribal authorities had issued permits in the past for the last, but hadn't done so in many decades.

The eviction threat outraged Snyder Beach longtime residents, who acknowledged that they lived within the Seneca's Cattaraugus Territory, but said they leased the property annually from a Seneca businessman.

"I built this house. My family has been here 55 years," retired Buffalo firefighter William McNamara, 81, told the Buffalo News. "We built this ourselves. For a lot of us who live here, it's been a lot of hard work, blood and memories. My neighbor is 92 years old, and he says, 'I'll be damned if I'm going to turn my property over to the Indians."

The businessman renting the land to the families, John Metzger, told the newspaper he believed the tribe had no right to throw out his tenants.

"It verges on a cleansing operation, in my opinion," he said. He said Seneca Nation leaders had threatened a similar action six times before, but had never before gone as far as to serve eviction notices.

Seneca officials said Metzger isn't allowed to give leases to people who are not Senecas. Only the Tribal Council has the power to grant permission to the families to live on the territory, they said.

People on both sides said the dispute is certain to wind up in



MEG KINNARD | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cherokee Nation citizen Dusten Brown holds his daughter Veronica in this undated Associated Press photo. Brown won custody rights of Veronica on July 26 when the South Carolina Supreme Court ruled in his favor over Veronica's adoptive parents, who are non-Indian.

### SC court agrees with return of Cherokee girl to father

**MEG KINNARD** Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) - The South Carolina Supreme Court on Thursday upheld the return of a Native American girl adopted by a South Carolina family to her father in Oklahoma, weighing for the first time state adoption law against the federal Indian Child

In a 3-2 decision, justices said the confers custodial

Welfare Act.

preference to the child's father, a member of the Cherokee tribe.

"Adoptive Couple are ideal parents who have exhibited the ability to provide a loving family environment for Baby Girl," said the opinion written by Chief Justice Jean Toal.

Toal said that it is with "a heavy heart that we confirm the family court order" but that preference must be given to the Native American

See GIRL Continued on Page 5

### Group challenges ICWA in wake of Cherokee case

**JESSE ABERNATHY** Native Sun News

CHARLESTON, S.C. - A mostly non-Native organization is vociferously calling for a major overhaul of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

Calling itself the "Coalition for the Protection of Indian Children & Families," the organization evolved two months ago out of Charleston in the wake of the "Save Veronica" campaign. The campaign is a grassroots effort to bring national and political attention to the plight of a 2-yearold girl who is of Cherokee heritage and her non-Native American adoptive parents - who ultimately lost custody of the girl

Dec. 31, 2011, after the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma intervened under authority of ICWA on the biological father's behalf.

"Save Veronica" has even garnered international attention via an online petition on Change.org.

Veronica had been with her adoptive parents, Matt and Melanie Capobianco of James Island, S.C., a suburb of Charleston, for more than two years when authorities placed her with her birth father, Dusten Brown, a member of the Cherokee Nation. The couple say, however, the toddler is more Hispanic and Caucasian than any other ethnicity, having only a "small percentage" of Cherokee ancestry.

Brown, who resides in Nowata, Okla.,

originally sued for custody of his daughter Veronica under the federal Indian Child Welfare Act when she was four months old, although initially he had signed a waiver saying he would not contest the adoption. Brown reportedly had "changed his mind" and later claimed he didn't know what he signed.

According to the Capobiancos, who are taking legal measures to regain custody, the child's non-Native American birth mother, who is from Oklahoma, personally selected them through an adoption attorney to raise her daughter.

The case - which underscores the

See ICWA Continued on Page 4

## TIC honors Tulsa spiritual leader

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

He was a little reluctant, said Robert Anguoe. "He didn't know how to react."

The treasurer of the Tulsa Indian Club recalled delivering news to Clark Inkanish that the club wished to honor him at the 60th Tulsa Powwow, held the last weekend of July in Bixby.

"His words were that there are other people 'more worthy," Anquoe said, quoting Inkanish.

The club and the Tulsa Indian community see it differently. The weekend of dance, art, craft, drumming, singing and Native custom would be devoted to recognizing the Tulsa resident who knows

See LEADER Continued on Page 8



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Clark Inkanish, U.S. Special Forces veteran and honoree of the 60th Tulsa Powwow, finishes the Saturday afternoon gourd dance last weekend. Inkanish will continue to be recognized at Tulsa Indian Club events throughout the year for his contributions to the community.



Cherokee Nation citizens stage a peaceful protest June 30, 2011, outside the Cherokee Nation Election Commission office during a vote recount. Citing voter privacy concerns, the CNEC is recommending a ban of all cameras within 300 feet of polling places.

### Proposed election amendments shut out media

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The Cherokee Nation Election Commission presented its recommendations for election law changes to the Cherokee Tribal Council's Rules Committee July

Made in accordance with the tribe's election laws and observations of the Atlanta-based Carter Center of the 2011 principal chief's race, the commission's recommendations come in an attempt to improve and

streamline processes.

Citing voter privacy concerns, among the recommendations made by the Election Commission is a ban of all cameras within 300 feet of polling

"So you are effectively shutting out the media with the change in precincts?" asked Tribal Councilor Cara Cowan Watts.

"That's right," Cherokee Nation Election Commission Vice Chair Lindsay Earls said.

On the first election day in the 2011 race, some reporters from the tribe's

newspaper, the Cherokee Phoenix, were allowed in and around precincts while others were escorted out, despite an agreement between then-CNEC chairman Roger Johnson and assistant attorney general Sara Hill allowing reporters in precincts.

In the Carter Center's final report, the observers encouraged the tribe to amend its election law to include parameters for the media, but noted that reporters "play an indispensible role during democratic elections by educating voters and political parties."

See ELECTION Continued on Page 4

### Okla. pregnancy center takes message to Congress

**BRET MOSS** Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

DURANT, Okla. - "Pregnancy Help Centers are good for America." This is the message that four members of the Pregnancy Center of Bryan through with her decision to County (PCBC) brought to the abort baby Kiree, Shelly felt an with U.S. Rep. Tom Cole of Oklahoma nation's capitol recently. They, along with associates of pregnancy centers across the United States, were a part of Heartbeat International's "Babies go to Congress," an event, held in late July, in which pregnancy centers across the country select a client with a could. compelling testimony to represent the with America's leaders.

The star of PCBC team, Shelly Louis, a mother of three and member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, shared her moving testimony with many congressmen and women over Shelly decided to see the pregnancy the two-day event, where she felt she made a significant impact on views about the importance of pregnancy centers.

"We went to show congress that could be for her children. this country was built on Biblical principals, that God knows us even to share the same support that was Nation. This private funding allows in the womb, to let them know we all have a purpose and abortion is not the answer," declared Shelly as she spoke of her reason for participating in the conference.

Shelly was able to share her story in a personal setting many times - a message that does an excellent job of brightest.

her now 1-year-old daughter, Kiree, Executive Director of PCBC, Brenda when she needed the center the most.

"Abortion was a very real option for mother-to-be.

Just a few days before following stated Penny. instructor at Kiamichi Technology Center and board member of PCBC, Penny Lovell, who was willing and

Penny brought her to PCBC, and support and hope. It brought her back from the brink of despair and gave system and her fears began to subside.

through. After the birth, the support of PCBC did not stop. They continued from individuals and organizations to teach and counsel Shelly, showing such as the Choctaw Nation of her how to be the best mother she Oklahoma. "As a nation, we support

them away from that decision. "I am new clients with Bibles. thankful and blessed that God has pregnancy center beyond its doors," Shelly declared.

Traveling with Shelly to "Babies displaying a pregnancy centers at its go to Congress," was her daughter, taught in classes over the length of the Kiree, Penny and Bridget Youngblood, pregnancy and beyond. She was six weeks pregnant with who had counseled Shelly, and the Williams.

me," Shelly said. She was unmarried a message to Capitol Hill, but learned and unsure about finances, a situation from others as well. "I was just in awe that put immeasurable stress on the of these young mothers, the things they went through and their courage,"

They were able to meet personally overwhelming feeling pushing her and U.S. Rep. Michele Bachmann to a breakdown. She turned to her of Minnesota, and many others. "I brought home a feeling of gratefulness that these leaders are supporting us," said Shelly as she described the ready to help Shelly in any way she support shown by the congressional members.

PCBC, located on the corner of 2nd center and share their moving story as Shelly was counseled, she found and Beech in Durant, provides help to anyone who is a crisis pregnancy. The center is not funded by federal toes developing at only 10 weeks, are her courage. She then had a support dollars because in order to receive government funding it would have to Baby Kiree's life was saved when present abortion as an option, a choice PCBC is firmly against.

PCBC is funded by private donations the sanctity of human life," stated Since this experience, she has begun Chief Gregory E. Pyle of the Choctaw given to her. She has shared her story to them to have prayers with clients, others considering abortion, steering teach Biblical lessons and present all

Anyone who seeks help from used me to continue the work of the PCBC will have access to a wealth of information, many resources that will help along the journey of parenthood. PCBC provides a detailed curriculum

> for a mother's body during the term and information call (580) 920-2229, or how to care for mother and child after toll-free at (866) 924-2229.

These four women not only brought the birth, are taught by counselors, as well as providing support systems.

> Clients have access to the Mommy Market. This is a place where mothers or expectant mothers can come and use their "mommy bucks" to shop for items such as clothes, strollers, diapers and other baby essentials. Mommy Bucks are earned by participating in the curriculum, which entails discussions, literature and videos provided by PCBC.

> Several resources are provided for expecting mothers who are unsure about whether to abort the pregnancy. Diagrams showing what the child looks like within the womb, with visible in the office to show that what is inside them isn't just a blob, but a distinguished human being, said Penny.

> Ultrasounds are also given in emergency cases when a future mother is seriously considering abortion. According to Penny, 90 percent of fathers who see the ultrasound will turn down abortion, and more than 80 percent of mothers who see it will also refuse to abort.

> "We want them to know exactly what they are doing so they can make an informed decision that they won't regret," said Youngblood, as she discussed why PCBC makes sure all who consider abortion know all the

If you are in need of services Lessons demonstrating how to care provided by PCBC or would like more

### **New federal** charges filed against Native **Mob members**

**MINNEAPOLIS** Updated federal charges against alleged members of a Native American-based gang now include murder and aiding attempted murder.

The superseding indictment charges Shaun Martinez with killing another Native Mob member in February 2011. Prosecutors say Martinez killed Jeremee Kraskey to keep him from giving information to law enforcement.

The original indictment filed in January accused 24 suspected Native Mob members with conspiracy to participate in racketeering, alleging they used violence and intimidation to keep the gang in power.

The Bemidji Pioneer says the latest federal charges also accuse two other defendants with aiding and abetting attempted murder in March 2010. They're accused of shooting a man while he held his 5-year-old daughter.

Authorities say the gang wields power from the Twin Cities to reservations throughout Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

## **Tribes want federal regulation** of Internet gaming

■ Some tribes worry if regulation is left to states, it will be a patchwork of rules that aren't considerate of the relationship **Native Americans** have with the federal

**SUZANNE GAMBOA** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -With some states readying to start online gambling, Native American tribal leaders are calling on the federal government to step in as it did with brick-and-mortar gambling and establish regulations that ensure tribes get a piece of the action without having their revenue taxed and their sovereignty compromised.

A new set of regulations is unlikely before this year's election, but recent events have given momentum to efforts to launch online gambling in some states. Since a December 2011 Department of Justice opinion that not all Internet gambling is banned by federal law, Delaware has legalized online gambling and Nevada is closing in on making online poker possible. New Jersey, too, is working to make it a reality.

Some tribes worry if regulation is left to states, it will be a patchwork of rules that aren't considerate of the relationship Native Americans have with the federal government.

"Tribes should extremely hesitant to entrust

their economic futures to the tender mercies of the 50 states, many of whom are still in financial crises and looking for new sources of revenue," Bruce "Two Dogs" Bozsum said Thursday in testimony before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee. Bozsum is chairman of the Mohegan Tribe of Uncasville, Conn., which has large casino operations.

Bozsum said his tribe has invested a "great deal of time" preparing Internet gambling regulations. "These regulations now stand ready to be implemented, and will meet or exceed the toughest regulations found anywhere in the world, including the new standards recently established in Nevada," Bozsum said.

According to the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, tribal gambling was a more than \$27 billion industry in 2011, while commercial gambling was \$35.6 billion and worldwide gambling revenues were \$30 billion.

Glen Gobin, secretary of the Tulalip Tribal Council, reminded the committee that he previously testified against legalizing Internet gambling. But on Thursday, Gobin said that with states ready to start their own Internet gambling, "tribes must have equal footing to participate."

Gobin said his tribe, in Tulalip, Wash., plans to move forward as gambling evolves because the revenue pays for many of the tribe's government services. The Tulalip do not have regulations ready because tribes' participation has not been decided.

"To say we are ready for the full regulatory aspect, we are not, but I have full confidence we have the capabilities," Gobin said.

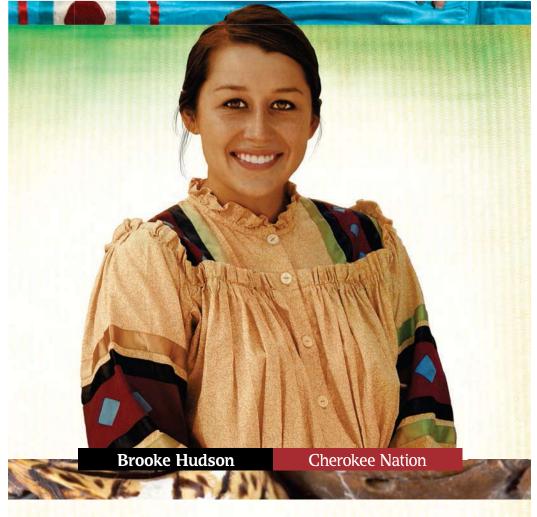
Jon Porter, a lobbyist for the Poker Players Alliance, urged tribes to get prepared because online gambling "has to happen."

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., have been working on online gambling legislation. Kyl is a previous opponent of online gambling. On Wednesday, the Senate Indian Affairs Committee spelled out how the federal government could regulate online gambling so tribes are protected and included at a meeting of tribal leaders for the National Indian Gaming Association's Legislative Summit on Wednesday.

"We in Congress - and especially on this committee - also have a responsibility to ensure that tribal views and priorities are part of any legislation that could impact tribal gaming," said committee chairman Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii.

Also Thursday, the Senate voted to move forward on cybersecurity legislation, intended to protect U.S. computer systems and infrastructure from cyberattacks. But if the bill moves forward and ultimately passes the Senate, it still would need to be reconciled with a House version. Little other legislation has moved through Congress, making it more likely that any movement on Internet legislation would happen after elections in the lame-duck session.

Reach Suzanne Gamboa at http://twitter.com/APsgamboa





### **Quit Commercial Tobacco**

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline OKhelpline.com

NATIVE PRIDE. NATIVE POWER. NATIVE VOTE. UR VOICE COUNTS.

### Cloud Peak Energy, Crow Tribe reach 1.4B-ton coal deal

■ Tribal leaders hoped that plant would give an economic boost to the Crow's 13,000 enrolled citizens.

MATTHEW BROWN Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) - A Wyoming mining company has reached tentative option agreements to lease and mine an estimated 1.4 billion tons of coal on southeastern Montana's Crow Indian Reservation, in a deal that appears aimed at tapping into the growing export market for a fuel that's in decline domestically.

The amount of fuel involved in the deal is more than the U.S. consumes annually.

Cloud Peak Energy said

it would pay the tribe up to \$10 million during an initial option period if the deal is approved by the Crow Tribal Legislature and federal officials with the Department of Interior.

The deal covers three coal deposits near Cloud Peak's existing Spring Creek mine near the Wyoming border. The tribe's reserves are within the Powder River Basin coal fields, which account for about 40 percent of the nation's coal production.

Crow Chairman Cedric Black Eagle has said in past interviews that the coal could be exported to Asian markets, although it's uncertain when mining could begin.

"Partnering with the Cloud Peak Energy will help diversify the tribe's long-term coal revenue, provide good jobs

and potential access to export markets for tribal coal," Black Eagle said in a statement.

The announcement follows a stalled partnership between the Crow and an Australian company that hoped to build a \$7 billion coal-toliquids plant on the rural and impoverished reservation.

Tribal leaders hoped that plant would give an economic boost to the Crow's 13,000 enrolled citizens. But four years after the Many Stars coal-to-liquids project was announced, its prospects remain uncertain due to financing difficulties and other problems.

Negotiations with Cloud Peak to lease and mine reserves on the eastern side of the 2.2 million-acre reservation have been going on since at least last fall. The agreements

provide for exploration and options for Cloud Peak to lease the three deposits for an initial five-year term.

That lease could be extended to 2035 if certain conditions are met, the tribe and Cloud peak said. If the company exercises the lease options, it would pay the tribe up to 15 cents per ton, royalties and production taxes.

The company also would offer preferential hiring to American Indians and \$50,000annually in scholarships for Crow members.

Cloud Peak already has three surface mines in the Powder River Basin - the Antelope and Cordero Rojo mines in Wyoming and Spring Creek, near Decker, Mont. The company recently acquired the Youngs Creek coal deposit in Wyoming and nearby lands in Montana known as the CX Ranch.

Cloud Peak President Colin Marshall said in a statement that the location of the Crow coal next to Spring Creek, Youngs Creek and the CX Ranch would allow the company to "optimize" mine development. It was unclear if Cloud Peak intends to develop those other properties and company officials did not return immediate calls for comment.

Black Eagle said coal would be shipped through existing train loading facilities at Spring Creek.

Since the 1970s the tribe has leased coal on the northern end of the reservation to Westmoreland Resources. The company's Absaloka Mine produced 5.5 million tons of fuel in 2011.

# Thoroughbred Banking

VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned

TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY Wesley Mahan MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country







### VA announces new grants to help end veteran homelessness

■ Initiative targets 42,000 homeless and at-risk vets and families

**NITA MCCLELLAN** VA Public Affairs Officer

WASHINGTON - Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced July 18 the awarding of nearly \$100 million in grants that will help approximately 42,000 homeless and at-risk Veterans and their families. The grants are going to 151 community agencies in 49 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Eastern Oklahoma, the Community Services Council of Greater Tulsa, Inc. will receive a renewal grant of \$996,025, which will help the organization continue to serve approximately 500 participant households in the counties of Washington, Tulsa, Muskogee, Creek, Cherokee, Rogers, Okmulgee, Osage and Wagoner.

"We are committed to ending Veteran homelessness in America, said Shinseki. "These grants will help VA and community organizations reach out and prevent at-risk Veterans from losing their homes."

Under the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program, VA is awarding grants to private, nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives that provide services to very low-income Veteran families living in -- or transitioning to -- permanent housing. Those community organizations provide a range of services that promote housing stability among eligible, very low income Veteran families.

Under the grants, homeless providers will offer Veterans and their family members outreach, case management, assistance in obtaining VA benefits and assistance in getting other public benefits. Communitybased groups can offer temporary financial assistance on behalf of Veterans for rent payments, utility payments, security deposits and moving costs.

This is the program's second year. Last year, VA provided about \$60 million to assist 22,000 Veterans and family members.

In 2009, President Obama and Secretary Shinseki announced the federal government's goal to end Veteran homelessness by 2015. The grants are intended to help accomplish that goal. According to the 2011 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, homelessness among Veterans has declined 12 percent since January 2010.

Through the homeless Veterans initiative, VA committed \$800 million in FY 2011 to strengthen programs that prevent and end homelessness among Veterans. VA provides a range of services to homeless Veterans, including health care, housing, job training, and education.

More information about VA's homeless programs is available on the Internet at www.va.gov/homeless. Details about the Supportive Services for Veteran Families program are online at www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.

To learn more about the JCMVAMC Homeless Program, please visit http:// www.muskogee.va.gov/Homeless\_

## Nez Perce tribe divvies up settlement money

■ Other recipients of large sums included the Idaho tribe at nearly \$34 million, New Mexico's Mescalero **Apache Nation at nearly** \$33 million and Montana's Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes at \$150 million.

LEWISTON, Idaho (AP) Members of the Nez Perce Tribe will each receive about \$8,600 as part of a settlement with the federal government over mismanagement of tribal money and trust lands.

The federal government announced earlier this year that it would pay \$1 billion to resolve lawsuits brought by 41 American Indian tribes attempting to reclaim money lost in mismanaged accounts and from royalties for oil, gas, grazing and timber rights on tribal lands.

northern Idaho, 3,500-member Nez Perce Tribe received \$33.7 million on July 10 as part of the settlement, the Lewiston Tribune reported.

The tribe has previously estimated that each citizen would receive into U.S. District Court record. approximately \$9,500 under the notice was posted on the tribe's members that \$3 million would go to the Native American Rights Fund.

Colorado-based group represented the Nez Perce Tribe in the lawsuit.

Of the remaining \$30.7 million,

tribal members will each receive approximately \$8,600, according to the letter posted on the tribe's website earlier this month.

Those members who met an initial July 18 deadline to apply for their portion of the settlement funds should receive checks by Tuesday. As for tribal citizens who are still minors, their money will be held in a trust until they turn 18, the letter said.

To be eligible for the funds, citizens must have been enrolled in the tribe as of May 4. For tribal citizens who were alive as of May 4 but have since passed away, their estates may seek the funds on their behalf, the notice said. Those who applied for tribe enrollment before July 10 also will be deemed eligible if their application was subsequently approved.

The settlement was announced jointly in April by the Justice Department and the Interior Department, which manages more than 100,000 leases on tribal trust lands and about 2,500 tribal trust accounts for more than 250 federally recognized tribes.

The government didn't release the dollar amounts that each of the 41 tribes would receive as part of the settlement, though some were entered

Among those, recipients of large agreement. But that was before a sums included the Idaho tribe at nearly \$34 million, New Mexico's Mescalero website earlier this month telling Apache Nation at nearly \$33 million and Montana's Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes at \$150 million. The Ute Mountain Ute Tribe in southwest Colorado, southeast Utah and northern New Mexico, was to receive nearly \$42.6 million.

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? **ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!** 



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

### **Expert: Hurdles to protecting reservation children**

■ You could have two houses sitting together, one tribal and one non-tribal, and they're under different jurisdictions.

CHUCK HAGA
Grand Forks Herald

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) – As a member of the University of North Dakota's Indian Studies faculty, Greg Gagnon used to give students a "pretest" to see what they knew about American Indians. He also sent them into the field to quiz other students.

Nearly all the students were not Indian, and what they "knew" was that Indians get a check every month just for being Indian, they attend college for free, they are violent drunks and are wealthy because of welfare and casinos.

"The stereotypes have not changed over the years since 1998, when I started doing the assignment," said Gagnon, 69, who retired at UND in December.

Ignorance about Indians and how reservations work are among hurdles facing the Spirit Lake Nation as it tries to fix problems in its child protection system, Gagnon said, problems that have drawn heavy scrutiny in recent months.

"The reality is there – abuse is a problem, a major problem," he said. "It's a problem at almost every reservation in the country. There are cracks – gigantic gaps – for people to fall through. Tribal government is too often crisis government, and that's true of social workers as well as elected officials.

"It isn't a personal choice of neglect by the social workers or tribal officials," he said. "Yes, you have people drop the ball. There are personal failures. But the system has been set up by federal Indian policy and law, by state activity and inactivity, and these crossing jurisdictions are what the tribe has to figure out. You get into all kinds of major legal problems when you intervene where you don't have jurisdiction."

Gagnon is an enrolled citizen of the Red River Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa in northern Wisconsin. Before coming to UND, he lived for 17 years on the Pine Ridge Sioux reservation in South Dakota, where he was academic vice president at the tribal college.

While he makes no claims to be an expert on Spirit Lake, he speaks frequently on tribal law and governance. His book, "Culture and Customs of the Sioux Indians," was published in 2011.

The unsolved murders of two young siblings last year and circumstances in the death of a 2-month-old baby earlier this month have been cited by critics on and off the reservation as examples of an ongoing crisis of children at risk there. Federal, state and tribal authorities promised investigations, and some have cited muddled jurisdiction as a contributing factor.

The Tribal Law and Order Act was signed into law last July, as Congress noted that fewer than 3,000 tribal and federal law officers patrol more than 56 million acres, less than half the average law presence in comparable rural areas nationwide. Congress also stated that "the complicated jurisdictional scheme that exists in Indian country has a significant negative impact on the ability to provide public safety to Indian communities."

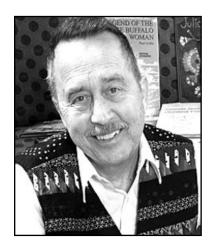
Indian organizations welcomed the legislation, which "offers a great opportunity to improve the justice systems in Indian country," according to the Tribal Law and Order Resource Center, a division of the National Congress of American Indians. "But, implementation will require significant coordination" by federal, state, county and tribal authorities, and that is likely to take time.

The U.S. attorneys for North Dakota and South Dakota, hosting a workshop last week in Fargo, promised to seek better coordination in the prosecution of crimes against women and children on the two states' reservations.

"If I were waving a magic wand, I would do more to implement the new federal crime act, which offers the opportunity for cross-deputizing," Gagnon said. "With tribal police deputized by the state, a tribal police officer would be able to deal better with those jurisdictional issues."

More than half of the Spirit Lake reservation is non-Indian owned, he said. A good portion of the population is non-Indian and therefore not under tribal jurisdiction.

"Tribal police can't intervene even within the boundaries of the reservation on private, deeded land," Gagnon said. "There are lots of those places on every reservation in



Greg Gagno

North Dakota and most of the rest of the country. And the county can't intervene on trust land," because it is Indian-controlled.

"You could have two houses sitting together, one tribal and one non-tribal, and they're under different jurisdictions," he said. "Given the laws and restrictions that each jurisdiction has, (officers) sometimes can't legally intervene. There are very few people who have so much courage they just go ahead and do it anyway, and those people don't last long."

The sovereignty proclaimed by Indian nations and recognized in treaties is a factor in the jurisdictional maze, and Gagnon said it is another part of Indian life poorly understood by others.

"One of the principles held by most people in the world, including indigenous people, is that a nation should have control of its own destiny and should be able to regulate and govern itself," he said. "What tribes are trying to do is retain what they've been able to keep of their sovereignty, and to regain what they can of what they've lost."

That includes Indian children. The state took children away, sending them to non-Indian foster homes and boarding schools through what's been called the "assimilation" period, or what some Indians call the "cultural genocide" period, Gagnon said.

"The 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act recognized tribal primacy over the disposition of Indian children," he said. "When social workers wanted to take Indian children and put them somewhere, they had to make an effort to find which tribe the child belonged to and notify that tribe. The tribe has a right to determine what happens to the child in adoption as well as in child abuse cases."

The 1978 law allows a state judge to intervene with an emergency declaration and direct the placement of an Indian child regardless of what the tribe says. "Sometimes you just have to intervene for the benefit of the child," Gagnon said.

"Social workers in Grand Forks may see only the child in front of them, but there is this larger issue of taking people away from a nation," he said. "The nation has an interest in maintaining a society."

Another factor complicating child protection and other social services is the funding stream, actually many streams, with some diverted through the state.

"The state has its obligation (of oversight), just as it does to maintain public schools on the reservation," Gagnon said.

"There are some reservations where you have (Bureau of Indian Affairs) social workers, tribal social workers and state social workers, all trying to provide services, operating under three different masters (and) sometimes working at cross purposes," he said.

Rapid turnover is another problem.

Gagnon said a friend used to boast that she held the record for longevity as a case worker at the Pine Ridge reservation. "She held the position for a year," he said.

"Overall in Indian country, there aren't enough social workers who are trained – and also trained to be culturally proficient. That is, they may not understand how the reservation works and the culture," he said. "You need to know those things if you're going to be an effective agent for the community."

It's not all bleak in Indian country, however, Gagnon said.

"Generally speaking, there has been a steady improvement in the effectiveness of government on the reservations," he said. "But major legacies continue to haunt us, such as the number of unemployed. With that go the kinds of problems we've seen recently in homes at Spirit Lake."

Gagnon notes that those problems – including the neglect, abuse and sexual abuse of children – can be found in other areas where poverty, unemployment and despair are chronic.

"We could go to Chicago and Dallas and New Orleans and south Texas and find the same thing," he said. "It's all there, and it's poverty-related and compounded by alcoholism and drugs. Unemployment creates a dangerous social situation for children anywhere."

### **ELECTION**

Continued from Page

■ The Carter Center encouraged amending the election law and noted that reporters "play an indispensible role during democratic elections by educating voters and political parties."

In addition to the proposed restrictions on reporters, the Election Commission recommended automatically registering citizens to vote when they initially enroll.

"I think that's a very good idea because so many people went to the polls just with their blue card (tribal citizenship card)," Tribal Councilor Janelle Fullbright said. "By the time they found out they weren't actually registered to vote, it was too late."

Earls said Thursday that the commission will allow for public input when it comes time to consider adding the recommendations to their bylaws.

Earls and commission chairman Bill Horton were also questioned by Tribal Councilor Dick Lay about the possibility of the tribe running its own elections instead of bringing in a third-party contractor. Automated Election Services from Rio Rancho, N.M., provided ballots and voting machines for the tribe's 2011 election.

"We met with the Cherokee County (Okla.) Election Board months ago, who has done it in the past," Earls said. "We might be able to do it in the future, but there simply isn't enough time to do it before the next election."

The Cherokee Nation's next election is 2013, when half of the Tribal Council seats will be on the ballot. The tribe's legislative branch is in the process of transitioning from five districts with three representatives each to 15 single-representative districts.

Earls and Horton did not provide a timeline at Thursday's meeting for when their recommendations would be implemented other than it would be after the conclusion of the council's redistricting efforts.

## **ICWA**

complexity of the Indian Child Welfare Act – is currently under review by the South Carolina Supreme Court.

In a July 4 press release, the Coalition for the Protection of Indian Children & Families, which is seeking fundamental amendments to ICWA, said it "represents a collective group of individuals and organizations dedicated to the constitutional rights of Indian children and their families as American citizens in order to ensure their lives are free from unnecessary pain and suffering."

Specifically, the group wants to limit the time for a biological parent to revoke consent for an adoption. The group also says Native American birth parents should be able to choose where their children are placed – even if parental choices go against a tribe's wishes.

Instead of the full year currently allowed under the act for natural parents to revoke their adoption consent, the Coalition for the Protection of Indian Children & Families says 30 days is sufficient.

Paradoxically, the coalition is looking to make it easier for non-Native families – such as the Capobiancos – to adopt Native children by way of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

"This defeats the entire purpose" of the federal legislation, Chrissi Ross Nimmo, assistant attorney general for the Cherokee Nation, told the Tulsa World in Oklahoma in a recent interview.

Enacted by Congress in 1978 following over a century of oftentimes unnecessary removal of Native American children from their traditional tribal homes and communities by federal, state and even local authorities, the Indian Child Welfare Act gives tribal governments a strong voice concerning the custody proceedings of Native children. The law grants tribes exclusive jurisdiction over custody cases involving children residing on-reservation and children who are wards of the tribe, as well as concurrent – but presumptive

– jurisdiction with states over off-reservation children's foster care placement proceedings, as in the case of the Capobianco family.

In delayed recognition of the unique relationship that exists between the federal government and the country's original inhabitants as sovereign nations whose lands were unceremoniously usurped in relentless pursuit of "Manifest Destiny," ICWA was a conscious, as well as conspicuous, attempt by the federal government to preserve and protect Native families and – ultimately –cultures, many of which are historically based in an extended family system.

Prior to the enactment of ICWA, as many as 25 to 35 percent of all Native children were being removed from their homes and placed in non-Native homes, according to various research reports from the late 1970s. In some cases, the Bureau of Indian Affairs paid states to remove Native children and place them with non-Native families and religious groups.

Under the law, tribes and Native parents or other custodians of Native children have an unqualified right to intervene in cases involving foster care placement or the termination of parental rights.

Additionally, active efforts to place Native children removed from their homes with extended tribal relatives, other nonrelated tribal members or even other nonrelated Natives must be made under the law. The provision was designed to serve as a safeguard against a child's loss of true familial and cultural connections.

"The public rarely hears about the thousands of cases a year that either reunite Indian children with their biological parents or the cases where Indian children find permanent, loving adoptive homes with members of their family," said Nimmo.

"The problems you hear about in high-profile cases are not caused by the law itself. The problems are caused when attorneys, adoption agencies and courts do not follow the federal law," she said.

A recent case in South Dakota might exemplify Nimmo's contention: In ruling in

custody proceedings involving the child of a Native American mother who formerly resided in South Dakota and Native American father residing in California, the state's Supreme Court last month said – for the first time since the Indian Child Welfare Act was created in 1978 – that the federal law's requirement of an active effort to keep an American Indian family together imposes a higher standard than the reasonable effort required in state law for non-Indian families, as reported by The Associated Press

In what could be seen as an anti-ICWA move, the precedent-setting decision more narrowly defined the extent of efforts that the state must make to prevent the breakup of an American Indian family.

Some Native American families have argued that South Dakota does not do enough to comply with federal laws dealing with removing Indian children from their families, the AP reported, but the Supreme Court said state officials complied with those laws in this instance.

In one of its first official moves, the Coalition for the Protection of Indian Children & Families held a meeting in Washington, D.C., July 11 in an effort to draw congressional attention to its

According to the organization's July 4 press release, its members – comprised of individual non-Native Americans and Native Americans, businesses, nonprofits, religious groups and advocacy organizations – are lobbying for "what they feel are reasonable amendments that will help strengthen how the (Indian Child Welfare Act) is being used. Federal and state tax dollars fund the implementation of the law – a law that the Coalition feels denies Indian children the same rights as other children."

Of the group's four founding members, one is Native American.

Though no tribes are members of the coalition, they are welcome to join, said Jessica Munday, a non-Native co-founder of and spokeswoman for the organization, and a few individuals have joined from South Dakota.

"The (proposed) amendments would help strengthen the law in a lot of ways and will help ensure that these negative cases (such as the Capobiancos') don't happen as often," Munday told Native Sun News July 20. "But we haven't reached that point, and we certainly put the invitation out there to begin that dialogue."

Native American critics of the organization, however, say it is looking to dismantle ICWA and call its actions a threat to the protection of Native children and preservation of their respective cultures.

Munday says the coalition is merely speaking on behalf of those individuals who have been negatively impacted by the Indian Child Welfare Act since its inception over three decades ago, including Native American birth and foster parents. "Hundreds, if not thousands, of people have reached out to us for help," she noted.

"I've heard of many cases where a (Native) child has an opportunity to have a permanent, loving, healthy home, but because that home is non-Native they're taken from that home and put into the foster care system," she said. "And I just don't see how that's in the best interest of a child when they have a chance to have a permanent home."

Representatives from the Cherokee Nation as well as congressional aides were in attendance at the Washington meeting, according to Munday, and a "good dialogue" was started.

Munday added that the group is seeking a compromise with Congress regarding ICWA that doesn't disrespect Native heritage, repeal the law, or spell the end of Native cultures.

However, ICWA as it stands "gives special

treatment" to Native American children, she says, and "I've always been of the mindset that ... to be fair it should be the same for everyone. ... To me, it doesn't seem fair to do that for one population and not all the other children as well."

(Contact Jesse Abernathy at editor@nsweekly. com)

- Copyright permission by Native Sun News, www.nsweekly.com

# Chief Joseph war shirt fetches \$877,500 at auction

MARTIN GRIFFITH Associated Press

RENO, Nevada (AP) – A war shirt worn by Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce tribe that can be seen in a painting hanging in the Smithsonian Institution sold Saturday for \$877,500 at auction, organizers said.

Mike Overby, an organizer of the annual Coeur d'Alene Art Auction, said the shirt that sold in Reno is considered to be one of the most important Native American artifacts to ever come to auction. It had been expected to bring from \$800,000 to \$1.2 million at auction, he said.

"Anything associated with Chief Joseph is highly desirable, and that's a pretty special shirt," he told The Associated Press.

Chief Joseph wore the shirt in 1877 in the earliest known photo of him, and again while posing for a portrait by Cyrenius Hall in 1878. That painting, which was used for a U.S. postage stamp, hangs in the Smithsonian.

The poncho-style war shirt was made of two soft skins, likely deerskin. It features beadwork with bold geometric designs and bright colors. Warriors kept such prestigious garments clean in a saddlebag on their horse or carefully stored while in camp, to be worn only on special occasions, American Indian scholar Theodore Brasser noted.

The shirt surfaced at an Indian relic show in the 1990s and was sold without any knowledge of its link to the photo and portrait. It changed hands again before the connection was discovered.

Its quality makes it desirable for collectors, but it's the "surprising discovery of the shirt's role in history that reveals its true importance," said Brasser, a former curator of the National Museum of Ethnology in Leiden, Netherlands, and at the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Ottawa

The photo and portrait showing the war shirt were made shortly after Chief Joseph led 750 Nez Perce tribal members on an epic 1,700-mile journey from Oregon to Montana in an unsuccessful bid to reach Canada and avoid being confined to a reservation. They were forced to surrender in 1877 after U.S. troops stopped them



ARCHIVE ne Smithsonian

In 1878, Chief Joseph posed wearing the shirt for a portrait by Cyrenius Hall, which now hangs in the Smithsonian Museum, Washington, D.C. The same painting was also used for a U.S. postage stamp.

about 40 miles (64 kilometers)south of the Canadian border.

In a famous speech made after the surrender, Chief Joseph said: "From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."

The shirt's sale involved private collectors. "It was a wild-card piece. We're real happy where it ended up," Overby

Despite its price, it was not the topselling piece at the auction. The painting "Scout's Report," by Howard Terpning, went for \$994,500, followed by \$965,250 for "Cowboys Roping the Bear" by Frank Tenny Johnson.

Some 400 bidders took part in what's billed as the world's largest Western art sale. About 300 works were sold for a total of \$17.2 million, up from \$16.9 million last year and \$9.2 million the year before.

### **GIR**

Continued from Page

■ A family spokeswoman said the couple could appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court but hadn't decided what to do next.

parent under federal law. Because it is an adoption case, the order did not mention specific names for privacy reasons.

The court used as its guide the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, passed in 1978 because of the high number of Indian children that at the time were being removed from their homes by public and private agencies. The act gives the child's tribe and family the right to have a say in decisions affecting the child.

In this case, now-2-yearold Veronica was adopted by Matt and Melanie Capobianco, who live on James Island just outside Charleston. They attended the girl's birth and cared for her thereafter.

The girl's father, Dusten Brown, a member of the Cherokee Nation, later went to court seeking custody. A South Carolina court awarded Brown custody of the child, and he arrived in Charleston on New Year's Eve with his parents to take the girl back to Oklahoma.

The adoptive parents appealed, and the Supreme Court heard the case during a closed hearing in April. During the girl's time with the Capobiancos, the court wrote, the family has likely formed a significant bond. But that isn't enough to keep her from her biological father, given the constraints of the federal law.

"While we are conscious that any separation will cause some degree of pain, we can only conclude from the evidence presented at trial that Father desires to be a parent to Baby Girl, and that he and his family have created a safe, loving and appropriate home for her," the court wrote.

The justices also wrote that while determining what is in the child's best interest is of high importance in a custody case, the girl's Native American heritage also plays a key role.

"Where an Indian child's best interests are at stake, our inquiry into that child's best interests must also account for his or her status as an Indian," the court wrote. "Baby Girl, as an Indian child, has a strong interest in retaining ties to her cultural heritage."

Justice John Kittredge, in his dissent, said he would have approved the adoption by the South Carolina couple.

"Today the Court decides the fate of a child without regard to her best interests and welfare," he wrote. "Father purposely abandoned this child and no amount of revisionist history can change that truth."

A message left with Brown's attorney was not immediately returned Thursday. In a statement, the attorney general for the Cherokee Nation heralded the decision as a victory for Native American families. The Capobiancos said they were saddened by the ruling.

"We love our little girl deeply and only want what is best for her," they said. "This decision will prevent us from having any involvement in her life. Our hearts are completely broken."

Family spokeswoman Jessica Munday said the couple could appeal the case to the U.S. Supreme Court but hadn't decided what to do next.

"The law is meant to preserve and protect children. It was not meant to devastate individuals, Native American or non-Native American," she said. "And the reality is that's what's happening."

Terry Cross, the executive director of the National Indian Child Welfare Association based in Portland, Ore., said the ruling was consistent with others across the country.

"The National Indian Child Welfare Association commends the court's affirmation of the rights of Veronica's biological father," Cross said.

Bruce Smith contributed to this report from Charleston.

# Celebration planned for white bison birth at Connecticut farm

MICHAEL MELIA Associated Press

GOSHEN, Conn. (AP) – The birth of a white bison, one of the rarest of animals, is bringing Native Americans who consider it a sacred event to celebrate at one of the least likely of places, a farm in New England.

Hundreds of people, including tribal elders from South Dakota, are expected to attend naming ceremonies later this month at the northwestern Connecticut farm of Peter Fay, a fourth-generation Goshen farmer.

Native Americans in the area have come with gifts of tobacco and colored flags for Fay and the bull calf since it was born there a month ago, and Fay is planning to offer his hay field as a campsite for the expected crowds.

"They say it's going to bring good things to all people in the world. How can you beat that? That's the way I look at it," Fay said.

Connecticut farms host only about 100 bison, a tiny fraction of the populations in Western states, such as South Dakota, the home of Sioux tribes that attach the greatest spiritual meaning to white bison. As some push for greater recognition of the bison's significance to both the United States and Native Americans, advocates say the event on the far-flung East Coast is well-placed to boost exposure for the cause.

Fay, whose family traditionally stuck to dairy farming, took on bison four years ago as a hobby, enamored by the animals' toughness. He built his herd to 40 before recently selling half of them.

Word spread rapidly after the arrival of the white bison, which experts say is as rare as one in 10 million, and Fay invited Native Americans for the ceremonies at his farm below Mohawk Mountain. In turn, he and his two daughters were asked to participate in the celebrations, which will include a feast and talks by the elders.

"They're here almost every day, teaching me," said the 53-year-old Fay, who has bison tattoos on his shoulder and chest.

Marian White Mouse, a member of the Oglala Lakota tribe in South Dakota, said the

birth of a white bison is a sign from a prophet, the White Buffalo Calf Woman, who helped them endure times of strife and famine. White Mouse's family of four is flying to Connecticut for the ceremonies.

"For me, it's like a surreal event. I never thought in my wildest dreams I would ever come in contact with one of them in my lifetime," said White Mouse, 51, of Wanblee, S.D.

Jim Stone, the executive director of the InterTribal Buffalo Council in Rapid City, S.D., said the oral traditions of many tribes honor white bison, which have become a universal symbol for hope and unity. He said each such birth is also an opportunity for tribes to share their history, and the celebration in Connecticut is likely to touch many non-tribal people.

The calf, born on June 16, is off-white – not an albino – and Fay said he is certain the bloodlines are pure, although he has sent its DNA for testing to confirm there was no intermingling with cattle. Fay, who also works at an excavating and rock-crushing business, focuses on breeding and selling the bison calves, but he has not determined what will happen with the white one.

To address concerns for the calf's safety, he also has at least one person stay at the farm around the clock. Last year, a white bison calf born in Texas was found dead and skinned – a slaughter that some suspect as an anti-Indian hate crime. Fay did not want the date of the ceremonies this month publicized.

Tens of millions of bison once roamed America's plains, but the over-hunted population shrank to about 1,000 toward the end of the 1800s. Their numbers have rebounded to several hundred thousand, and wildlife and tribal groups are now pushing Congress to have the bison recognized as America's "national mammal." The National Bison Legacy Act was introduced in the Senate in May.

"Any kind of awareness we can raise around bison is a good thing," said Jim Matheson, assistant director of the National Bison Association in Denver.

## Rare white buffalo calf dies at ranch

AVON, Minn. (AP) – A rare white buffalo calf has died at a central Minnesota ranch.

The calf named Baby died last

Friday at Countryside Buffalo Ranch in Avon. The white heifer was born July

4 on the ranch run by Steve and

Carol Sarff tells the St. Cloud Times she noticed on July 18 that the calf seemed to have injured its hip. She and her husband put the calf in a barn where it was cooler and contacted the veterinarian.

Steve Sarff says heat causes flies to swarm around buffalo, and he suspects the calf may have been inadvertently kicked by its mother.

## Native American hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

	NATIVE A	AMERICAN	TIMES
--	----------	----------	-------

Name:			
Address:			
City:	State: Zip:		
Phone:			
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>			
Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411			

Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

### **OK Health Care Authority**

Medical Director • Salary - \$142K

The medical director is responsible for leadership and direction as assigned to promote policies and standards that lead to more efficient delivery of quality health care to beneficiaries and staff. Closes August 10, 2012

Deputy General Counsel • \$52.5K to \$71K + State Benefits! This position will primarily be responsible for litigation in State and Federal Court, representation of the agency in Program Integrity Audit appeals pursuant to 56 Okla. Stat. § 1010.9 and representation of the agency in administrative appeals. Submit application & questionnaire from website. Deadline: August 17, 2012

Reasonable accommodation may be made for individuals with disabilities.

#### See full job descriptions online at www.nativetimes.com/jobs

To apply visit: www.okhca.org/jobs

(Selection may occur prior to closing date)

OK Health Care Authority Attn: Human Resources 2401 N.W. 23rd St., Suite 1-A Oklahoma City, OK 73107 personnel@okhca.org **EOE** 

#### **OFFICE MANAGER**

**Construction Industries Board** Responsible for office adm, personnel/fiscal,all agency business functions for self-funded state agency- dev/maintain budget, timely file all agency compliance reports, personnel, & supervision. 6-10 years of experience required.

#### **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 (4 PM)**

See full job description and job requirements on agency website at www.cib.state.ok.us.

Salary Range: \$60,000 + based on exp & ed

Mail to: Administrator **Construction Industries Board** 2401 N.W. 23rd Street, Suite 2F Oklahoma City, OK 73107 CIB is an EEO Employer

#### OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM **SENIOR RETIREMENT BENEFIT ANALYST**

Lead worker for the SoonerSave retirement plans. Responsible for training staff and assisting participants and beneficiaries with all aspects of the plan. Works with service providers to resolve participant issues. Must have excellent customer service skills and experience. Must have job-related Excel and Word experience. Salary commensurate with experience and education. Deadline for applications: 8/10/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http:// www.opers.ok.gov/jobs. EOE

#### **Administrative Assistant** to Human Resources

This position is responsible for assisting the Human Resources Director in processing new employee paperwork, performing background checks, advertising for vacancies, filing, enrolling employees in benefits programs, special projects, and other duties as assigned.

Must possess excellent computer skills with knowledge of Excel or similar spreadsheet program. Must be professional with good interpersonal skills. Must have good written and oral skills. Must be a self-starter and capable of working with little supervision. Experience in/or knowledge of human resources laws, procedures and practices.

Send resume to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK 74403, or send an e-mail from this website. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to Native American students and employees. EOE

#### **College Instructor- Adjunct**

Bacone College is seeking to build Education.

the Adjunct instructor pool for the Division of Academic Support for the Fall 2012 semester. Candidates should be prepared to teach developmental courses in writing, reading or mathematics and be able to accommodate a schedule with a fluctuating workload. Previous work involving college-age youth is a plus especially in Developmental

Applicants must have an appropriate degree. A bachelors degree is required and a master's degree is preferred. Salary is competitive. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Candidates should submit a letter of interest, vita, and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Rd, Muskogee, OK 74403, Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to American Indian students and employees. EOE

### CHEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL, TAHLEQUAH #6470 Medical Technologist/T/PT #6493 Medical Technologist II/R/FT #5998 Medical Technologist/T/PT

#5745 Medical Technologist/R/FT #5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT POSITIONS CLOSE 8/10/2012

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



#### **Deputy Attorney General**

**DEPARTMENT: Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma** 

DEADLINE: August 24, 2012, by close of business 5:00pm START DATE: As Soon As Possible SALARY: Negotiable

#### JOB FUNCTIONS:

The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Administration Office has an opening for a motivated individual to perform legal services as the Deputy Attomey General for the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, including a spectrum of highly complex, in-depth legal services to routine legal matters pertaining to the Tribe as a governmental entity, its programs and designated representative.

#### **OUALIFICATIONS:**

Required: A license attorney with an Oklahoma State license to practice law and minimum five (5) years law practice experience with a preference in Tribal government emphasis, or other Tribal-related or Federal Indian law experience.

For more information about this position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send your resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com

Kickapoo Tribal Court P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

#### Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



#### **Notice of Vacancy District Court Judge**

DEPARTMENT: Kickapoo Tribal Court DEADLINE: August 24,2012, by close of business 5:00pm

JOB FUNCTIONS: The Kickapoo Tribal Court is posting a

start ASAP. · Will be required to attend quarterly

District Court Judge position that will

Judicial meetings - Have an OBA license;

- Reside in Oklahoma; - Will hear the following type of cases:

Civil, Family (divorce, child support, custody), Criminal, and Indian Child

- Will be compensated for each Court docket and Administrative duties

- Have experience in Tribal Court preferred

- Attend trainings related to Tribal Law

QUALIFICATIONS:

Can review the Kickapoo Tribe's Judicial

Ordinance, Section 5 Website:

www.kickapootribeofoklahoma.com For more information about this

position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send vour resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com or mail:

Kickapoo Tribal Court P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

#### Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



#### **Prosecutor**

JOB FUNCTIONS:

The Kickapoo Tribal Court is posting a Prosecutor position that will start

- Will be required to work on Criminal and Indian Child Welfare cases in Tribal Court and assist the Indian Child Welfare department in state Court, if needed;

- Knowledge of Indian Child Welfare

- Understanding of Tribal jurisdiction in regards to criminal and Indian Child Welfare cases;

- Have an OBA license; - Reside in Oklahoma;

- Will be compensated a monthly flat

- Able to communicate with the Kickapoo Tribal Police department on investigative criminal cases;

- Able to make decisions relating to investigative criminal cases:

- Be able to attend two court dockets each month or if needed for emergency I.C.W. situations;

#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Required: A licensed attorney with an Oklahoma State license to practice law and minimum ofthree (3) years prosecutor experience.

For more information about this position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send your resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com or mail:

**Kickapoo Tribal Court** P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

> Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) 120 N Robinson Ave, Suite 1244W Oklahoma City, OK 73102

#### **Assistant Airport Engineer**

Salary commiserate with Edu. & Exp. Closing Date: 5:00 pm, 8/15/12.

Edu. and Exp.: BS in Civil Engineering or Engineer-in-iraining Cert., prepare eng records, technical reports, and manage several projects.

Typical functions: Prepare preliminary eng reports; develop plans and specs for OAC's Pavement Maint program including selection and application of eng systems and materials in accordance with FAA Advisory Circulars and practices, assist in const bids or negotiations, collect pavement visual distress data, inspect state funded airport devel projects during const, review and approve const mangmt plans, etc.

This is an unclassified position. OAC is an EOE Employer.

Please send your resume and cover letter to Elaine Spell, COO, phone 405-604-6911, Fax 405-604-6919, or espell@oac.ok.gov

#### NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 

Native American Owned Business? Let the Native American Community know! The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Northern Oklahoma. Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES** 

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

### SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

### CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960



### **True American Indian**

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

#### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



204-376-3428

www.ganica.net

## New Tonto, familiar feelings for Native Americans

MANUEL VALDES Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) - Gyasi Ross grew up decades after the "Lone Ranger" aired on TV, but his friends would still call him "Tonto" when they teased him.

The making of a new "Lone Ranger" Disney movie, and the announcement that Johnny Depp is playing sidekick Tonto, have reawakened feelings about a character that has drawn much criticism over the years as being a Hollywood creation guilty of spreading stereotypes.

"Everybody understands who Tonto is, even if we hadn't seen the show, and we understood it wasn't a good thing," said Ross, a citizen of the Blackfeet Nation in Montana who lives and has family in the Suquamish Tribe, outside Seattle. "Why else would you tease someone with that?"

The film is still in production, but Native American groups have been abuzz about it for months, with many sharing opinions online and in a national Native publication running an occasional series on the topic.

Some Native Americans welcome the new movie, slated for release next summer. Parts were filmed on the Navajo Nation with the tribe's support, and an Oklahoma tribe recently made Depp an honorary citizen.

But for others, the "Lone Ranger" represents a lingering sore spot - one that goes back to the 1950s television version of Tonto, who spoke in broken English, wore buckskin and lacked any real cultural traits.

Depp's role attracted particular attention in April when producer Jerry Bruckheimer tweeted a picture of the actor in his Tonto costume. He had on black and white face paint, an intense gaze, a black bird attached to his head and plenty of decorative feathers.

"The moment it hit my Facebook newsfeed, the updates from my friends went nutso," wrote Natanya Ann Pulley, a doctorate student at University of Utah, in an essay for the online magazine McSweeney's.

For Pulley and her friends, the portrayal of Native Americans in Western movies is getting old.

"I'm worried about the Tonto figure becoming a parody or a commercialized figure that doesn't have any dimension or depth, or consideration for contemporary context of Native Americans," she said.

Native Americans are far from a monolithic group, and many are opening their arms to the new movie. Some are just excited to see Depp take the role.

In New Mexico, where some of the movie was filmed, the Navajo presented Depp, his co-star Armie Hammer, director Gore Verbinski and Bruckheimer with Pendleton blankets to welcome them to their land. Elsewhere, the Comanche people of Oklahoma made Depp, one of Hollywood's most bankable stars, an honorary citizen.

"In my niece's mind, I met Jack Sparrow," said Emerald Dahozy, spokeswoman for Navajo President Ben Shelly and a member of the Navajo group who met with Depp. "My personal view, I like him playing in a character which he can embody

Dahozy said the "Lone Ranger" production brought something more palpable to the reservation: money. The actors and the large crew lived on Navajo land, eating at local restaurants and staying in towns that rely heavily on tourism.

Native Americans aren't the only ones conflicted about the character of Tonto, which means "dumb" in Spanish. For Mexican Americans who grew up in the Southwest, the character draws up memories of one of the first dark-skinned heroes in popular culture and anger over a white man calling a brown-skinned person "dumb," said Rosa-Linda Fregoso, author of "Bronze Screen: Chicana and Chicano Film Culture" and a Latino Studies professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

"I remember rooting for him as a kid, but even I was a little bit offended as a child," said Fregoso. "For a grown white man to call someone 'Tonto' meant that you were less than human, not fully human or childlike."

In fact, Tonto's character has historically been called "Toro," which means "bull," in Spanish-language versions of early films, and Spanish language stories about Depp's role in the new film refers to his character as

Disney representatives declined to comment, but Depp has said the film will be a "sort of rock 'n' roll version career on the line."

The "Lone Ranger" began on the radio in the 1930s. Tonto was played by an actor of Irish descent, according to the Lone Ranger Fan Club.

The show rocketed in popularity and made a seamless transition to television, running on ABC from 1949 to 1957. In 2003, a TV reboot flopped. That version featured a Native Canadian actor playing Tonto.

character with no individuality and no life beyond helping the Lone Ranger.

Reportedly costing more than \$200 million, plus yet-to-be-added marketing costs, Disney's "Lone Ranger" is the type of film that can make or break a studio's summer. It's already been plagued with budget woes. The movie's release date in 2013 was recently pushed back a month.

Having Depp in the cast assures



COURTESY JERRY BRUCKHEIMER | TWITTER

This film still released by producer Jerry Bruckheimer showing Johnny Depp dressed as Tonto and Armie Hammer as the Lone Ranger prompted a storm of comments on social websites like Facebook and Twitter, with many concerned that Tonto would become a parody or commercialized figure.

of the Lone Ranger" with his Tonto offering a different take from the 1950s show.

Cheyenne and Arapaho filmmaker Chris Eyre is willing to give the actor a chance.

"Based on Johnny Depp as an artist, and him going all the way and making this film happen, in my book (he) deserves some credit," Eyre told Indian Country Today for its occasional "Tonto Files" series. "He wants to change the view of Tonto, and he put his reputation and his

But the 1950s portrayal of Tonto by Jay Silverheels, a Canadian Mohawk, is by far the most recognized.

He spoke in pidgin and was the loyal partner of the crime-fighting ranger, often bailing out the masked avenger from treacherous situations.

"Here hat. Me wash in stream. Dry in sun. Make whiter," Tonto says in an early episode setting up his relationship with the Lone Ranger. "Here gun to kill bad men."

That Tonto has been criticized as being generic and subordinate - a more eyeballs will be on the screen. Depp led the "Pirates of the Caribbean" franchise and anchored "Alice in Wonderland." Three of those movies surpassed the rare billion-dollar mark at the worldwide box office.

Manuel Valdes can be reached https://twitter.com/ByManuelValdes

Associated Press writer Russell Contreras in Albuquerque, New Mexico, contributed to this report.

## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact 
The Pawnee Service Unit information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

THIRD THURSDAY The Veterans' Administration The Native Nations Youth is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center meetings from 6:30pm to enroll all Native American and non-Indian Veterans for Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered

about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** cherokeeartistsassociation.org Modoc Tribal Citizens **Meeting at Wyandotte** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

> Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL Council (NNYC) bimonthly 8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 health care benefits the third S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**AUGUST 3 Cherokee Nation Elders in** Need program deadline. Info contact: Crystal Thomas, **Human Services assistant** manager, at 918-453-5627 or crystal-thomas@cherokee.

**AUGUST 3 Indian Taco Sale 11:00 AM** - 2:00 PM at Norman First American UMC, 1950 East Beaumont Drive, Norman, Okla. Call Ahead for Speedy Service. Free Delivery on Orders of 10 or More (405) 321-5640

**AUGUST 3-5** Kaw Powwow at Washunga **Bay Powwow Grounds,** 12613 E. Furguson, Ave., Kaw City. Numerous traditional dance contests such as fancy dancing. Call 580-269-2552 or toll free 1-866-404-5297.

**AUGUST 3-5 Oklahoma Indian Nations Powwow at Concho Powwow Grounds, Concho.** Traditional singing, gourd dancing, war dancing and a drum contest. Dance contests in various categories. Call 405-476-1134.

**AUGUST 8-11** 81st American Indian **Exposition. Kicks off with** parades on Wednesday & Saturday at 10 am in downtown Anadarko. Caddo County Fairgrounds, Anadarko, OK. Nightly performances at 8 pm. americanindian exposition.org. Dance contest info: 405-334-9193

**AUGUST 11-12 Wichita Tribal Dance** at Wichita Tribal Park, Anadarko. Dance competitions will be open to Wichita Tribal members and their descendants. Call 405-247-2425.

**AUGUST 17-19 Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Powwow of Champions** at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis, Tulsa. Doors open 5pm Friday, 10am Sat and Sun. Call 918-378-4494 or 918-838-8276 for more information.

**AUGUST 18 Eastern Shawnee Children's** Powwow, 12615 S. 705 Road, Wyandotte. Native dance competitions will include tiny tots and junior divisions. Call 918-666-7710.

**AUGUST 18 Cherokee Nation Bass Classic** from 6 a.m. to noon, at **Chicken Creek Campgrounds** on Lake Tenkiller. Features

50/50 drawings, door prizes and a plaque and cash prize for the biggest bass. Registration is \$100 per boat for two team members, including one adult and one youth, between the ages of 3-18. Participants 16 and up must have a fishing license. Lake bass regulations apply. Info call John Mouse at 918-822-2929.

**AUGUST 28** Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Diabetes Awareness Summit** at Okemah First Baptist Church, 120 S. 6th Street, Okemah. Summit is free. Info call 918-636-8735.

**AUGUST 30- SEPTEMBER 3 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka Homma Capitol Grounds. Information call 800-522-6170.

**AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the **Cherokee Cultural Grounds,** Southwest of the tribal complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

**AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and** Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

**SEPTEMBER 15 Dance for Life contest** powwow - a community event bringing awareness to suicide prevention in our communities and among our youth. Sponsored by the **Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma Teen Suicide Prevention** Program. Event will be held in the Comanche Nation **Community Center in** Apache, Oklahoma. More info call 405-247-5200 or email gmbeaver@att.net

**NOVEMBER 3 Bacone College Fall** Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

New at nativetimes.com **Enter your powwow** info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select Powwow Entry

#### First Nations grant helps Ponca Tribe feed elders, encourage youth interest in agriculture

**AMOS HINTON** Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma

PONCA CITY, Okla. - The Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma recently received a \$25,000 grant from First Nations Development Institute of Longmont, Colorado. This award will support the efforts of the Ponca Tribe in providing fresh meat to its tribal elders.

The tribe has purchased quality breeding stock from regional producers of show quality pigs. The goal is to raise quality animals and supply the packaged product to tribal elders at no cost. Pigs were chosen because they reproduce more quickly than other livestock. By raising pigs, the tribe can help more people in a relatively short time period.

Show stock was chosen in hopes that youth that are interested in the world of agriculture may have a show animal available. It is hard for a family to be able to purchase a show animal for their children and be able to afford the feed. Thanks to First Nations, The Ponca Tribe will be able to

provide the animal at no cost to the child.

"It's a wonderful thing to know that we, as a tribe are able to assist our tribal elders in such a way," said Ben Arkeketa, Ponca tribal administrator.

The Ponca Tribal A gricultureDepartment cares for the pigs. They began with one boar and two sows. The plan is be a 20sow operation by next fall.

The pig operation fits nicely with the other agricultural ventures of the Ponca Tribe in trying to control the quality of food eaten by tribal citizens. The entire department is run with the wholesome approach of no added hormones or chemicals. From native teas, homemade hominy and dried sweet corn, to their pork, it is as natural as possible.

www.ponca.com for more information. Any questions or comments may be directed to Amos Hinton, Agriculture Director, 20 White Eagle Drive, Ponca City, OK 74601. Readers may also email amoshinton@vahoo.com or call 580-401-0039.

### **Eagle Adventure diabetes prevention** program draws tribal health staff to OSU

■ Free books are available to order for families and programs serving **Native American** children.

LEE LONGHORN Tribal Liaison Oklahoma State University

STILLWATER, Okla. — Tribal health staff from across the state will meet for a partnership workshop on the Oklahoma State University campus to learn more about the Eagle Adventure program. The three-day workshop will focus on the implementation of the Eagle Adventure program; a type 2 diabetes prevention program developed using the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) Eagle Book series as its central theme.

partnership workshop is being held this week through Aug. 1 in Stillwater and brings more than 20 participants from six Oklahoma tribes.

**Participants** will interactive sessions hands-on activities to better understand the program and its goals.

Oklahoma tribes represented at the workshop include: Chickasaw Nation, Choctaw Nation, Comanche Nation, Iowa Tribe, Otoe-Missouria Tribe, Pawnee Nation and Sac and Fox Nation. A small team from the Myskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will also be in attendance and help prepare a traditional meal.

An interdisciplinary team from the OSU College of Human Science's Nutritional Sciences Department and the Chickasaw Nation developed the Eagle Adventure program collaboratively. Funding for the program is through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education grant.

The program strives to improve the health and nutrition of youth who are increasingly at risk of developing type 2 diabetes. The aim of the program is to provide youth and their families with a vision of hope that diabetes can be prevented through dietary and physical activity changes.

Students in the first through third grade are educated and engaged in the discussion of health and improved nutrition habits. Along with storytelling, students are introduced to Native American language, culture, customs and traditional ways of being active.

More than 1,800 students in more than 10 schools across south central and southeastern Oklahoma have benefited from the Eagle Adventure program since 2010.

The CDC Division of Diabetes Translations' Native Diabetes Wellness Program, in collaboration with the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee and Indian Health Service, developed a series of books in response to the burden of type 2 diabetes among Native Americans and the need for prevention materials available children.

Extra books and another book for middle school students are available on the Center for Disease Control's website. Free books are available to order for families and programs serving Native American children.

A toolkit is available on the CDC website to help maximize the use of the Eagle Adventure book series that includes activity sheets, incentives, backdrops, props, games and other materials for the use in the home, schools, or a special event or health

Oklahoma is home to more than 35 federally recognized tribes and has the second largest Native American population in the country, according to the 2010 Census.

For more information about the Eagle Adventure partnership workshop, call Sara Mata at (405) 744-3842 or email sara.mata@okstate.

For more on the CDC, how to order books or host a program workshop, http://www.cdc.gov/ diabetes/projects/diabeteswellness.htm

## Small school takes class on a big trip, jumpstarts learning

MARGARET CARLILE

Reader Submission

STILLWELL, Okla. - A small community school within the Cherokee Nation gave its students a learning boost this summer with a field trip to the U.S. Capitol.

Rocky Mountain School's 8th grade class for the upcoming school year travelled to Washington D.C. the week of July 16th. The students and sponsors spent the week touring historic sites and the locations of the federal government that they have only seen on television.

Seeing such historic sites and visiting the architecturally stunning memorials for men such as Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson and Franklin Roosevelt brought home to the students how important the achievements of these men are. In addition, a trip to Arlington National Cemetery to see the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, President Kennedy's grave, and view the rows and rows of grave markers remembering the people who have died serving this nation sent home the message of service and sacrifice.

The students toured the U.S. Capitol Building and entered the gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives while in session. The students also visited a number of memorials honoring our military including the Iwo Jima, Vietnam, Korean, and the new World War II Memorial. The group looked for local soldiers on the Vietnam Wall and some did "rubbings" of the names etched on the black marble walls. The students also enjoyed a number of the Smithsonian Museums, the Supreme Court, the Library of Congress, and other sites in the area. The experience of seeing people from many nations visiting our nation's capital was also impressive to the students, as well as the sheer number and diversity of people seen on the trip. The students also saw David Gregory of NBC's Meet the Press as he was filming in front of the White House.

The trip had been an idea the school had been working toward for a number of years and Superintendent Terry Mays and the School Board-Tonya Tidwell, Angie Dowty, and Lewanda Teehee decided that this year would be a good time to start. The school is the right size to offer opportunities and experiences to students that they would not otherwise have, including travel and Cherokee cultural activities. The school plans to evaluate the trip and consider making it a regular part of instructional activities.

More than 90 percent of Rocky Mountain students are Native American.



Rocky Mountain School sponsors and students who participated in the Washington D.C. trip were, left to right: Tricia Christie, Kelli Eubanks, Melissa Turman, Clara Bighorse, Madison Eubanks, Haleigh Cone, Sharon Cone, Samantha Sawney, Tallee Turman, Ashley Thompson, Clarise Mankiller, Mackale Leach, Joe Alex Vardeman, Gareth Jones, Kobe Doublehead, Caleb Blevins, Justin Martin, Tracy Kimble, Frances Turman, and

### **LEADER**

Continued from Page 1

how to pray. Ceremony, some might say, is Inkanish's calling.

Growing up in Anadarko, Inkanish is the son of Joseph and Ruby Ross Inkanish. From the Wichita, Cheyenne and Caddo tribes, he was primarily raised by his grandparents, James Dunlap Inkanish and Mary Little Bear Inkanish. They gained notice as proficient craftspeople with knowledge of tanning and beadwork in a time when the world was eager to learn more of American Indians and their art. The 1977 book Dance Around the Sun tells the story of Mary Inkanish, her work and fame.

Inkanish remembers his grandparents more intimately.

"Grandfather had some history of being a medicine person. They were the two who introduced me to the Circle of Life, but he died when I was little," he said.

When Inkanish talks about the Circle of Life, he isn't exactly referring to the Disney movie The Lion King. It's the sphere of human existence experienced mentally, emotionally, physically and spiritually. In the middle is the Creator. That circle manifests in many ways, such as a powwow with its center drum, he

"Some see it as a social event, which it most certainly it is, but I look at is another form of the Circle of Life," he said. "The drum is the heart, it represents the Creator. I've seen some marvelous activities take place there. I've seen people, who have felt ill, gather in the arena and dance and be around the drum and feel better."

Inkanish finished high school and left an after-school job working the mailroom and press for the Anadarko Daily News to attend Southeastern Oklahoma State University in



NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES | FILE

Clark Inkanish performs a cedar blessing ceremony during a past intra-community Tulsa event.

Durant and study to teach psychology and sociology. Several years later and after a string of enrollment at other schools, he earned his Bachelor of Science in chemical dependency therapy. Inkanish, who is also a U.S. Army Special Forces veteran, has served as director of Tulsa Indian Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, worked as consultant to the National Health Institute and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism and been in private practice for treatment of chemical dependency. He has also served on numerous volunteer boards for groups such as the Tulsa Interfaith Alliance and Mental Health Association of Tulsa.

"I've always had a personal interest in other people's lives – and Indian people in particular having trouble experiencing the world and (using) chemical dependency," he said.

Sometimes it helps to pray for them. Inkanish and his wife Virginia, have been

married for 51 or 52 years -neither or them remember exactly. They've lived in Tulsa for 35-40 years. They have three daughters, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild with two more are on the way.

The family has been a part of the Tulsa Indian Club and the Indian community far back when the Tulsa Powwow was held at Mohawk Park.

"Clark's been involved in the Tulsa Indian Club as long as I can remember," said Anquoe, whose uncle, Kenneth Anquoe, was an original member. "I've always seen him at powwows and various Indian events."

Every year, the club honors an individual or couple and their family to recognize their contributions made to the Indian community. Inkanish was an obvious choice.

"His contribution is long standing, and he's made some definite contributions on an Indian and non-Indian level," Anquoe said. "On a spiritual level, he is one of our elders ... People come to him for guidance, prayers, and he knows the ceremonies."

Although Inkanish has served as a TIC memberandsupporterinvariouscapacitiesover the years, he most relied on to perform prayers at events and to offer cedar ceremoniously for blessing. Friday, Inkanish "cedared" the SpiritBank Event Center arena for the dancing and singing that soon followed.

"All cultures offer prayer of some sort or kind to a deity they relate to," he said. "I believe for the most part prayers are answered, and the answer is in the form of 'yes' or in the form of 'no' or the form of 'wait.' We can readily accept 'yes,' we can be satisfied accepting 'no,' but waiting for a prayer to be answered is more

Accepting patience in wait for an answered prayer is an exercise for the soul. Inkanish is not a medicine man or healer, and he does not hold the answers.

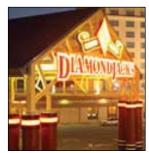
"People make some assumptions that I'm the one who would do that," he said. "All I do is pray. The Creator is the one who takes care of the blessings and answers prayer. All I do is

From the Cheyenne dance grounds near Clinton, Okla., where he was first introduced into the arena and Circle of Life to today, Inkanish looks forward to the Tulsa Powwow every year for the spirit and for more moments he'll never forget, such as one powerful dance in which two elders stood together throughout a particularly energetic song.

"The energy was so unique that when they finished drumming, there was not another song until those two gentlemen separated," he said. "It was so powerful. I'm reluctant to use the word 'powerful.' It makes me cry to think

- Hospital denies surgical scars say 'KKK'
- Global Gaming poised to buy bankrupt casinos
- Native boxer wins Junior Olympic gold









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 31

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

AUGUST 10, 2012

### Chickasaw nominated to succeed Echo Hawk at BIA

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) – Triballeaders and others are praising the nomination of Kevin Washburn, a University of New Mexico Law School dean, to oversee the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, saying he's well-qualified and understands the issues facing American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

New Mexico U.S. Sens. Jeff

Bingaman and Tom Udall said they would push for the swift confirmation of Washburn in the Senate. Washburn will succeed Larry Echo Hawk, who resigned earlier this year, if the nomination is approved.

"While Kevin will surely be missed on the UNM campus, I have every confidence that he is a great fit for this position," Udall said. Washburn is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma and has been UNM law school dean since June 2009. He previously taught at law schools at the University of Arizona and the University of Minnesota and was a visiting professor at Harvard Law School. He was general counsel for the National Indian Gaming commission from

2000 to 2002, and a federal prosecutor in New Mexico from 1997 to 2000.

Washburn said he's deeply honored by the nomination.

"It's an exceedingly important responsibility to serve the nation's Indian tribes and the Indian people," he told the Albuquerque Journal. "It's been very difficult to make the decision to leave New Mexico

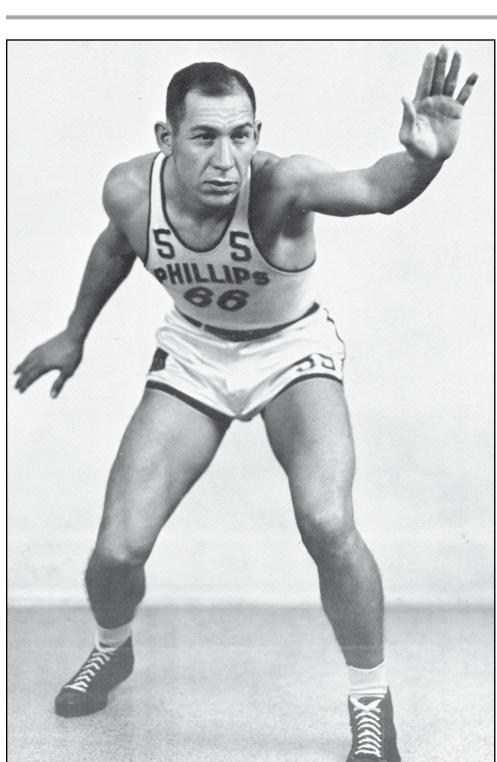
because I really love the law community here in New Mexico."

Washburn worked with the National Congress of American Indians to develop and pass a federal law aimed at combating crime on reservations, known as the Tribal Law and Order Act. Washburn is known as an

See BIA Continued on Page 4 Kevin W



Kevin Washburn



COURTESY CHICKASAW MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICE

### Chickasaw captain led Olympic 'Dream Team'

■ Gold medal basketball 'Dream Team' of 1948 Olympics led by team captain "Cab" Renick

**REBECCA AYRES**Chickasaw Nation

ADA, Okla. – While the late Jim Thorpe is a household name in Oklahoma, the second Native American from Oklahoma to win Olympic gold is not nearly as well known. But that will change to some degree when the late Jesse "Cab" Renick is inducted into the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame by the Jim Thorpe Association August 6.

Renick, a Chickasaw and Choctaw who got his start in basketball on a dirt court in Marietta, Okla., led the 1948 U.S. Olympic basketball team to a gold medal.

The 1948 team was known as a team of diversity, with players representing different ages and races from many different areas of the country. Another Oklahoman, Bob Kurland, from Bartlesville, was also on the team. Kurland, one of basketball's first great seven-footers, led Oklahoma A & M to two consecutive NCAA Championships in

1945 and 1946.

"It is significant that Cab Renick won an Olympic gold medal as captain of the team," said Bill Anoatubby, Governor of the Chickasaw Nation. "He was not only a great basketball player known for his energy and enthusiasm; he was a leader on the court. He had a unique ability to unite team members of diverse backgrounds."

As comparisons abound between the 2012 Olympic Basketball Team and the 1992 Olympic Basketball "Dream Team," the 1948 U.S. Olympic team that dominated the basketball competition in London is also gaining some recognition 64-years after the fact

As captain of the squad, Renick led the 1948 team to eight consecutive wins with an average margin of victory of more than 33 points per game.

Most of the players on the U.S. Olympic team 64 years ago were recruited from the Amateur Athletic Union or university squads.

Professional athletes were not permitted in Olympic competition at the time, and professional basketball was in its infancy.

As the Olympic Games got underway, the U.S. team won

See TEAM Continued on Page 4

### NY threatens to shift \$47M in tribes' road work

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) – The Cuomo administration is prepared to shift \$47 million in planned road and bridge construction on Seneca Indian land to other western New York localities if an ongoing dispute with the tribe isn't resolved quickly, according to a state official.

State Department of Transportation Commissioner Joan McDonald said Thursday that the funds would be reallocated to other road improvement projects if Seneca Indian Nation leaders do not reach an agreement with New York on the \$3.4 million fee the tribe is seeking for overseeing improvements to a crumbling 11.5-mile stretch of Interstate 86 on Seneca land.

Seneca President Robert Odawi Porter accused the state of "playing politics with public safety" and urged the federal government to investigate the state's handling of construction projects on Seneca territory.

The Senecas want the state to follow the longstanding practice of paying the tribe administrative fees and for tribal monitors for projects that cross Nation territory. The state has called the

See ROAD Continued on Page 4

### Global Gaming poised to buy bankrupt casinos in Louisiana, Mississippi

■ Global Gaming is owned by the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma.

Jesse "Cab" Renick - Chickasaw Olympic Gold Medalist.

VICKSBURG, Miss. (AP) – The owner of casinos in Vicksburg, Miss., and Bossier City, La., has filed for bankruptcy and plans to sell its casinos to an Oklahoma Indian tribe.

Legends Gaming filed Monday for Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization in Shreveport, La. The company plans to sell its DiamondJacks casinos to Global Gaming Solutions for \$125 million, said Kym Koch, a spokeswoman for Global Gaming.

The bankruptcy court and

state gaming regulators must approve. Legends has the right under the sale agreement to seek buyers willing to pay more. If multiple bidders emerge, the bankruptcy court could hold an auction.

Global Gaming is owned by the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma. The company bought Remington Park Racing and Casino in Oklahoma City in 2010 and bought Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie, Texas, in 2011. The tribe also owns 13 casinos in Oklahoma's highly competitive Indian casino market.

Though tribes in Louisiana and Mississippi operate

See (ASINOS Continued on Page 3

## Cherokees to appeal UKB trust decision

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – The Cherokee Nation is appealing the Bureau of Indian Affairs' decision to place 2.03 acres in trust for another Tahlequah-based tribe.

In a statement released July 31, Cherokee Nation Attorney General Todd Hembree refuted last Monday's decision by the federal government that allowsthe United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians to continue operating their Tahlequah casino and gives the smaller tribe co-jurisdiction across 14 northeastern Oklahoma counties.

"I mean no ill will towards our UKB brothers and sisters, or to their government," Hembree said. "However, this land has always been, and always will be, under the jurisdiction of the Cherokee Nation."

The Cherokee Nation has objected to previous attempts by the United Keetoowah Band to place land in trust. Monday's decision came within hours of a casino closure deadline established by a June agreement signed between the United Keetoowah Band and Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt.

Had the decision not come down Monday, 124 casino employees would have been placed on paid administrative leave through Aug. 24 or until the situation was resolved.

The salaries of an additional 72 tribal



Todd Hembree, Cherokee Nation Attorney General

government employees in 14 departments are also funded by casino revenue.

At a July 31 press conference, the leadership of the United Keetoowah Band and its casino declined to respond to Hembree's comments other than saying they expected the appeal. Instead, they spoke about the decision itself and what it means for the tribe's

14,600 citizens.

"Now we feel like we're equal (with other area tribes)," Assistant Chief Charles Locust said. "This just gives us the opportunity to show what we can do."

Among the opportunities before the tribe, Locust said, are chances for more funding through federal departments and programs, such as the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"We're eligible for more grants and services for our people now that we're no longer a landless tribe," Locust said. "That means more jobs, more scholarships, more opportunities to help our people.

"This decision is everything. This is a new day for us."



"Your Total Solution for Medical Equipment and Supplies"

American Indian Woman Owned & Operated

#### We carry a wide range of products and equipment for:

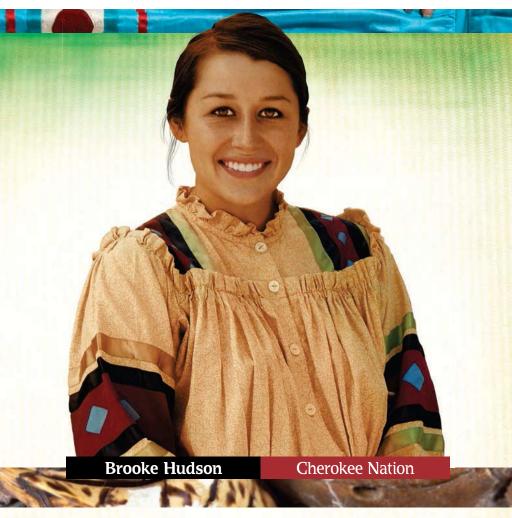
- Home Medical Equipment
- Mobility
- Oxygen Therapy
- Bariatric Needs
- Support Surfaces/ **Wound Care**

#### **Other Services Include:**

- Non Emergency Transportation
- MRI Imaging (Financing Available)
- MRI Design Build
- MRI Mobile Unit

1400 SW Expressway Broken Arrow, OK 74012 (918) 250-7051 ww.TotalCareSolutions.biz





## Honor what is SACRED

### Quit Commercial Tobacco

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline



## Impoverished tribe debates development

Tourism is big business for some of the country's best-known Indian tribes, which reap a fortune from casinos and other business ventures.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

WOUNDED KNEE, S.D. (AP) – The Oglala Sioux Tribe occupies a seemingly prime piece of South Dakota - a vast, scenic reservation that stands near a crossroads for tourists visiting Mount Rushmore, the Badlands, the historic Old West town of Deadwood and other popular sites.

But don't look for museums. hotels, restaurants or even many bathrooms here on the PineRidgeIndianReservation, because the Lakota make little effort to attract visitors or tourism dollars, despite the fact that they are one of the nation's poorest tribes.

A generation after many other American Indians sought to harness their history for profit, the Oglala Sioux are still debating how much culture they are willing to share.

"When you take a community of people where at one point our language was outlawed and parts of our culture were outlawed, it's hard for us to, I guess, open up to the idea of sharing that in a way to make money off of it," said Nick Tilsen, executive director of Thunder Valley, a nonprofit on Pine Ridge set up to keep traditional Lakota culture alive among young people.

Tourism is big business for some of the country's bestknown Indian tribes, which reap a fortune from casinos and other business ventures.

The Navajo Nation in the Southwest welcomed some 600,000 visitors who spent \$113 million last year. In Oklahoma, nearly 45,000 people visited the Cherokee Nation's Heritage Center museum.

But the Oglala Sioux stand apart in southwestern South Dakota. They have just one tribally run casino-and-hotel complex, the Prairie Wind, on the western side of the reservation and recently opened a smaller casino in Martin, a town near the reservation's eastern edge.

The tribe, Tilsen said, is not "totally against" development. "I think we're at the stage of, 'What parts do we want to protect and what parts are we willing to share and what does

that look like?"

Some tribal members think the site of the Wounded Knee Massacre, where more than 250 men, women and children were killed by the 7th Cavalry in 1890, should be turned into a tourist attraction with a museum. Others are fiercely opposed to development, saying it would be disrespectful to the dead.

The talk of development "hasn't matured yet," said Ivan Sorbel, executive director of the Pine Ridge Chamber of Commerce.

That doesn't stop people from coming. On a recent afternoon, two carloads of visitors from Texas and Iowa stopped within a 20-minute span to walk through the site, a National Historic Landmark.

The massacre is "one of the greatest crimes in U.S. history," said Gary Bishop, who traveled with his wife from the Dallas area.

But the couple's trip was unlikely to help the reservation much. They were staying at a hotel in Rapid City, about two hours northwest of the site.

Brianne Hawk Wing, an Oglala Sioux tribal member, arrived with her nephew and sister as soon as she saw visitors. Hawk Wing said she has been unable to get a job in tribal government so she sells trinkets such as dream catchers for \$20 to tourists at the site.

The tribal and federal governments are the largest employers on the 2.7-millionacre reservation, which includes some of the poorest counties in the U.S. The unemployment rate can be as high as 80 percent. Attracting investors is difficult because tribal members are often suspicious of outsiders.

It's unclear how many tourists visit the reservation or the Wounded Knee site because no one keeps accurate records. Still, many tribal members like Hawk Wing want the site to remain as is.

"See, it's free. No one has to pay for anything," she said as she pointed out where her great-grandfather is buried.

A museum commemorating the massacre was ransacked and its contents lost in 1973. Another museum dedicated to the massacre draws thousands of people annually, but it's 100 miles north of the reservation in Wall, S.D. - also home to Wall Drug, a famous cluster of stores and tourist attractions offering Western kitsch.

The Wall museum is not affiliated with the Oglala Sioux, although co-founder Lani Van Eck said the facility had the blessing of Wounded Knee residents when it

opened in 2003. She and the other co-founders decided to build it along busy Interstate 90 to attract more visitors.

Maps are available for anyone who wants to go to the actual site. But the museum doesn't bring revenue or jobs to the reservation, two things the Oglala Sioux are desperate

Also beyond reservation's borders is the Crazy Horse Memorial, which honors the famed Lakota warrior and leader who played a key role in the 1876 defeat of the 7th Cavalry at the Battle of Little Bighorn in Montana. The memorial was started in 1948 and has yet to be finished, but it still draws more than 1 million visitors annually to a site about 20 miles from Mount Rushmore.

Staff members at the memorial and other South Dakota tourist attractions have begun taking part in training led by the Pine Ridge Chamber of Commerce. The goal is to help teach employees about Lakota history so they can share that information with tourists, who, in theory, might then drive to the Pine Ridge reservation.

The future could hold more ambitious projects. In June, the National Park Service and the Oglala Sioux reached a new agreement that calls for creation of the nation's first tribal national park at Badlands National Park an undertaking that might also attract tourists and jobs. Congress still must approve the idea.

The federal government took what is now the South Unit of Badlands National Park from the Oglala Sioux to establish a practice bombing range in the 1940s. It was returned in 1976 and has since been co-managed with the National Park Service.

Plans for the park include a Lakota heritage and education center, a free-roaming bison herd and more roads and trails for visitors.

Staci Eagle spokeswoman for American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association, said there are more than 500 federally recognized tribes in the United States, and they shouldn't be compared too

"Each tribe defines tourism in its own capacity," she said. "Something that may be acceptable to the Navajo may not be acceptable to the Oglala tribe."

### WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

#### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment

- Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details. \*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com





## Hospital denies surgical scars say 'KKK'

KRISTI EATON **Associated Press** 

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - A lawyer for a Rapid City-area hospital being sued by a blind man who says the letters KKK were carved into his stomach during surgery said the accusations were contrived by other people and that every scar "is explained by the medical procedures that he underwent to save his life," according to court documents filed Wednesday.

Vern Traversie, a 69-year-old Lakota man living on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota, filed a federal lawsuit last month against Rapid City Regional Hospital, its board of directors, several physicians and others. He claims he was left with scars on his abdomen in the shape of the three letters following heart surgery last year.

YouTube videos featuring Traversie went viral in Native American communities earlier this year. In them, Traversie talks about being mistreated at the hospital and shows his abdomen. Although he is blind, Traversie said he was told by others that the scars form the letters.



WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/JUSTICEFORVERN

Vern Traversie shows the scars from a medical procedure performed in a Rapid City hospital.

A May rally in support of Traversie drew hundreds of people, many of whom said his story exemplifies

the racism that Native Americans experience in Rapid City. But others said they couldn't make out the letters, including police who investigated his allegations. No criminal charges were filed.

The defendants in the lawsuit said there is no medical evidence to suggest that anyone burned or cut letters into Traversie.

"Every mark on Plaintiff's abdomen is explained by the medical procedures that he underwent to save his life," Jeffrey Hurd, one of the defendant's lawyers, wrote in response to the lawsuit. "Indeed, the allegations of a 'KKK' scar were apparently created by a group of unqualified people in Plaintiff's home town, who simply discussed why Plaintiff had certain surgical scars."

The lawyer noted that the people who told Traversie about his scars considered several possibilities, including a single "K," a bite mark, the word "oink," or four "K"s, before settling on the three-letter acronym.

"After reaching this decision

through speculation and conjecture, and with no attempt to consult with Plaintiff's healthcare providers ... they told Plaintiff that he had been victimized," Hurd wrote.

The hospital also refutes claims that Traversie was denied pain medication, and noted that he was told to have a home health nurse inspect and care for the incisional wounds after he got

Reached by phone at his home Wednesday, Traversie said he could not comment on the case and referred questions to his pastor, Ben Farrar, who is acting as his spokesman. Farrar said he wasn't aware of Wednesday's filing but that he expected the hospital to deny the claims.

Farrar said heart surgery patients can expect to be left with a vertical scar down the sternum and a few horizontal scars where drainage tubes would be inserted – as can be seen in photos of Traversie.

"What we cannot expect is haphazard slashes all over the abdomen as well as some cuts that seem to form letters of the alphabet. This is not what can be considered normal," Farrar said, adding that Traversie and his attorney will decide what action to take next.



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

ΓIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHRIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN Karen Shade

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY Wesley Mahan MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country





#### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



WWW DIAMONDIACKS COM

DiamondJacks is typically last among Bossier City's five casinos in terms of revenue, according to Louisiana state figures.

### CASINOS

casinos outside the state regulatory structure, officials said Global Gaming would be regulated and taxed just like any other non-Indian casino owner.

"They would be subject to the oversight of the State of Mississippi just like DiamondJacks is (now) and all the tax liabilities would be the same," Allen Godfrey, executive director of the Mississippi Gaming Commission, told the Vicksburg Post.

Louisiana officials told The Times in Shreveport that Global Gaming would face a background investigation like any new casino owner in the state.

In its bankruptcy filing, Legends listed assets between \$50 million and \$100 million and liabilities between \$100 million and \$500 million.

Moody's Investors Service said Legends has as much as \$163 million in debt due in

Legends, which also filed for bankruptcy in 2008 said no workers will be laid off and that the casinos will continue to operate as usual.

"Our team members are essential to our future success, and should see no difference in their jobs," Legends Chairman and CEO William McEnery said in a statement. "We believe that we have found a buyer who will continue DiamondJacks' commitments to communities in which we operate as well as to its most valued asset, our team

members." DiamondJacks is typically last among Bossier City's five casinos in terms of revenue, according to Louisiana state figures. Mississippi doesn't release revenue figures for individual casinos,

DiamondJacks second-largest of slot machines among Vicksburg's four casinos. A fifth Vicksburg casino, Grand Station, closed in March amid its own bankruptcy.

DiamondJacks employs 364 people at its casino and hotel in Vicksburg, according to Mississippi figures. It employs about 650 people in Bossier City, according to Louisiana figures.

Both properties were the first casino in their respective cities when opened by the Isle of Capri. Vicksburg opened in 1993 while Bossier City opened in 1994. Isle of Capri sold the gambling halls to privately-held Legends in 2006. Legends first filed bankruptcy in 2008 to lower interest rates on \$215 million in borrowed to finance the purchases.

#### claims over Park City casino WICHITA, Kan. (AP) - A the Interior Department from

**Judge dismisses Kansas** 

federal judge has thwarted a move by Kansas to block a tribe's effort to build a casino near Wichita.

U.S. District Judge Julie Robinson on Friday granted motions by the Wyandotte Nation and the Interior Department to dismiss the state's claims.

Federal law allows tribal casinos only on Indian lands within reservations or held in trust by the United States. Kansas was seeking to block accepting into trust a Park City site bought by the tribe

The Wyandotte Nation, formerly known as the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, filed suit last year to force the Interior Department to grant its longstanding request to accept the land.

Robinson said Kansas failed to show how it has been hurt by ongoing review of the tribe's application.

### Kialegees could run nongaming business at site

federal court won't stop a tribe from building a nongaming business on tribal land that was to be the site of a casino.

The Tulsa World reports that U.S. District Judge Gregory Frizzell issued an order July 31 stating the court has jurisdiction over the state of Oklahoma's request to stop the Kialegee Tribal Town from building a gaming facility on the land in Broken

TULSA, Okla. (AP) – A Arrow, but not over any dispute relating to the construction of a restaurant or sports bar at the

> Frizzell issued an injunction that halted construction of the casino on land allotted to the Muscogee Nation, of which the Kialegees are a branch.

The Kialegees' attorney, Dennis Whittlesey, said he couldn't comment on what the tribe plans to operate at the

Look for Native American Times on Facebook and Twitter! Friends get front page scoops, new features and breaking news.



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork Big Brothers Big Sisters** Traditional language Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

## PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

> **INDIAN LAW PROBATE ADOPTIONS**

RESTRICTED LAND **ISSUES** 





J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA

VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

## Native boxer wins Junior Olympic gold

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

BANNOCK **SHOSHONE** RESERVATION, Idaho - Roma Pokibro tried boxing because her friend liked it, but the 15-yearold student from Idaho's Shoshone Bannock Reservation has taken her own interest in the sport further than even she imagined.

In June, Pokibro won a gold medal for women ages 15-16 at the USA 2012 Boxing Junior Olympics National Championships in Mobile, Ala. Before that showdown, she surprised everyone, especially herself.

In February, Pokibro was invited as a rising junior amateur in women's boxing to participate in the U.S. Olympic trials in boxing in Spokane, Wash.

"She was taller than me," Pokibro said, remembering her competitor -Alisha Enslen, a two-time champion from Canada.

Enslen may also have been better prepared to fight that day, too. Pokibro was sick from the flu on match day. But after the bout had started, she began to get an idea: "I thought to myself I could win, but I didn't want to get too big headed. I came up with a game plan to keep moving."

Pokibro won by three points.

Boxing season is over and the soonto-be sophomore from Highland Park

High School in Fort Hall, Idaho, turns her attention to other interests. After boxing comes softball followed by basketball.

When school begins, Pokibro will work hard to keep up her grades. She knows she wants to earn a scholarship to a university either by academics, sports or both. But will boxing be a part of that future?

"Yes, I do want to continue," she said. "Even though it's hard, I want to keep doing it so I can go somewhere in life."

Pokibro is the oldest of six children to Ryan and Linda Pokibro. She was always a tomboy who went hunting and fishing with her dad. And it was her dad who convinced her to go out for the football team when at the town's community center. She stopped playing football last year because the boys on the team were beginning to grow stronger than her. That's when she found boxing.

Five years ago, she said she finally convinced her dad Ryan to take her to the boxing room at the town's community center.

Ryan said he has always encouraged her through a philosophy he shares.

"I explained, 'If you're going to do this, you can't quit. Finish it out," he said. "... Don't be a quitter. Just like a new job, you've got to finish it out."

Fortunately, Pokibro liked it and excelled in boxing, studying technique



Roma Pokibro

under her coach, Tim Wadsworth, and practicing moves she saw boxers like Mike Tyson work in matches.

Tyson, her dad said, is her favorite. Quickly Wadsworth Pokibro's finesse, strength, speed and smarts in the boxing ring and he trained her to accomplish more. Today, she has won 14 of her 18 matches and looks to do more, perhaps even try for the next summer Olympics.

All the discipline and focus of winning and training hard helps her stand against the peer pressure to take drugs, try alcohol and act in ways that could harm her. It helps that she is driven to make a name for her family and to set a good example to her younger siblings and other youth

living on the reservation.

"She's kind of like an old lady already in the way she thinks," said her mom, Linda Pokibro. "She takes care of her brothers and sisters when they need help. I'm so happy and proud. She does what she's supposed to do. Sometimes she gets pressured with sports, but I keep telling her, 'Once you accomplish something, it's going to be easier."

Pokibro has already accomplished much, even if she doesn't believe it herself.

'She doubts herself, but when she boxes, she doesn't," said her father.

And, she has the support of family from all the tribes of which she belongs: Shoshone Bannock, Ponca, Navajo, Arapaho, Northern Cheyenne and Eastern Shoshone of Wyoming. Her family there, her father said, hopes she can visit them to motivate the young people.

The Pokibros also have family Oklahoma, including grandparents, Kay Grant and Susan Freeman of Ponca City.

Whether she goes on to school and a career as an attorney or on to the 2016 Olympics or both, Pokibro will have accomplished one goal for certain she looked forward. Everyone notices, especially her father.

"I pray for the best for her and hope she can excel in everything she can put her mind to," he said.

virtually every game handily. The only exception came in the preliminaries with a narrow 59 to 57 defeat of Argentina.

The margin in other games ranged from 25 points to 65

In eight games that Olympic year, the U.S. scored a total of 524 points while their opponents scored a total of 256 points.

After the games, Renick returned to Oklahoma where he coached four years with the Phillips 66ers - an American Athletic Union team - for four years, winning one National Championship in 1949-50 as a coach. The AAU was pre-NBA where teams competed for national championships. In fact, before being named to the Olympic team, Renick played for the 66ers who won AAU National Championships in 1945-48.

After his start on a dirt basketball court in Marietta, he honed his court skills until his graduation from high school in 1934. He wanted to continue playing basketball, but no college was interested at the

With the country mired in the Great Depression, Renick joined the Civil Conservation Corps and helped construct buildings at Lake Murray State Park. That job also gave him the opportunity to play basketball for the Corps team where he was known as "Point a Minute" Renick.

He was soon recruited by Murray State College, where he played from 1936-38. Oklahoma A&M (now Oklahoma State University) coach Henry Iba heard about Renick and invited him to play for his team. After the first game, Renick was a starter for Oklahoma A&M for the rest of his college career. He played in the 1938-39 season in the new basketball arena now known as Gallagher-Iba Arena.

Throughout his time at the university, Renick was a crowd favorite. According to a press release at the time from Oklahoma A&M, Renick:

"...seemingly performs the work of two players. After he snares the ball off the defensive blackboard, tosses it to a teammate, races ahead down the floor to post position; and, after his club brings the ball up the court, receives a pass for a lay-up and two points."

But it was his experience in London in 1948 that kept people coming to ask about what it was like to compete in the Olympics. In his later years, and living at the Veterans Center in Ardmore, he would keep his Gold Medal in a pouch secured to his wheelchair and would ask people to hold out their hand. When they did, he would plop the medal in their hand and smile because he knew they would ask about it and he could tell them the story of the 1948 Olympic dream

Renick was elected to the

American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame in 1973 and the Chickasaw Hall of Fame in 1996. He died on Nov. 29,

#### Ivy League and Friends provide education options, opportunities to college-bound Native students **CHRISSY DILL** and presentations from university the Parent Panel was very helpful in headquarters of the Choctaw Nation," representatives. Over 500 guests understanding that it was possible to

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

DURANT, Okla. - Across the United States, an importance of a diverse student body with individuals of various ethnicities is upheld in many universities and colleges, whether it school.

recruited," Choctaw Nation Scholarship make those connections." Advisement Program Director Jo McDaniel said. Because of this, the Friends welcomed almost 40 schools Choctaw Student Recruitment.

IvyLeagueandFriendsisarecruitment initiative for Choctaw students so they may have the opportunity to learn about prestigious universities and speak with representatives from those schools as well as familiarize themselves with the application process of college, scholarship opportunities, general financial aid and graduate school opportunities.

Ivy League and Friends began in 2008 when SAP invited Harvard officials to speak to the tribal citizens in Durant. The university brought representatives of several of its colleges and its Native American program.

"With the event drawing in over 100 individuals interested in the esteemed university, the SAP recognized the powerful potential of that type of session," said McDaniel. "We saw that it meant a lot to the tribal members to have Harvard come to Durant and they wanted more information about other Ivy League schools, thus the initial Harvard event turned into Ivy League it was "the best way to learn more about and Friends."

The following year, SAP prepared for a successful Ivy League and Friends, out great and there's not really this time extending invitations to seven other schools and programs, including Yale, Columbia, Penn, Dartmouth, Johns Hopkins and Berkeley. But this helpful information, and it's Ivy League time, over 300 participants from 10 states attended.

affair, complete with breakout sessions

tailored for students and parents with

topics ranging from planning and

from 14 states attended, responding enthusiastically to both the sessions and the opportunity to meet delegates from 20 undergraduate and 17 graduate programs located throughout the U.S.

"Since we've had our first event, is a two-year college or an Ivy League we've seen more and more students applying to the Ivy League schools and "Colleges are trying to diversify highly selective schools, and we've seen their student bodies and their campus, more and more get accepted," stated and Native Americans are heavily McDaniel. "We feel like we're helping

The most recent Ivy League and one-on-one experience." SAP formed the Ivy League and Friends for Choctaw students to experience recruitment representatives from Ivy and interact with.

biggest event of the year," said McDaniel. "In 2011, we had over 100 students, more than 150 parents and guests and nearly 40 college representatives attend the event."

When prospective students attend Ivy League and Friends, many opportunities become available to them and they have the freedom to choose which session to attend. Since there was a large number of schools that held these sessions, five sessions were held within a 45-minute time period, the students being able to choose which session most interests them. Within the one-day event, a student could attend up to six sessions.

Friends have said positive remarks about it. Frank Semple of Denver brought his daughter, Erin, to the 2010 Ivy League and Friends, saying it was "a great way to target half a dozen of the schools we were interested in" and a school short of visiting the campus."

"I thought everything was planned anything to improve. You get to talk to college reps one-on-one and they provide you with some extremely colleges, which is a plus. I am very glad that I attended," said an anonymous In 2010, the event grew into a full day student," Semple said.

attended the Undergraduate Admission and Financial Aid session and the in Oklahoma or the area, this may be financial advice to college prep advice Parent Panel session. They thought the one time a year they get to visit the information.

afford to send me to an Ivy League

presenters seemed very excited to be there and to present their information and were able to answer all questions quickly and in a format that was easy to understand." Another parent said this event "is by far the best because it was the most intimate... other college fairs have 20 students standing around the table and there doesn't seem to be the

Not only does the event feature League schools, there are sessions "It's our signature event; it's our which would benefit a student who may not interested in attending such schools and are likely to attend a state or regional university or even a community college. "You don't have to be interested in those [Ivy League] schools, you can still learn a lot about college admissions and financial aid," said McDaniel.

"We'll support the students no matter where they want to go to college," she said. "We have scholarships available to students attending all types of colleges, but by attending this event, I think you learn a lot more than just requirements to get in to Harvard; there are other learning opportunities."

An example of these learning Attendees of past Ivy League and opportunities of which all students could benefit were included at last year's event, as seen in the following sessions: Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid, Graduate Student Panel, SAT/ACT Success: Getting Your Best Score and Keys to a Successful Graduate Application.

McDaniel said not only can the student learn a lot at the event, they can include their attendance on their resumes and scholarship applications, since it is such a notable event. "It is one of the largest Native American recruitment events in the nation."

With SAP being a nationwide program, McDaniel and her staff do not have the pleasure of working with Another student said, "My parents some SAP participants in person. "Because so many of them don't live

said McDaniel, saying Ivy League and Friends allows those students not only to meet with the schools at the event A parent attendee said, "The but also interact with the SAP staff.

McDaniel said many college representatives and educational organizations involved with the event will testify about how special it is that the Choctaw Nation is willing to invest in such an event.

"Impressive: that is the one word that comes to mind about the Ivy League college fair," said one representative.

Other college reps called the event "very well organized" and "high class all the way around," saying the event "is one of most well-run and engaging events for Native American students."

McDaniel said admissions officers from various universities advise students to attend college recruitment fairs because they provide an inside track on whether a school is a good fit for the student's goals and gifts, a clear picture of what the different schools look for in an application as well as offer a sense of what funding opportunities might be available and how to take advantage of them.

"Recruitment fairs hosted by Native American organizations also provide a second advantage," said McDaniel. "College representatives at the SAP's events come prepared to speak to Choctaw students. This means that they are better able to tailor their advice and comments to members of the Choctaw community, something students will often miss in their guidance counselor's office and on a standard campus tour."

The SAP encourages the families of high school students to attend Ivy League and Friends, said McDaniel. SAP officials have found that the earlier students learn their options and start setting goals, the better prepared they will be when sending applications.

The 2012 Ivy League and Friends is scheduled for Nov. 10 in Durant at the Choctaw Resort. Pre-registration is recommended, which can be completed through SAP's website, choctawnationsap.com. Call 1-800-522-6170, ext. 2547 or email Scholarship Advisement@ choctawnation.com

## Continued from Page 1

expert in federal American Indian law and policy, with a focus on law enforcement, the group said.

"He has had a remarkable career, and I'm very confident in his abilities," Jefferson Keel, the group's president and lieutenant governor of the Chickasaw Nation, said Friday. "Law enforcement and trust reform will be two of the most important issues for

the BIA in the coming years. Kevin's experience as a federal prosecutor will be a great benefit."

Navajo President Ben Shelly said the tribe is looking forward to Washburn's expertise in advancing issues in Indian Country, such as economic development, infrastructure, renewable energy, and improving public safety and education.

The priorities are similar for the National American Indian Housing Council and other tribes. President Barack Obama recently signed a bill designated to expedite home building and energy development on tribal lands, but council Chairwoman Cheryl A. Causley said much work remains.

"I also commend President Obama for the timely selection of an extraordinarily well-qualified Native American with vast experience and in-depth understanding of the issues that are facing tribal communities today," she said.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said Washburn would be "an excellent addition to our team.

"His strong professional and academic experience will be a key asset to the department as we continue to strengthen the integrity of the government-togovernment relationship with Indian tribes and empower Native American and Alaska Native communities," Salazar said.

Continued from Page 1

fees "exorbitant."

McDonald said the state would place \$1.7 million in escrow to satisfy fee demands, but would deduct that amount from \$400 million in casino revenues the Senecas owe the state as part of a separate dispute. The Senecas operate three casinos in New York under an agreement that requires them to pay the state and host cities a portion of profits. For the last three years, the tribe has withheld payments, claiming the state violated allowed other gambling near its casinos.

### Rosebud Sioux revitalizing its Native language through dance

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

ROSEBUD, S.D. (AP) - With the Lakota-speaking population rapidly aging and decreasing, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe in South Dakota is trying to encourage young children to take an interest in a language that is, in many ways, secondary

The tribe's Child Care Service's Song and Dance Project aims to teach families how to make colorful, detailed dancing regalia and teaches the intricate dances to the children so they can perform in the annual wacipi,

The hope is that the song and dance will help re-energize both parents' and children's excitement about their culture. It also encourages parents to take an active role in their kids' lives.

"It's putting identity and pride back into the people," said Gale Spotted Tail, director of the Child Care Services.

She said that as the tribe looked at ways to identify how to revitalize the language, they noticed that many tribal members had little interest in learning the Lakota language or taking part in cultural activities. There are fewer than 6,000 Lakota speakers - less than 14 percent of the Lakota population in North and South Dakota, and the average age of a Lakota speaker is 60. One of the biggest challenges to learning Lakota is that there is no agreed-upon orthography, or conventional spelling system.

"We're really looking at what does it take to get people to want to learn and want to be who we used to be?" Spotted Tail said. "A lot of it is instilling that pride and going back into history."

The project also seeks to create unity among the different bands of the Lakota tribes that now live on different reservations,

A handful of employees for the Rosebud Sioux Tribe's project travel to the reservation's various communities for short dance workshops several times a week to teach the kids – from newborns to 17-yearolds - dancing techniques for the annual Wakanyeja Okolakiciye Wacipi. Children can attend one workshop or more.

The dances performed at the wacipis often tell the story of a warrior or hunter searching for enemies. While the babies may not take part in any Fancy Dances - a style of dance that requires stamina and agility because of intense footwork moving their body, or even just their head, to the beat of a drum comes naturally to many of the youngsters, Spotted Tail said.

The wacipi has traditionally played a significant role in Lakota culture as a way to celebrate. Many of the Lakota tribes in South Dakota hold several multiday wacipis throughout the summer that include singing, dancing and other activities to honor their culture.

"They're the next generation," instructor Jerimiah Holly Bull, 27, said of the kids he works with. "They're the ones that are going to carry on our tradition from what our ancestors taught us. We're the ones teaching our little kids so they can teach

Hundreds of kids dressed from the tribes are expected to take part in this year's children wacipi, scheduled for Aug. 14-15 in Rosebud. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius is expected to

#### 2 Oklahoma tribes get federal grants

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - Federal officials have announced that two Oklahoma tribes are among 31 tribes, Alaska Native villages and museums that will share \$1.66 million in federal grants to help return human remains and cultural objects to the groups.

The Delaware Tribe will receive a consultation grant of \$89,554 for the return and documentation of tribal cultural objects.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribe will receive a \$15,000 repatriation grant for the return of remains and cultural objects.

The grants were announced by U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and National Park Service Director Jonathan

### **Choctaw Nation receives \$75K** water grant from federal EPA

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - The Environmental Protection Agency has awarded \$75,000 to the Choctaw Nation of

The EPA's officials said the money will fund the tribe's water pollution control program.

Under the program, samples will be

taken to assess the quality of surface water on tribal lands. Researchers will study whether water quality standards are being met and if a more thorough watershed management program is necessary.

The EPA says the program aims to protect water quality in watersheds that cross state and tribal boundaries.

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

#### www.nativetimes.com

## COMMENTARY

## Cloaks and daggers in the **Indian Health Service**



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

simple when it comes to the it is spent locally. federal bureaucracy.

of money spent in the city.

known locally as the Sioux millions of dollars. San. It started many years Indian students and during Oglala Lakota College with a TB Sanitarium, thus the the economic well-being of it will show that we are not all present day name, Sioux San.

At first I believed it was the

presumed. Not so. My request closed ears. that the financial contributions of the San be provided to the Heather ears of entrenched bureaucrats. Coordinator. Freedom of Why did I think these numbers Information Act Coordinator? should be included in the I had no idea I had entered Although there are several that contributes millions to supply to her in order to get H. L. Mencken Award.

the city is the Sioux San.

it outsources medical care that it is unable to provide, to local doctors and to the Rapid City Regional Hospital. It spends millions on dental and eye care services. It spends money interested in." on the power sources that keep Electrical Power Company and the Montana-Dakota Utility Company (natural gas). Road maintenance and the upkeep usually contracted to local I had what I thought was a businesses. The payroll to simple request of the Indian the doctors and support staff Health Service. To my chagrin at the San runs to about \$16 I discovered that nothing is million annually and most of

Many local businesses and My request centered on citizens believe that all Native the information provided to Americans are a drain on the the business people of Rapid financial resources of the city City in the monthly report and state. There is no agency by the Rapid City Chamber that provides them with the Heather with, "You have got of Commerce. The report information about how much lists the different businesses, money organizations like hospital, Ellsworth Air Force the Sioux San and the tribal Base, and other entities that governments that permeate form the economic indicators this region spend in Rapid City. If the truth be known, I had never seen figures in the economic contributions the report from the Indian to Rapid City by the San and Health Service Hospital in the surrounding tribes would Rapid City. The hospital is amount to money in the

Rapid City is also home ago as a boarding school for to the largest campus of the the tuberculosis epidemic in nearly one thousand students. the 1930s and 1940s; it became OLC contributes millions to the city.

Chamber of Commerce that complete surprise to me city)." was remiss in not including when my request that the

I first got a letter from

the economic well-being of the information I requested. One paragraph from McClane The San purchases drygoods, read, "In addition to have the dairy products and produce potential to be very costly in supplies locally for its kitchen; terms of fees "all the records you have on . . . . " types of requests tend to require a great deal of research time, even if few or no records are found on the subject you are

Oh yes, I forgot that my it running like the Black Hills original request was sent to a Courtney Mallon, Acting Public Affairs Liaison with the Aberdeen Area Indian Health Services who wrote of the hospital facilities are on her forwarding letter to Ms. McClane, "The Area has received a request for information from Tim Giago for information on the financial figures for Sioux San hospital. Although Mr. Giago is a member of the media, this request does not fall into the category of a Public Affairs inquiry."

Frustrated I responded to to be kidding me. My request is so simple and so direct that a trained chimpanzee would know exactly why I am asking it. The Indian Health Service has become like one of the agencies of the old Soviet Union. Could you not see that all I am asking is for the monetary figures to give to the Chamber of Commerce to show that Native American agencies contribute greatly to the local economy? This would be good for all of the Indians living in Rapid City; on welfare or worse (things we Therefore it came as a hear again and again in this

I concluded with, "I am sadly the financial data from the Indian Health Service provide disappointed in your agency's Sioux San. When I inquired financial figures to the Rapid lack of foresight and total lack to members of the Chamber I City Chamber of Commerce of humanity. I will not waste was told that the Indian Health in order to show that Native any more time quibbling Service that oversees the San Americans were contributing with brain-dead bureaucrats. would not provide the figures. millions to the economic Is it any wonder why Native A simple oversight I growth of the city fell on Americans are still forced to live in the 19th Century?"

If President Barack Obama McClane ran on a ticket based on Chamber of Commerce for informing me that she was transparency, it seems that their monthly report fell on the the Aberdeen Area FOIA someone forgot to pass the word on to the Indian Health Service.

Tim Giago, an Oglala monthly Chamber report? the hallowed grounds of Lakota, was born and raised government secrecy. Ms. on the Pine Ridge Reservation. small businesses owned and McClane went through the He was a founder of the operated by Native Americans usual government palaver Native American Journalists in the city, the one business about what I would have to Association and recipient of the

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

#### SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** Bone chokers \$20 per dozen Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50 12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00 Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

	VAR	<b>A A</b> .	IDDI	TAANT	TIMES
$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{\Pi}$	V F.	AN	1 F.K.	IC,AN	

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

#### **JOB OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Native American Bank, N.A. is a financial services institution providing a wide range of banking services to the Native American communities throughout the United States.

#### **President and CEO**

Native American Bank is seeking an experienced banker and leader to fulfill this critical role on NAB's Senior Management team and to identify a successor to the Bank's retiring President and Chief Executive Officer. The ideal candidate for this position must be approvable by the regulators and have a strong management, finance, compliance, and capital raising background. The ideal candidate must have excellent public persona & interpersonal skills. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### Lending Relationship Manager

Seeking a Lending Relationship Manager to develop and manage commercial and agricultural loan customer accounts in the designated market. Responsible for developing building deposit portfolio as well as marketing the fee based services. Must be able to provide leadership, training and supervision and achieve of goals and objectives to business growth and profitability, credit quality and adherence to all bank policies and procedures. This position is located in the Browning, MT Branch.

#### **Credit Analyst**

NATIVE AMERICAN BANK, NA

We are seeking a Credit Analyst to conduct credit analyses including gathering, analyzing, and interpreting all types of credit information on existing and prospective customers and portfolio. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### For a detailed Job Announcements, please visit: www.nabna.com

NAB is an Equal Opportunity Employer with Native American Preference headquartered in Denver, CO. Member FDIC. Competitive salary & benefits are being offered based upon qualified experience and educational level. Send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to:

Attn: Deb Emhoolah, VP/HR, Native American Bank, N.A., 999 18th St, Ste 2460; Denver, CO 80202, Fax: 720-962-9455 or Email: employment@nabna.com. Employment background checks are

Native American Bank, N.A. | 999 18th Street, Suite 2460, Denver, CO 80202 FDIC www.nabna.com | 800.368.8894 Phone | 303.988.5533 Fax | (Browning, MT) 800.307.9199

Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) 120 N Robinson Ave, Suite 1244W Oklahoma City, OK 73102

#### **Assistant Airport Engineer**

Salary commiserate with Edu. & Exp.

Closing Date: 5:00 pm, 8/15/12.

Edu. and Exp.: BS in Civil Engineering or Engineer-in-Training Cert., prepare eng records, technical reports, and manage several projects.

**Typical functions: Prepare preliminary** eng reports; develop plans and specs for OAC's Pavement Maint program including selection and application of eng systems and materials in accordance with FAA Advisory Circulars and practices, assist in const bids or negotiations, collect pavement visual distress data, inspect state funded airport devel projects during const. review and approve const mangmt plans, etc.

> This is an unclassified position. OAC is an EOE Employer.

Please send your resume and cover letter to Elaine Spell, COO, phone 405-604-6911, Fax 405-604-6919, or espell@oac.ok.gov

#### **OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM SENIOR RETIREMENT BENEFIT ANALYST**

Lead worker for the SoonerSave retirement plans. Responsible for training staff and assisting participants and beneficiaries with all aspects of the plan. Works with service providers to resolve participant issues. Must have excellent customer service skills and experience. Must have job-related Excel and Word experience. Salary commensurate with experience and education. Deadline for applications: 8/10/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http:// www.opers.ok.gov/jobs. EOE

## **OK Health Care Authority**

Paralegal • Salary - \$41.8K

The paralegal prepares legal papers and correspondence of a legal nature such as motions, briefs, and other pleadings; Maintains paper and electronic files as required; Supports Deputy General Counsel(s) with legal research, proofing of documents, discovery document collection, and witness preparation, etc. Deadline: August 20, 2012

Deputy General Counsel • \$52.5K to \$71K + State Benefits! This position will primarily be responsible for litigation in State and Federal Court, representation of the agency in Program Integrity Audit appeals pursuant to 56 Okla. Stat. § 1010.9 and representation of the agency in administrative appeals. Submit application & questionnaire from website. Deadline: August 17, 2012

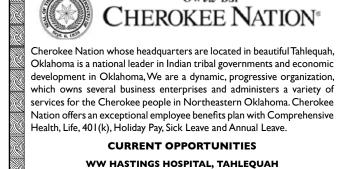
Reasonable accommodation may be made for individuals with disabilities.

#### See full job descriptions online at www.nativetimes.com/jobs

To apply visit: www.okhca.org/jobs

(Selection may occur prior to closing date)

OK Health Care Authority Attn: Human Resources 2401 N.W. 23rd St., Suite 1-A Oklahoma City, OK 73107 personnel@okhca.org EOE



#6470 Medical Technologist/T/PT #6493 Medical Technologist II/R/FT #5998 Medical Technologist/T/PT #5745 Medical Technologist/R/FT #5768 Medical Technologist/R/PT

POSITIONS CLOSE 8/10/2012 Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

> **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



#### **Deputy Attorney General**

DEPARTMENT: Kickapoo Tribe of **Oklahoma** DEADLINE: August 24, 2012, by close

of business 5:00pm START DATE: As Soon As Possible SALARY: Negotiable

#### JOB FUNCTIONS:

The Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Administration Office has an opening for a motivated individual to perform legal services as the Deputy Attomey General for the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, including a spectrum of highly complex, in-depth legal services to routine legal matters pertaining to the Tribe as a governmental entity, its programs and designated representative.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

Required: A license attorney with an Oklahoma State license to practice law and minimum five (5) years law practice experience with a preference in Tribal government emphasis, or other Tribal-related or Federal Indian law experience.

For more information about this position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send your resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com or mail:

Kickapoo Tribal Court P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

#### Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma



#### **Notice of Vacancy District Court Judge**

**DEPARTMENT: Kickapoo Tribal Court** DEADLINE: August 24,2012, by close of business 5:00pm

#### **JOB FUNCTIONS:**

The Kickapoo Tribal Court is posting a District Court Judge position that will start ASAP.

- Will be required to attend quarterly **Judicial meetings**
- Have an OBA license;
- Reside in Oklahoma; - Will hear the following type of cases: Civil, Family (divorce, child support, custody), Criminal, and Indian Child
- Welfare - Will be compensated for each Court
- docket and Administrative duties - Have experience in Tribal Court
- Attend trainings related to Tribal Law

QUALIFICATIONS:

Can review the Kickapoo Tribe's Judicial Ordinance Section Website:

www.kickapootribeofoklahoma.com

For more information about this position, contact Rochelle Murdock @ 405-964-4136. You can send vour resume: rochellemurdock@ kickapootribeofoklahoma.com or mail:

**Kickapoo Tribal Court** P.O. Box 1310 McLoud, OK 74851

#### Native American Owned Business? Let the Native American Community know!

#### NATIVE **AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com





918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES** FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

### SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30

119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

**Professional & Affordable Web Design** 



**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

#### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



www.ganica.net



### Friday, August 17 - Saturday, August 18 • Earn Entries August 5 - 18



Play at all 7 locations!

**TULSA BARTLESVILLE SAND SPRINGS PONCA CITY** 

SKIATOOK **HOMINY PAWHUSKA**  Our 8th Anniversary Celebration means lots of Free Play and big Cash drawings for you! The fun begins on Friday, August 17 with Free Play drawings from 5pm–2am. We'll continue on Saturday, August 18 with more Free Play and big Cash drawings from 6pm–2am! Earn entries at all seven locations August 5–18.

©2012 Osage Casino. Must be 18 to participate. Guests must be actively playing with their Club Osage card to be eligible for all drawings. Guests must be present to win all drawings. Free Play is a non-cashable credit and must be redeemed at the location received. Cash and prize drawing total is across all locations. Management reserves all rights. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700.





## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact 
The Pawnee Service Unit information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

THIRD THURSDAY The Veterans' Administration The Native Nations Youth is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center meetings from 6:30pm to enroll all Native American and non-Indian Veterans for Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered

about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** cherokeeartistsassociation.org Modoc Tribal Citizens **Meeting at Wyandotte** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

> Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL Council (NNYC) bimonthly 8:30pm @ the Youth Services AUGUST 18 of Tulsa Activity Center (311 health care benefits the third S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**AUGUST 8-11** 81st American Indian **Exposition. Kicks off with** parades on Wednesday & Saturday at 10 am in downtown Anadarko. Caddo County Fairgrounds, Anadarko, OK. Nightly performances at 8 pm. americanindian exposition. org. For more information contact Tara Tartsah at (405) 944-4130

**AUGUST 11-12** Wichita Tribal Dance at Wichita Tribal Park, Anadarko. Dance competitions will be open to Wichita Tribal members and their descendants. Call 405-247-2425.

**AUGUST 17-19 Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Powwow of Champions** at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis, Tulsa. Doors open 5pm Friday, 10am Sat and Sun. Call 918-378-4494 or 918-838-8276 for more information.

Eastern Shawnee Children's Powwow, 12615 S. 705 Road, Wyandotte. Native dance competitions will include tiny tots and junior divisions. Call 918-666-7710.

**AUGUST 18 Cherokee Nation Bass Classic** from 6 a.m. to noon, at **Chicken Creek Campgrounds** on Lake Tenkiller. Features

50/50 drawings, door prizes and a plaque and cash prize for the biggest bass. Registration is \$100 per boat for two team members, including one adult and one youth, between the ages of 3-18. Participants 16 and up must have a fishing license. Lake bass regulations apply. Info call John Mouse at 918-822-2929.

**AUGUST 23-26** 136th Annual Ponca Pow-Wow at White Eagle Park, OK. For more info call (580) 401-3266 or (580) 401-0471.

**AUGUST 24-25 Lucky Star Casino Annual** Powwow, 101 N. Indian Hospital Rd, Clinton, Okla. Info call Issac Rhoads or **Danielle Cling** Phone: 580-323-6599 Email: irhoads@ luckystarcasino.org URL: www.luckystarcasino.

**AUGUST 28** Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Diabetes Awareness Summit** at Okemah First Baptist Church, 120 S. 6th Street, Okemah. Summit is free. Info call 918-636-8735.

**AUGUST 30- SEPTEMBER 3 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka

**Homma Capitol Grounds.** Information call 800-522-6170.

**AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the **Cherokee Cultural Grounds,** Southwest of the tribal complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

**AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and** Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

**SEPTEMBER 15 Dance for Life contest** powwow - a community event bringing awareness to suicide prevention in our communities and among our youth. Sponsored by the **Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma Teen Suicide Prevention** Program. Event will be held in the Comanche Nation **Community Center in** Apache, Oklahoma. More info call 405-247-5200 or email gmbeaver@att.net

SEPTEMBER 20-22 Oklahoma Indian Summer Celebration, 300 S.E. Adams Blvd., Bartlesville. Info call **Jenifer Pechonick** 918-331-0934

**SEPTEMBER 21-22 Inaugural Salina Powwow** 

at Salina High School Gymnasium, Salina, Okla. **Contact: Doug Simpson** Phone: 918-704-3786 Email: salinapowwowclub@ yahoo.com URL: http://www.facebook. com/salinapowwowclub

**OCTOBER 20 Pryor Powwow at** MidAmerica Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional -16 yrs and up; Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

**NOVEMBER 3 Bacone College Fall** Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

New at nativetimes.com **Enter your powwow** info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select Powwow Entry



### 60TH ANNUAL

# CHEROKEE

### NATIONAL HOLIDAY

#### TAHLEQUAH, OK • LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Celebrate the Cherokee legacy at the 60th Annual Cherokee National Holiday.

With over 50 events and attractions, including an intertribal powwow, traditional Cherokee games, free concerts and arts and crafts, the annual event celebrates the 1839 signing of the Cherokee Nation Constitution in Indian Territory.

For an event schedule and details, visit Holiday. Cherokee.org.

FROM ONE FIRE TO A PROUD FUTURE



CHEROKEE NATION®

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Workforce fund proposal concerns tribes
- Native Youth Leadership Day at NOC
- Celebrate National Aviation Day with 'Pearl'









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 32

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**AUGUST 17, 2012** 

### Pawnee Nation in dilemma over how to spend settlement money

DANA ATTOCKNIE Native American Times

PAWNEE, Okla. - The \$4.4 million is in the bank for the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, but deciding how to spend it is proving to be costly because citizens' emotions are high.

The Pawnee Nation is one of 40 tribes to receive settlement money from the federal government for mismanagement of tribal assets. The settlement stems from the case Nez Perce Tribe, et al. v. Salazar, et al.

filed in 2006.

The tribe received its share of the \$1.023 billion settlement on July 30. However, speculation over how its portion will be spent has some Pawnee citizens concerned ever since learning of it in April.

"Some want to pay off debts. That's not our fault ... some of the debts are mismanagement from ... now they want to pull themselves out of debt by using our money. We want it to be given out per capita for each person," Pawnee

elder Lillie Cummings said. "The people are really in an uproar. This is all the talk going on. The tribal people are really upset about it."

Cummings first voiced her opinion about the settlement via a letter in the "Pawnee Chief" newspaper, questioning why people learned of the settlement from state newspapers and not the Pawnee Nation Business Council.

"Is it a secret?" she wrote. "There are all kinds of

See PAWNEE Continued on Page 4



CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE | COURTESY

Principal Chief Bill John Baker hands a key to mail carrier Erica Leafer, 36, of Ft. Gibson, Okla., so she can move into her home built under the Cherokee Nattion's New Home Construction Program. Seven home in Muskogee County are among the first to be built under the program Baker started after taking office.

## **Cherokee Nation building** homes for neediest citizens

**JUSTIN JUOZAPAVICIUS** Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. (AP) divorced two years ago and had been living with her mother, so the prospect of owning a home seemed years, maybe decades

"I felt like I was sinking deeper and deeper in the hole," the 36-year-old mother of four

Because of a new program launched by the Cherokee Nation, Leafer will get her own home, a locked-in monthly mortgage payment of \$350 and another chance to rebuild her life.

Leafer was among seven families who received keys

to their new homes last week during a ceremony in Ft. Gibson that kicked off the tribe's initiative. The goal is Mail carrier Erica Leafer got to build 300 houses a year for some of its neediest citizens, and 950 Cherokees are already on a waiting list for the program.

> To qualify, applicants must live in the tribe's 14-county jurisdiction and earn at least \$15,000 a year.

> The Tahlequah-based tribe has set up a \$5 million revolving fund to finance the homes on a 30-year mortgage. The tribe collects a small interest rate and the loans are guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Indian Home Loan Guarantee Program.

The Cherokee Nation, the largest Native American tribe in Oklahoma and one of the biggest in the U.S. with more than 300,000 members, is funding the program with money from its general fund, which includes revenue from gaming, land leases and the tribe's other businesses.

"Immediately when we turn the keys over to these families, they have equity in these homes," Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker said in an interview with The Associated Press. "These homes are being built by Cherokees for Cherokees. That's the nation's payoff."

Baker, who was elected

See HOMES Continued on Page 4

## **Government won't put liens** on divided tribal lands



■ Okla. Rep. Tom Cole calls the move "excellent news for **Indian Country.**"

**SUZANNE GAMBOA** 

WASHINGTON (AP) - Native American tribes don't have to reimburse the government for buying divided-up tribal land so it can be returned to them, the Department of Interior said August 10. The agency has been

working with tribes to reunite land that had been divided among multiple owners over many generations. A record \$3.4 billion lawsuit settlement approved last year over federal mismanagement of Indian land royalties included \$1.9 billion for purchases of the divided-up land. The lawsuit was filed by Elouise Cobell, a Blackfeet Tribe citizen from Browning, Mont., who died last year.

David Hayes, Interior's deputy secretary, said in a letter responding to Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., that land purchases made with the money set aside in the settlement are not subject to

"None of the express purposes of the (\$1.9 billion) allow for the imposition of liens on tribes to repay the value of lands acquired" by the government to return to tribes, Hayes stated.

"This is excellent news for Indian Country," Cole stated.

The Cobell settlement was reached to compensate tribal citizens for decades mismanagement," Cole said. Applying liens "would be tantamount to requiring tribes to fund the United States government's obligation under settlement," he concluded.

Under a 1983 law, liens could be placed against the land purchased by the government, and tribes would repay the purchase

See LIENS Continued on Page 4

### Buy Indian Act published in Federal Register

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR News Release

WASHINGTON -Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Donald E. "Del" Laverdure last week announced that the proposed rule implementing the Buy Indian Act has been published in the Federal Register. The Buy Indian Act provides Indian Affairs with the authority to setaside procurement contracts qualified Indian-owned businesses. This proposed rule describes uniform administrative procedures that Indian Affairs will use in all of its locations to encourage procurement of goods and services from eligible Indian economic enterprises, as authorized by the Buy Indian

"We are working hard to bring to fruition the collaborative efforts of many to put these rules into action," said Laverdure. "There have been several prior proposed rules and consultations but never a final rule. We are committed to finalizing this rule as well as upholding our nation-to-nation

relationship in going about this very important task."

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has obtained services and supplies from Indian sources using the Buy Indian Program since 1965, based on policy memoranda. This rule is proposed to describe uniform administrative procedures that the BIA will use in all of its locations to encourage procurement relationships with eligible Indian-owned businesses in the execution of the Buy Indian

This proposal incorporates the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs decision to increase economic development and employment of Indian persons by reducing the percentage of Indian ownership of business enterprises from a mandatory 100 percent to minimum 51 percent.

In addition, the regulations respond to and incorporate the nuances of the Section 831 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 (10 U.S.C. 2301 note) that amended 25 U.S.C. 47 to allow Indian firms to participate in the Department of Defense's Mentor-Prote'ge' Program and not lose their eligibility for contracts awarded under the authority of the Buy Indian Act. This proposed rule includes language stating that participation in the Mentor-Prote'ge' program has no effect on eligibility for contracts awarded under the authority of the Buy Indian Act.

The proposed rule also includes revisions to address the input received as a result of earlier publications and three consultation hearings in Indian Country.

"We invite tribal leaders and representatives to attend these very important consultations," Laverdure said. "Tribal leaders have worked diligently with Interior in the past on these issues and the intended outcomes are to further enhance tribes' abilities to better develop economic prosperity in Indian Country."

The Department of the Interior proposes to issue regulations guiding implementation of the Buy Indian Act, which provides the Bureau of Indian Affairs

with authority to set aside procurement contracts for Indian owned and controlled businesses. This rule supplements the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and the Department of the Interior Acquisition Regulations (DIAR). Comments must be received on or before September 24, 2012. Tribal consultation meetings to discuss this rule will take place on:

August 21, 2012, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Hilton Sacramento Arden West 2200 Harvard Street Sacramento, CA 95815 (916) 924-4900

August 23, 2012, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Mystic Lake Casino Hotel 2400 Mystic Lake Boulevard Prior Lake, MN 55372 (952) 445-9000

For more information, visit www.indianaffairs.gov.

#### SD judge orders meeting in surgery scars case

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) – A judge in a civil lawsuit filed by a Native American man who claims the letters KKK were carved into him following surgery at a South Dakota hospital has ordered the two sides to come together to try to come to a resolution Vern Traversie in the case.



Judge Jeffrey

Viken ordered lawyers for 69-year-old Vern Traversie and lawyers for the defendants in the case to meet by Sept. 7.

Traversie is a 69-year-old Lakota man living on the Cheyenne River Reservation in South Dakota. Traversie has sued Rapid City Regional Hospital, the hospital's board of directors and several others claiming the three letters were left on his abdomen following heart surgery.

Though he is blind, Traversie says others have told him the scars left after his heart surgery form the letters.

#### Native American groups wary of proposal to give state control over workforce funds

**JAIME ADAME** Urban Tulsa Weekly

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The shy smile from K. C. Warledo didn't match the gravity of her response when asked where she'd be without Job Corps.

"Honestly, I think I'd be homeless," said Warledo, 19.

The self-described 10th-grade dropout of Cheyenne heritage is among the nearly 250 youth who live and learn at the Talking Leaves Job Corps Center, a residential training program in Tahlequah.

Operated by the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, the center's population isn't limited to Native Americans, though it is one of only a few centers nationally run by Native American tribal groups.

But the center and several other workforce training programs operated by Oklahoma tribal groups may be swept up in political activity aimed squarely at streamlining federal workforce development programs. Not including the costly Job Corps program, Native American groups in northeast Oklahoma last year directly received more than \$3 million in federal funds for workforce development programs for both youth and adults.

Proposed legislation would streamline an area of government that has overlap between programs, according to reform backers, who note that a reform bill has already been revised to give more money to American Indian programs.

Opposed to the legislation is The National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference, which describes itself as "the largest and most representative national Indian and Native American employment and training association." The group has declared a "call to action" against legislation introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The measure, known as the Workforce Investment Improvement

Act of 2012, would strengthen the state's role in allocating workforce development funds to the detriment of Native Americans, according to the group.

The bill was introduced by U.S. Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), U.S. Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon (R-CA) and U.S. Rep. Joe Heck (R-NV).

Foxx's press secretary, Ericka Perryman, said that concerns of American Indian groups don't properly take into account changes in the legislation made during committee sessions.

"In fact, the legislation increases workforce development funding training programs. "It is important for us that we continue these types of programs without anything that would hamper what we're doing now.

Northeast Oklahoma, said relying on the state would be bad for her group.

distribution would also be a practical

We feel like this would," Tiger said. Helen Christie, executive director for the Inter-Tribal Council of

"It's an issue that's a threat to our tribal sovereignty and our ability to serve the needs of our people, because we already deal with limited funding the way it is," said Christie.

Giving funds to the state for disadvantage, according to Christie.

Nation received almost \$140,000 in WIA funding 2011, according to government records.

"We don't think it has too much of a chance to get through the Senate," White said.

However, the criticism is also coming closer to home. Sen. Tom Coburn released a scathing report July 24 critiquing job training programs in Oklahoma, echoing some of the criticisms put forth by fellow Republican lawmakers.

Kim Carroll, director of grants and compliance for the career services division of the Cherokee Nation, said criticism in the report was off-base when describing bi-weekly payments at the Talking Leaves Job Corps

Students receive up to \$50, with the amount increasing the longer a student is in program, which Coburn characterized as an incentive to stay rent-free in the program.

Carroll, however, said the payments encourage the youth -- participants range in age from 16 to 24 -- to complete their high-school diploma in addition to finishing vocational training in fields like health care or culinary arts.

The Cherokee Nation, which receives about \$1.8 annually in WIA funds, opposes the House legislation, Carroll said. About 6,400 people pass through the Cherokee Nation's career services division yearly, some to merely get an assessment done and others to take part in career training.

"We always have a waiting list for vocational training," said Carroll.

Tiger said that the recent economic recession has been difficult for wouldbe workers. A recent analysis by the Economic Policy Institute described higher unemployment rates for American Indians than whites. In a three-state region including Oklahoma, American Indians had an unemployment rate of 12 percent in the first half of 2010, compared to a 7.1 percent unemployment rate for whites in the same region.

Christie said her group is receiving

just over \$90,000 this year, less than in the past.

"I'm receiving \$6,000 less this year. We keep getting cut, and so our

resources are dwindling," she said. She said her group, based in Miami, works to develop training

"Those services, they are defined by the needs of the area. ... We look at different businesses that the tribes are developing," Christie said.

that's relevant to the local economy.

She said opportunities for training are given out on a first-come, firstserve basis.

"Usually within the first month of the program, I've reached my quota for the whole year," Christie said.

She said she's been doing this type of work since 1988, and has seen a similar pattern with the state taking over programs once run by an American Indian group.

In the 1990s, her group ran adulteducation classes.

"Ours was five days a week, four hours a day, but the one the state does is just two nights a week," Christie said, adding that enrollment is limited.

For those calling for reform, the issue is also about properly evaluating the effectiveness of programs,

"Under current law, the Secretary of Labor operates the Native American Employment and Training program, which is subject to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees," Perryman wrote, noting that a recent Government Accountability Office report "found the federal government hasn't studied the effectiveness of this program in almost nine years."

Perryman wrote that directing limited funds to programs that "don't necessarily work" is a "great disservice" to Indian tribes.

Christie had her own way of evaluating the last several years: "We've had to do more with less resources," she said.

- Re-printed with permission of Urban Tulsa Weekly, www.urbantulsa.com



TALKINGLEAVES.JOBCORPS.GOV

Local tribal leaders are concerned a Republican-introduced bill could be detrimental to workforce training funds. About 6,400 people pass through the Cherokee Nation's Career Services yearly.

dedicated solely to Native Americans by more than 150 percent," Perryman wrote in a statement.

Regardless of any tweaks to the bill, local tribal leaders also expressed worry about any changes to the current system.

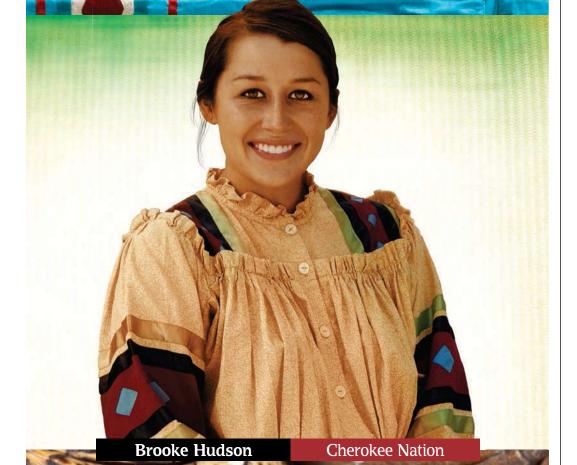
"We've been monitoring it real close. We are concerned," said Principal Chief George Tiger of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

government According to documents, his group received just about \$1 million in funding last year as a grantee under the Workforce Investment Act.

Tiger said the money goes to

"They say that it would streamline the workforce development programs. In actuality, the belief among grantees in the Native American program is that they're not set up to handle the influx of workers or participants that would be coming in," Christie said. "There's a concern that the state taking control of that, that they wouldn't be able to adequately serve the Native American population."

Chris White, executive director of governmental affairs for the Osage Nation, called the legislation "a GOP-driven bill," referring to the Republican Party. The Osage



## Honor what is SACRED

### **Quit Commercial Tobacco**

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

784-8669

OKhelpline.com



"Your Total Solution for Medical Equipment and Supplies"

American Indian Woman Owned & Operated

We carry a wide range of products and equipment for:

- Home Medical Equipment
- Mobility
- Oxygen Therapy
- Bariatric Needs
- Support Surfaces/ **Wound Care**
- **Other Services Include:**
- Non Emergency **Transportation**
- MRI Imaging
- (Financing Available)
- MRI Design Build MRI Mobile Unit

1400 SW Expressway Broken Arrow, OK 74012 (918) 250-7051 ww.TotalCareSolutions.biz



### **Bacone College ending** nursing degree program

The 37 second-year students currently enrolled in the program have until July 31, 2013 to complete their coursework.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

MUSKOGEE, Okla. - A historically American Indian

college is ending one of its nursing programs.

After a six-month review, Bacone College's Board of Trustees voted Aug. 3 to discontinue the school's associate of applied science in nursing degree program, effective July 31, 2013.

The review comes on the heels of the Oklahoma Board of Nursing giving the program's accreditation a one-year "conditional approval" in November 2011. Citing four areas of primary concern, including high faculty turnover, a low graduation rate and a low pass rate on the National Council Licensure Exam for registered nurses, the probationary period began on Feb. 1.

The program will remain fully funded and staffed for the 2012-2013 school year. The 37 second-year students currently enrolled in the program have until July 31, 2013 to complete their coursework. According to the school's website, no firstyear students were admitted to the program for the fall 2012 semester in accordance with the Oklahoma Board of Nursing's recommendations.

For candidates who do not finish their coursework by July 31, 2013, a spokeswoman for Bacone College said the school could provide a list of other ADN programs across Oklahoma, but students would be responsible for checking whether they qualify for admission. Nineteen other Oklahoma schools offer ADN programs accredited through the state's nursing board, including Connors State University's Muskogee campus.

After July 2013, the associate degree program's resources and three full-time faculty members will be moved over to the school's bachelor's degree nursing program.

"American Indians will be able to complete the RN to BSN degree completion program in areas where this program has been needed but not locally available," nursing department chairwoman Kathryn Bible said. "Bacone has received requests from Alaska, for instance, to offer the RN to BSN program but it was difficult to fulfill those because of the energy and resources it takes for the ADN program."

Launched in 1999, Bacone's RN to BSN degree program is one of seven in Oklahoma that is only open to registered nurses with an active nursing license. Participants can either take their classes completely online or through a mix of traditional and online courses.

Founded in 1880 by missionary Almon C. Bacone as Indian University, Bacone College offers associate's and bachelor's degree programs to all academically qualified students, but maintains a special emphasis on the needs of American Indian

"Part of Bacone College's mission is 'serving American Indian students within a culturally diverse community," Bible said. "Our focus for the Bacone College Department of Nursing will move towards growth in our RN to BSN degree completion program, including more involvement with American Indian colleges and communities."

### **Sundance Institute to host Native** filmmaker summit in Oklahoma

SULPHUR, Okla. - The Sundance Institute's Native American and Indigenous Program, along with The Chickasaw Nation and the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum will host a Native Filmmaker Summit on Thursday, September 6 at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur.

The summit will include roundtable discussions, short films and presentations from Sundance Native Program Director Bird Runningwater (Cheyenne/Mescalero Apache), filmmaker Sterlin (Seminole Harjo and Creek), Producer Chad Burris (Chickasaw Nation), Australian filmmaker Rachel Perkins(Arrernte/Kalkadoon Nations) and Oklahoma State Film Commission Director Jill Simpson.

The Summit events include a film screening, a discussion by the on the State of Native Cinema, a case study on making the leap from short films to feature films, round table discussions on producing films in the everchanging marketplace and how to nurture creativity and storytelling. The event will conclude with a FILM FORWARD: Advancing Cultural Dialogue reception.

For more information about the Summit go to http://www.sundance.org/ pages/native-filmmakersummit/. The summit is free to attend and open to all filmmakers. Those interested in attending should RSVP to Owl-Johnson@Sundance. org by August 31.



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned

TERO Certified

tahlequahrecycling.com

918-316-5856

"Changing the culture of waste." TA

ecycling

### **Celebrate National Aviation Day** with famed Chickasaw pilot

**CHICKASAW NATION** Public Affairs Office Release

ADA, Okla. - On Aug. 19, Americans will recognize the trailblazers of flight on National Aviation Day, a day to celebrate the history and development of aviation. It coincides with the birthday of Orville Wright who, together with his brother Wilbur, made significant contributions to powered flight.

Among those early courageous pilots was a Chickasaw woman named Pearl Carter Scott. She earned her pilot's license at the tender age of 13 in 1928. By 14, she was flying her father to business appointments and wowing air show audiences with her aerobatic maneuvers all over Oklahoma.

The film "Pearl" produced by The Chickasaw Nation, chronicles those early years in her life. It has garnered many accolades from audiences and film industry insiders. "Pearl" was named the best overall film and best Native American film at the 2010 Trail Dance Film Festival, and was named a "Heartland Film Festival" official selection.

The Dove Foundation awarded "Pearl" four "Doves," giving the film its "Family-Approved Seal" for all ages.

The movie was filmed in Oklahoma City, El Reno, and several locations around historic

"Pearl" features several Chickasaw cast members including: Paden Brown, a Byng (Okla.) High School student, who plays Arnetta, Pearl's little sister; Pauline Brown,



The film "Pearl" was produced by the Chickasaw Nation and has garnered accolades from audiences and film industry insiders.

Chickasaw elder and culture preservationist, who portrays Widow Harjo; and Paulina Gee, daughter of Chickasaw Nation Deputy Attorney General Debra Gee.

In honor of National Aviation Day, The Chickasaw Nation is offering the DVD for \$12 and blu-ray at \$16 - both 20% off regular purchase price from Aug. 17-24.

For more information on the film and to order a copy of "Pearl" on DVD or Blu Ray, visit www.PearlTheMovie.net and click on the "Purchase Pearl DVD" button. Copies also are available at the Chickasaw Outpost located at 132 W. Main inside the McSwain Theater in Ada.



#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHRIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN Karen Shade

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

> > Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country

- MEMBER -





#### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



Delegates to the second annual Native American Youth Leadership Day take a break before beginning their scavenger hunt on the Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa campus. Approximately 200 youth, sponsors and educators from the lowa Tribe of Oklahoma; Kaw Nation, Osage Nation; Otoe-Missouria Tribe; Pawnee Nation; Ponca Tribe and Tonkawa Tribe attended the event featuring Chance Rush of Cloudboy Consulting, LLC.

### Native American Youth Leadership Day held at NOC

NORTHERN OKLAHOMA COLLEGE

Public Information Office

TONKAWA, Okla. - Approximately 200 youth, tribal educators and sponsors from seven North Central Oklahoma tribes gathered on the Northern Oklahoma College Tonkawa campus for "Motivation on the Rezervation," the second annual Native American Youth Leadership Day.

Wearing color-coded T-shirts indicating their tribal affiliations, youngsters from the Kaw, Osage and Pawnee Nations and the Iowa of Oklahoma, Otoe-Missouria, Ponca and Tonkawa tribes spent the day learning tips for developing Native pride and leadership and enjoying various games and activities. A scavenger hunt. designed by Gloree Tah and Elsie Whitehorn of the Otoe-Missouia Tribal Education Office to acquaint them with NOC, sent teams on a quest to find and photograph various places on the

Dynamic sessions by Chance Rush, founder of Cloudboy Consultants, LLC of Tulsa, along with hip hop recording artist and disc jockey Emcee One (Marcus Anthony Guinn), of Osage heritage, and activist Chief Swagg (Jeffrey Duarte), an Aquinnah Wampanoag from Aquinnah, Mass., gave the attendees insights on bullying and conflict resolution, communication and presentation, culture outlook and issues and relationships. Lindsey Miner and Samantha Ephgrave of the Noble County OSU Extension Service gave a workshop for seventh through ninth graders titled "Success: There's an app

for that!" while Karen Howe, Kaw Nation education director, teamed with NOC staff to present "College Prep" to the tenth through twelfth graders.

Rush, who has ties to Pawnee and to Red Rock (he is an Otoe descendant and the son of Donna Rush/ Sweezy, a "Red Rock Rocket grad," exhorted his listeners to "get outside your comfort zone. "People treat you on how you present yourself and how you act," he said. The future tribal leaders were advised that communication is key in their development and to take advantage of the opportunity to present themselves on Twitter and Facebook, keeping in mind that colleges and employers look at the posts.

"Find and use your talents for personal growth," Rush urged. "The Creator gave you something. It's up to you to utilize it." He emphasized the importance of focusing on greatness and ignoring negative comments. "You must grab hold of who you are to grab hold of who we [Native Americans] are to make change in your world. We're still here and have the opportunity to do great things," he stated.

One way to make change now is to stop bullying, "an epidemic we can control," Rush said. "If you see someone bullied, be there for them—stand by them. If you are the bully, get help." He predicted that when young adults strive to be the very best, bullying and suicide will decrease.

Emcee One invited the young people to list items that could influence their beliefs. They learned that incorrect data in the belief system could lead to poor life choices. "It all hinges on whether you have a lie or truth in your belief system," he said. "You have to untie a lie with truth. Truth is fair. It can't be bribed or bartered." He urged them to become truth chasers and to chart their lives by the truth.

Noting that most substance abuse and suicide result from broken relationships, Emcee One changed the word "Intimacy" to "Into me see," meaning that persons must understand themselves and each other before making a commitment. They must treat each other with respect. "Commitment has to be balanced with 'into me see," he said. "There is no right to intimacy without commitment."

Tribal royalty recognized were MatheAnna Williams, 2011-2012 Kaw Nation Princess; Danelle Springer, 2012-2013 Iowa Tribal Princess; Casey Horinek, 2012-2013 Tonkawa Tribal Princess; Judiki Moses, 2012-2013 Pawnee Indian Veterans Homecoming Princess; Summer Moore, 2011-2012 Standing Bear Pow Wow Princess; and Angela Howe, 2012-2013 American Legion Post 38 Princess.

Offering the Opening Prayer as well as a prayer before lunch was Pastor James White of the Ponca Indian United Methodist Church in White Eagle.

The event concluded with games and a hip hop showcase conducted by Chief Swagg and Emcee One. Gina Conneywerdy, NOC Native American counselor, and educational directors of the seven tribes involved coordinated the leadership day. Virginia Combrink, M.Ed, director of the Ponca Tribal MSPI Oo-kee-he (Able to Achieve) Program, provided backpacks for each participant. Garland Kent, Jr. and Elsie Whitehorn designed the custom T-shirts.

### **HOMES**

Continued from Page 1

chief last year, campaigned on a platform that called for improving tribal social programs. The tribe once had a similar homebuilding program, Baker said, but other funding priorities won out over the past decade.

"All of a sudden, they built fewer and fewer houses," said Baker, who was a longtime tribal councilman before he became chief. "I think it was short-sighted, and I tried time and again to get them to see the wisdom of building homes. You're creating wealth for the people."

Baker said he hopes the tribe can increase the homes built from 300 to 365 a year – one house a day.

Melissa Patterson, 42, a reading teacher who works another job as a store clerk to make ends meet, had been sweating out the summer with her three kids in the two-bedroom home she rented until she found out she would be among the first citizens to get a new home.

"My kids have never had a room of their own," Patterson said. "I've never had a brand new home. My family's excited."

## All Oklahoma counties under outdoor burn ban

Gov. Mary Fallin issued a statewide Burn Ban on Aug.
3. This ban supersedes all county burn bans currently in place and remains in place until conditions improve and it is removed by the governor.

"Guidelines for Oklahoma's Ban on Outdoor Burning" which addresses activities that are prohibited and allowed under the Governors Burn Ban is available at www. forestry.ok.gov/burn-baninformation

### Officials say trash burning sparked fire

State-issued burn bans do not apply to tribal land, although tribes typically cooperate with local entities and issue their own burn bans if conditions are dangerous.

**SEAN MURPHY**Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) – A massive wildfire in northeast Oklahoma that burned for days, destroyed dozens of homes and scorched more than 90 square miles likely started with two people illegally burning trash in rural Creek County, authorities said last week.

Meanwhile, investigators suspect arson was the cause of two separate wildfires last week near Luther and Norman that also burned dozens of square miles and resulted in at least one death.

The investigation into the Creek County fire is being done with the Bureau of Indian Affairs because there is some dispute about whether the fire started on tribal land, Creek County Sheriff's Lt. Charles Redfern said.

Redfern said investigators have talked to two people who were burning trash in a rural area between Bristow and Drumright. The governor issued a statewide burn ban the following day, but a county ban had been in place since July 5. Redfern declined to release the names of the suspects but said they could face criminal charges.

State-issued burn bans do not apply to tribal land, although tribes typically cooperate with local entities and issue their own burn bans if conditions are dangerous, said Chief George Thurman, of the Sac & Fox Nation.

"We control our own lands, so we say what happens on it," Thurman said. "But most of the time, we're cooperative with local law enforcement and fire departments."

Separate wildfires that broke out late last week in far southeast Norman are being investigated as suspicious in nature, Assistant State Fire Marshal JoAnne Sellars said. Norman officials asked her office to help with the investigation, and she said an agent has determined where the fires started but how they started is still under investigation.

Sellars said one fire started Aug. 3 along Cemetery Road and 126th Avenue in rural Cleveland County. Two more fires started the next day along Cemetery Road a little more than one mile away.

Firefighters discovered a badly burned body among the remains of a burned out home near where the fires originated. The state medical examiner's office is using dental records to determine the

victim's identity.

District Attorney Greg Mashburn said that if the fire was intentionally set, the suspect could face numerous charges, including felony murder.

"Any time that injuries occur or lives are threatened, it aggravates the charges and could result in additional charges beyond arson," Mashburn said.

Oklahoma County authorities also suspect an arsonist was to blame for a fire near Luther that burned more than 4 square miles over the weekend. Witnesses reported seeing someone throwing newspapers from a black Ford pickup truck after setting them on fire.

"I just come off the turnpike. I was following a truck; he was up in the distance," a 911 caller said in an audio recording of the call released by the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office. "He took off, it was a bluish-black truck. He turned around in the middle of the road, and I got up here where he was at and the whole woods exploded when I got up to him. ...

"It's a grass fire. He threw something out."

Sheriff's spokesman Mark Myers said authorities set up a tip line and are seeking any information connected to the fires.

"It's tough when all you have is a vague description," Myers said. "That's why we're really depending on the public to come forward with some information."

### Mold discovery prompts closure of Sallisaw clinic

SALLISAW, Okla. (AP) – The Cherokee Nation says it's closed part of a Sallisaw health center because mold was discovered in the building.

The Southwest Times Record reports that several services normally offered at the Redbird Smith Health Center will be moved to the Redbird Smith Health Center Annex.

Tribal officials say an environmental assessment is under way to determine the extent of the suspected mold. The tribe says the exposure to mold was minimal for patients and staff.

The tribe says dental services will be unavailable while the clinic is closed. Patients who normally use the Redbird clinic are asked to go to facilities in Stilwell, Muskogee or Tahlequah.

#### LIENS

Continued from Page

cost with money earned from the land. The money then went toward buying other divided tribal land.

John Dossett, general counsel for National Congress of American Indians, said the divided-up land is costly for the federal government to administer. He said his organization and many tribes are glad liens won't be applied.

According to the Interior Department, any money the tribes earn from the land, from grazing or timber sales, for instance, will now go to the tribe that owns the parcel.

The divisions of tribal lands began under the 1887 Dawes Act, which split reservations into individual allotments that were passed on to multiple heirs with each passing generation.

The law's aim was to "assimilate" tribal citizens into the rest of society and eliminate tribes. Some land now has anywhere from dozens to more than 1,000 individual owners. The Interior Department has identified 88,638 land tracts owned by nearly 2.8 million people. The divided-up land is also known as "fractionated" land.

The federal government wants to reduce the numbers of land tracts and owners over the next decade. The plan is to buy tracts with the most individual owners, finding landowners willing to sell and targeting land that can be bought with little preparatory work and where controlling interest can be gained.

Tribes had asked for liens to be waived.

The \$1.9 billion from the lawsuit settlement is a one-time expenditure that must be spent within 10 years. Any money not spent in 10 years will be returned to the U.S. Treasury.

Department of Interior: http://www.doi.gov/index.cfm

Associated Press Writer Matt Volz in Helena, Mont., contributed to this report.

## USDA announces assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers

WASHINGTON - Agriculture Secretary Vilsack announced last week the award of 70 grants to tribes, educational institutions and non-profit organizations across the country to conduct training, outreach and technical assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers, and landowners. The awards are being made through the Outreach Assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (OASDFR) Competitive Grants Program, known as the "2501 program."

"USDA continues working to help improve the success of minority farmers and ranchers in today's agricultural economy," said Vilsack. "These grants provide crucial assistance to help institutions who are helping American producers build capacity and increase profitability, and thereby create stronger rural communities."

As authorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, the grants awarded today will bring \$19 million in new and additional funding to programs and organizations to bolster assistance for socially disadvantaged farmers, ranchers and forest landowners. Grants will enable recipients to work with prospective farmers as they acquire, build and operate farms and ranches, revitalize the rural economy, and create new, sustainable economic opportunities in the region and nation.

Recipients include new awardees and qualifying programs and organizations that have previously benefited from Department assistance.

### **PAWNEE**

Continued from Page

Pawnee citizen Kim Mirri said she doesn't want the settlement spent on paying fines or projects such as an unfinished bridge that some citizens call the "Bridge to Nowhere."

rumors and stories going around but one of the most disturbing rumors is that our tribal council does not intend to share it with our people. Some council members say they are going to invest it or pay tribal debts. If so, we want to know how much in debt we are. Exactly what programs are in debt?"

Cummings also submitted a petition to the Pawnee Nation Business Council on May 23 asking for the money to be distributed equally to citizens.

"The settlement is based on all Pawnee tribal allotments, right of ways, farming and grazing and oil and gas leases that were mismanaged by the U.S. government. Our ancestors suffered and sacrificed for these lands, and we, as their descendents, want what is rightfully ours. Some council members have stated that they want to use it to pay off tribal debts. Some of which we feel could also be from mismanagement.

This settlement was awarded to the Pawnee tribe people, not the tribal council," the petition states.

Cummings said the petition was turned in with 220 signatures. However, she continues to receive more. "People are still sending the petition in and wanting to sign it. They want to sign it even though I've already given it to the tribal council, which they more or less ignored," she said

Pawnee Nation Vice President Charles Lone Chief received the petition because President Marshall Gover was not at the May 23 council meeting. Cummings said she and fellow petitioners are awaiting a decision.

"There hasn't been anything done on the petition. I was out on medical leave when that petition was turned in, and technically I haven't seen it. I believe it's been forwarded to the (tribe's) attorney general ... the constitution doesn't really address a petition of that type," Gover said. "Right now the tribal council has been talking, kicking around several different ideas. They haven't come to any conclusion yet."

When Cummings didn't get a response from the business council, she said she sought help from the tribe's Nasharo Council, or Chiefs Council. It, in turn, requested a joint meeting with the business council. A meeting was originally scheduled for June 16 but didn't happen. Another joint meeting to discuss the use of the settlement funds is scheduled for 2 p.m. Aug. 18 in the Roam Chief

Building at the Pawnee Nation.

According to the Pawnee Nation website, tribal citizens can submit ideas on how to spend the funds via email to communications@pawneenation.org.

Gover said there would also be a public forum so citizens can offer ideas. He said there were no terms dictated in the litigation on how the funds should be spent, and the money is sitting in an interest-bearing account. He said he received a phone call telling him the money was in the account, but written confirmation wasn't received until July 30.

"We haven't touched a dime of it. We're only the caretakers of it. It's not the councils money ... every dime will be accounted for," Gover said. "Don't always listen to the ones that spread rumors. Just come to the office and find out the truth."

Pawnee Nation Executive Director Dawna Hare said there have been discussions at previous council meetings and the initial suggestions were for a per capita payment, but now she said the ideas are focused on education, the youth and infrastructure.

"I think the council is really looking to get a lot of ideas and input from the tribal members. We want to make a good decision because ... they're not going to get this kind of settlement again," Hare said. "This is an opportunity to infuse some funds into the tribe ... make a good decision on how the money will be used to have a lasting effect."

Pawnee citizen Kim Mirri said she

doesn't want the settlement spent on paying fines or projects such as an unfinished bridge that some citizens call the "Bridge to Nowhere."

"Right now, there's unemployment. People don't have jobs. There's elders out there, I know, that can't pay their electric bill. They can't get their glasses. They can't get hearing aids. I mean, they're just holding this money back, and I know there are children that need clothes for school. A lot of people don't have jobs. I don't understand why they want to do this and sit on this money," Mirri said. "I was in the business meeting and I heard them, they had dreams for it and some of these dreams aren't realistic."

Mirri quoted Gover from a Pawnee newsletter in which he stated, "The Pawnee business council is formulating the best plan for the use of this money." She said each citizen could receive approximately \$1,300 in a per capita payment if the settlement is divided between its approximate 3, 470 citizens.

"I'm tempted to write these people in Washington because we're not benefiting from their funding," she said. "We are fighting over here. Fighting for that money that could really benefit our people. There's not very many of us ... we really need it. Our economy is so bad ... I hope that everything works out good."

Mirri also said she wants the Pawnee Nation to vote where there money should go. Gover said, "That hadn't really been planned out yet."

Another detail that's undecided

is the tribe's payment to the Native American Rights Fund for representing it in the litigation. Hare said NARF just asked the tribes for a 10 percent donation.

"As of yet there hasn't been any payment made to NARF, and there hasn't been any decision made," Gover said. "Anytime that you get money, it's a blessing and it's up to us to make sure it's a blessing and not a hindrance. So it's up to the tribal council to make sure that money goes to the best possible way ... and that's a big responsibility for the tribal council. Because no matter what we do with it, you know, we're not going to make everybody happy ... I hope it makes life better for each and every one some way somehow."

Hare said tribes involved in the lawsuit were bound by confidentiality agreements so no information was released until April 11. That's when the Obama administration announced the settlement. The Pawnee Nation is the only Oklahoma tribe in the settlement.

According to news reports, the Colville Tribe received \$193 million with approximately \$39 million going to its citizens. An additional 30 percent of its settlement will be voted on, which could allow for citizens to receive 50 percent of the \$193 million. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe received \$18 million, but its leaders did not say how it will be spent. The Nez Perce Tribe received \$33.7 million. It is giving NARF \$3 million and each of its 3,500 citizens will receive approximately \$8,600.

### SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00
Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960 CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00 **918-696-0407** 

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 **1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960** 



204-376-3428

www.ganica.net

## COMMENTARY

## Defending the sovereignty of Indian Nations



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Indian law, sovereignty and jurisdiction are not "one size fits all" issues in Indian country. There are too many variations in how different states view the Indian nations within their borders and even in how the federal government treats issues of Indian sovereignty.

gaming in states like California, a state where Public Law 280 gives the state government enforcement and the courts, the issues are far different than say in South Dakota, where

would automatically bring about severe inequity.

Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Robert base. They were among the Burnette (now deceased), poorest of tribes in America fought the idea of Public Law getting little financial support 280 tooth and nail. He pushed from the state government the reality that if the state until the advent of casino assumed jurisdiction over the gambling. Situated in a state tribal courts, jails and law with a large population, enforcement, the costs to the the success of their casinos state would be prohibitive. was almost preordained. With nine Indian reservations But problems started to in the state and upwards of develop when the different With the surge in Indian 70,000 Indians, the transition tribal governments began alone would have cost the state to disenroll tribal members. millions and implementing According to Robert Edwards, and sustaining the process a former vice chairman of the would have cost millions Enterprise Rancheria, there

the state government has no faced with the prospects of gaming became their main sovereignty of California remove the Freedmen from Unitysodak1@knology.net

When Public Law 280 was in order to implement the first pushed upon the different conditions of Public Law 280, statesbythefederalgovernment they balked and decided that it was intended to open the this prospective entanglement doors for state jurisdiction best be left in the hands of on Indian reservations. The the federal government. Mr. tribes of South Dakota have Burnett's efforts paid off and always been strong advocates South Dakota did not adopt of their own sovereign status. the law. That was not the They had been at war with case in states like California. the state government for too There was no visible Indian many years to not understand opposition to the suggested that state jurisdiction in tribal law and it passed the state courts and in law enforcement legislature without a problem.

The tribes in California

are numerous but very small The former president of the and they have a small land are now about 3,000 members South Dakota is a very of California tribes that have

himself was disenrolled in California goes, so goes the 2003 along with 70 other nation." She continued, "This members of his tribe.

many cases the Bureau of tribes do when smaller tribes Indian Affairs dodges the bullet in P.L. 280 states start us down in dealing with the problem this path? And if we ever find of tribes disenfranchising ourselves in a strong financial members by saying it's a membership issue they cannot deal with because of tribal sovereignty. "That excuse fought for generations to simply doesn't fly anymore take control over their own as many tribal governments future. They fought hard to are violating the civil rights take back the right to choose and human rights of their their own tribal members out members while showing a of the hands of the BIA. They total disregard for their tribal knew the history of their own laws," he said.

tribal law or state law? As qualified to choose their own sovereign nations they have members. After many years of the inherent sovereignty of the every right to enact and implement their own laws and assumed that right. tribal laws may not always follow the dictates of state law Nation is now coming to a because oftentimes they are conclusion and once more constructed around culture, the BIA and some members spirituality and traditions of Congress have stepped in that far outdate state law. to interfere with the sovereign One Native American legal rights of the Cherokee scholar requesting anonymity people in selecting their own "Now California is going to use the have to agree with the decision Indian Missions," is available disenrollment issue to expand made by the registered voters at: conservative state and when been disenrolled since Indian their encroachment on the of the Cherokee Nation to com. He can be reached at

is very dangerous, but what Edwards said that in too can large, land-based treaty position, will we begin to face some of the same issues?"

The larger treaty tribes membership and considered Are the tribes disregarding themselves imminently more protest and action, they finally

The case of the Cherokee apparently membership. One does not

having to shell out millions source of income. Edwards tribes. And as they say, 'As their rolls, but it is the legal right of this sovereign nation to make that decision. Too many Indians have fought and died to earn that right.

> When the Indian Civil Rights Act was first introduced many tribal leaders fought its implementation vigorously because it infringed upon some of their cultural, spiritual and traditional rights. Many saw the Act as a danger to their sovereign rights and although it has not, to date, lived up to those early fears, the possibilities are still there and what is happening in California and Oklahoma presents a clear and present danger to Indian nations.

> Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was the founder of Indian Country Today. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard in the Class of 1991. His latest book "Children Left Behind: The Dark Legacy of the order@clearlightbooks.

### An extra potato from the bin: The feds plea for a rain dance



S.E. RUCKMAN

Just to make sure everyone is on the same page, the Native world view is circular. Under the greatest sphere in the galaxy, the sun, we pitch our tents to live in deference to this prevalent orb. Without it, we could not define ourselves or recall our ceremonies.

But I am not so sure how a drought figures into the grand scheme. Drought is one of those things like a chimera, a mythological but deadly creature. When the circumstances are right (no rain plus extended basting trends) it makes an appearance with humankind in full thrall. Like reading a map with a large red star: We are here. communities exist in "food Well, here we are.

Oklahoma prairie coming home from a pow-wow and I could feel the heat pressing against my windows like a bully on the bus. It finally dawned on me what I was seeing but not actually registering. Row after row of bleached dried corn plants filled entire fields, not just the poorly irrigated

message, the U.S. Department birthday and pow-wow feasts released a report that rated cook the best roast to make about a quarter of the corn sure grandsons are fed. Some and soybean crops as good or cooks in Indian Country can fair. Compare that against a work miracles with a mere to see that the food squeeze on what food is all about. will soon be felt. In Indian But our fate is seemingly Country, it has the potential intertwined with that of the

to be a chokehold. living and their crops will secretary, Vilsack) casts off all agriculturists. One Indian farmer I know told me the other day that his pumpkin crop has long since given up bad. the ghost.

On the good side, the drought has already hastened when the name of the game the federal payouts on the class action Keepseagle settlement. On the other hand, commodity food programs rely on the United States government and the staples tribes receive are subsidized surplus goods. What happens if the federal surplus becomes obsolete?

deserts" where there is ten I recently drove across the miles or more to healthy food choices. In situations like these, the local convenience store looks pretty good even though parents want better. Chances are, they will go to the store that sits closest to home. Known by a variety of names, each month.

Food is inextricably linked based in Oklahoma.

In case I wasn't getting the to our well being. We have Agriculture (USDA) at will. Our grandmothers will 62 percent of good or fair on box of raisins and bag of last year's crops. It's not hard rice. We put our own print conquering nation with whom The implications of drought we share the parched earth. for tribal nations are many. A good indicator is when a Some Indians farm for a federal official (namely USDA likely feel the same pinch as any pretention of political correctness and makes a plea for a rain dance. Then we start to divine that things will get

How crucial will Indian priorities and allocations be is pounding drought and skyrocketing food prices? In the past that when things got tough for our Anglo neighbors, they'd take an extra potato from the store bin all in the name of the public good and dismiss sovereignty as an antiquated notion. So if past Already many Indian is prologue, we are in for a déjà vu of epic proportions.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and is it's the one that is hopping on *currently a special contributor* the first and fifteenth day of to the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

### NAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

#### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State: Zip:	
Phone:		
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>		

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



## There's an agency where skilled professionals can unlock our nation's potential.

The IRS is the foundation for all that our nation is capable of — and we depend on our brightest, most dedicated citizens to achieve our goals.

Consider a future — where your expertise does more than meet a bottom line — it serves the American public and funds our nation's future. There are a lot of ways to stay in touch with the IRS as you consider a career move:

- Keep up to date about what we have to offer employees on our Facebook page.
  - Follow job vacancy announcements on Twitter.
  - Watch real employees tell their stories on our YouTube channel.
  - Learn which career might suit you best with our Fit Check tool.
  - Connect with IRS recruiters and see what IRS employees have to say about working here on our LinkedIn page.

A career at the IRS means being challenged and supported. It means enjoying work-life balance in a truly diverse and inclusive environment. It means using your skills to strengthen our workforce as we fund America's most vital programs. Connect with IRS recruiters via social media today; it may help you realize what kind of career you really want.

Count on me

U.S. Citizenship Required An Equal Opportunity Employer www.jobs.irs.gov/more



#### **JOB OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Native American Bank, N.A. is a financial services institution providing a wide range of banking services to the Native American communities throughout the United States NATIVE AMERICAN BANK, NA

Native American Bank is seeking an experienced banker and leader to fulfill this critical role on NAB's Senior Management team and to identify a successor to the Bank's retiring President and Chief Executive Officer. The ideal candidate for this position must be approvable by the regulators and have a strong management, finance, compliance, and capital raising background. The ideal candidate must have excellent public persona & interpersonal skills. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### **Lending Relationship Manager**

Seeking a Lending Relationship Manager to develop and manage commercial and agricultural loan customer accounts in the designated market. Responsible for developing building deposit portfolio as well as marketing the fee based services. Must be able to provide leadership, training and supervision and achieve of goals and objectives to business growth and profitability, credit quality and adherence to all bank policies and procedures. This position is located in the Browning, MT Branch.

#### Credit Analyst

We are seeking a Credit Analyst to conduct credit analyses including gathering, analyzing, and interpreting all types of credit information on existing and prospective customers and portfolio. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office

#### For a detailed Job Announcements, please visit: www.nabna.com

NAB is an Equal Opportunity Employer with Native American Preference headquartered in Denver, CO. Member FDIC. Competitive salary & benefits are being offered based upon qualified experience and educational level. Send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to:

Attn: Deb Emhoolah, VP/HR, Native American Bank, N.A. 999 18th St, Ste 2460; Denver, CO 80202, Fax: 720-962-9455 or Email: employment@nabna.com. Employment background checks are required for these positions.



Native American Bank, N.A. | 999 18th Street, Suite 2460, Denver, CO 80202 FDIC www.nabna.com | 800.368.8894 Phone | 303.988.5533 Fax | (Browning, MT) 800.307.9199

#### Tule River Indian Tribe of CA

**Assistant Controller** Store Manger **Personal Trainer** Structure Firefighter Captain **Gaming Security Director Gaming Security Lieutenant Procurement Clerk Chief of Police** 

These positions are located in Porterville, CA. For more info contact Eilene, HR Recruiter at (559)781-4271 Ext. 1051 or hrclerk@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

#### **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

#### **SUB-BID ANNOUNCEMENT**

PROJECT: Pawnee Nation, Tribal

Ceremonial Roundhouse, Phase I 100,000 gallon standpipe upgrades & repair. **OWNER: Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma** NO CALLS TO OWNER. ARCHITECT: Anishinabe Design NO CALLS TO ARCHITECT. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER: Builder's Unlimited, Inc. 4677 S. 83rd E. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74145 (918)835-1138 Fax: (918)834-5865 Contacts: Glenna Clark, **Bid/Project Coordinator** for bid and document questions. gclarkbuitulsa@tulsacoxmail.com

PRE-BID DATE: Aug. 14, 2012 at 2:30 p.m., Meet at Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Conference Room, 881 Little Dee Drive then a site visit is scheduled immediately following. \*\*NOT MANDATORY, HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

BID DATE: Sealed proposals will be received until no later than 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 24, 2012.

INDIAN PREFERENCE DOES APPLY -MUST PROVIDE COPY OF CDIB CARD OR TERO CERTIFICATION WITH SEALED BID. PREVAILING WAGE DOES APPLY.

Sealed proposals shall be delivered to: **Pawnee Nation** c/o Builders Unlimited, Inc. 881 Little Dee Drive Pawnee, Ok. 74058

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

#### NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE? Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native American Times! Special rates through Dec. 31, 2012 for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

#### THE AMERICAN INDIAN **COLLEGE FUND**

Is currently seeking to fill the following position:

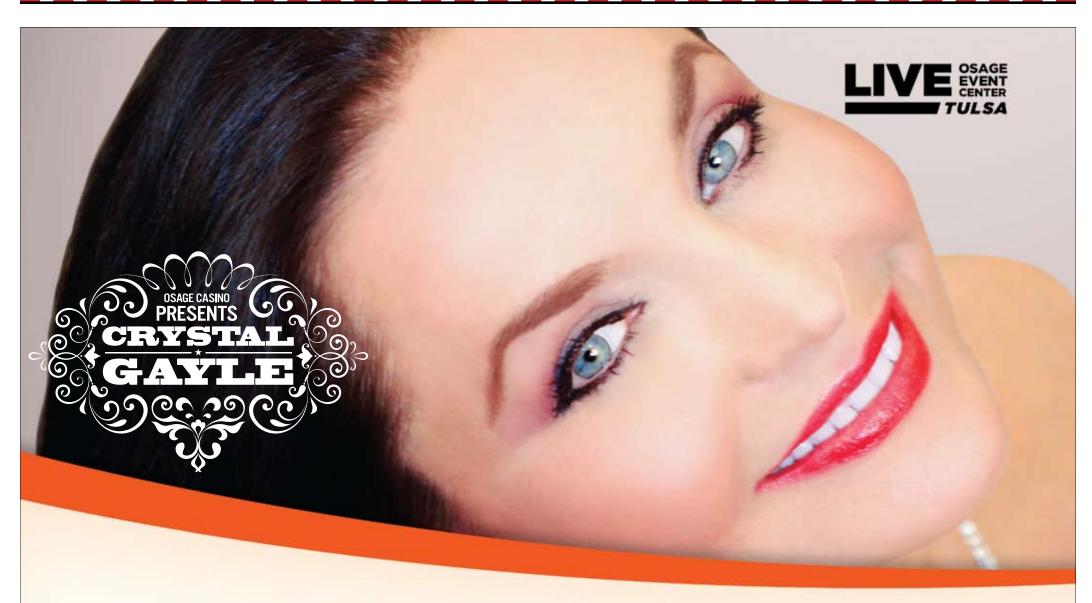
#### TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Full job description and application details visit our website at:

www.collegefund.org <About Us>

or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to:

applications@collegefund.org







#### CRYSTAL GAYLE Saturday, August 25 • 7 pm Tickets are \$25



#### Ticket Info

#### **Order your Event Center tickets** at osagecasinos.com!

Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.

4 miles from Downtown Tulsa • End of Tisdale Parkway

(918) 699-7777 osagecasinos.com

Find us on Facebook!

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.





## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact 
The Pawnee Service Unit information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

THIRD THURSDAY The Veterans' Administration The Native Nations Youth is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center meetings from 6:30pm to enroll all Native American and non-Indian Veterans for Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered

about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** cherokeeartistsassociation.org Modoc Tribal Citizens **Meeting at Wyandotte** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

> Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL Council (NNYC) bimonthly 8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 health care benefits the third S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**AUGUST 17-19 Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa Powwow of Champions** at Oral Roberts University, 7777 S. Lewis, Tulsa. Doors open 5pm Friday, 10am Sat and Sun. Call 918-378-4494 or 918-838-8276 for more information.

**AUGUST 18 Tulsa Creek Indian Community Garage Sale,** 8611 South Union, Tulsa, Ok, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Info call TCIC 918-298-2464, Paula Willits - 918-549-0543 or Carol McHenry Williams 918-520-9154.

**AUGUST 18 Eastern Shawnee Children's** Powwow, 12615 S. 705 Road, Wyandotte. Native dance competitions will include tiny tots and junior divisions. Call 918-666-7710.

**AUGUST 18 Cherokee Nation Bass Classic** from 6 a.m. to noon, at **Chicken Creek Campgrounds** on Lake Tenkiller. Features 50/50 drawings, door prizes and a plaque and cash prize for the biggest bass. Registration is \$100 per boat for two team members, including one adult and one youth, between the ages of

3-18. Participants 16 and up must have a fishing license. Lake bass regulations apply. Info call John Mouse at 918-822-2929.

**AUGUST 23-26** 136th Annual Ponca Pow-Wow at White Eagle Park, OK. For more info call (580) 401-3266 or (580) 401-0471.

**AUGUST 24-25 Lucky Star Casino Annual** Powwow, 101 N. Indian Hospital Rd, Clinton, Okla. Info call Issac Rhoads or **Danielle Cling** Phone: 580-323-6599 Email: irhoads@ luckystarcasino.org URL: www.luckystarcasino.

**AUGUST 28** Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Diabetes Awareness Summit** at Okemah First Baptist Church, 120 S. 6th Street, Okemah. Summit is free. Info call 918-636-8735.

**AUGUST 30- SEPTEMBER 3 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka **Homma Capitol Grounds.** Information call 800-522-6170.

**AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the **Cherokee Cultural Grounds,** Southwest of the tribal

complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

**AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and** Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

**SEPTEMBER 1-3 Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Labor Day Powwow, Colony Powwow Grounds, Colony,** Okla. Contest powwow, Handgame tournament. Info call Cinci Hill, 405-887-4689.

**SEPTEMBER 15 Dance for Life contest** powwow - a community event bringing awareness to suicide prevention in our communities and among our youth. Sponsored by the **Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma Teen Suicide Prevention** Program. Event will be held in the Comanche Nation **Community Center in** Apache, Oklahoma. More info call 405-247-5200 or email gmbeaver@att.net

SEPTEMBER 20-22 **Oklahoma Indian Summer** Celebration, 300 S.E. Adams Blvd., Bartlesville. Info call **Jenifer Pechonick** 918-331-0934

**SEPTEMBER 21-22 Inaugural Salina Powwow** at Salina High School Gymnasium, Salina, Okla. **Contact: Doug Simpson** Phone: 918-704-3786

Email: salinapowwowclub@ vahoo.com URL: http://www.facebook. com/salinapowwowclub

**OCTOBER 20 Pryor Powwow at** MidAmerica Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional -16 yrs and up; Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

**NOVEMBER 3 Bacone College Fall** Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

New at nativetimes.com **Enter your powwow** info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select Powwow Entry



### 60TH ANNUAL

# CHEROKEE

### NATIONAL HOLIDAY

#### TAHLEQUAH, OK • LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Celebrate the Cherokee legacy at the 60th Annual Cherokee National Holiday.

With over 50 events and attractions, including an intertribal powwow, traditional Cherokee games, free concerts and arts and crafts, the annual event celebrates the 1839 signing of the Cherokee Nation Constitution in Indian Territory.

For an event schedule and details, visit Holiday. Cherokee.org.

FROM ONE FIRE TO A PROUD FUTURE



CHEROKEE NATION®

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Cherokee chief won't veto hiring bill
- Chickasaw flute presented to Chinese monks
- Paiute first to represent USA at pageant









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 33

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**AUGUST 24, 2012** 

### Commission moves forward with DOI trust management review

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

WASHINGTON - A federal commission tasked with reviewing Department of Interior practices is getting its policies in place and moving forward with its critique.

Established in December 2009 and staffed in November 2011, the National Commission on Indian Trust Administration and Reform has 24 months to evaluate the Department of Interior's management and administration of its nearly \$4 billion in trust assets and recommend potential improvements.

"We need to develop what the relationship between the federal government, Indian Country is

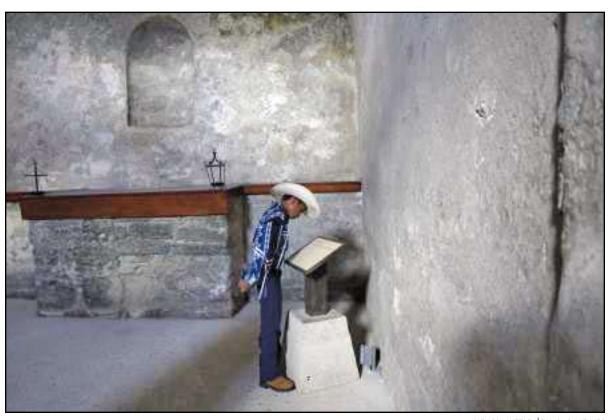
and what it means," commission chairwoman Fawn Sharp of the Washington-based Quinault Indian Nation. "We are trying to get the tribal perspective and incorporate it into this."

In an effort to get that perspective, the five commissioners have participated in individual outreach efforts across Indian Country, as well as hosting public meetings and webinars, including one Aug. 13 about developing the commission's own policies for outreach and documenting public feedback.

"I'm looking forward to hearing what the DOI thinks is the most urgent," commissioner Anderson from the Bois Forte Band of Minnesota Chippewas said

Monday. "I heard lot of comment from people on my travels about land consolidation program once Cobell takes effect. We need to grab hold of these specific issues and get things out there through a request for public input so people can tell us if we're on track or off base."

See DOI Continued on Page 4



MELISSA LYTTLE | TAMPA BAYTIMES

Tralin Enjady, 12, reads a plaque in the "Indian room" at Castillo de San Marcos. Tralin and others from the Mescalero reservation in New Mexico visited the St. Augustine fort where their Apache ancestors were imprisoned. He told his mom to take pictures for show-and-tell.

### In wake of teen suicides, Apache journey to Florida to learn ancestors' story of sacrifice

LANE DeGREGORY Tampa Bay Times

AUGUSTINE, Fla. (AP) - In the front of the charter bus, the two tribal elders were dozing. They had flown in from their New Mexico reservation late the night before and risen early to take the kids on this field trip. They had to save their strength to share their story.

The teenagers crowded the back of the bus, pressed against the wide windows, taking pictures: a palm tree, a giant golf ball, a statue of Mickey Mouse. "Where's the beach?" a boy in a white cowboy hat kept asking. "I want to go to the

Most of the young Apache had

never been to a beach, flown on a plane or seen anywhere as flat as Florida. They grew up on 700 square miles of mountains and Ponderosa pines, in FEMA trailers and cramped government houses.

The teenagers had come to Orlando for a mental health conference that would begin the next day. The elders had made them bring their ribbon shirts and camp dresses. But on this steamy July morning as the bus rumbled onto the interstate, the students had no idea where they were headed.

"Are we there yet?" asked the boy in the cowboy hat. His name is Tralin Enjady and he's 12. "Where are we going?"

The counselors wouldn't answer.

They knew this journey was going to be hard.

But if these young Apache could confront their past, if they could walk in the strained steps of their ancestors and feel the thick walls of the fort closing in, maybe they'd feel some pride and the elders wouldn't have to bury any more kids.

In the fall of 2010, in a span of six months, eight teenagers on the Mescalero reservation committed

The tribe has about 5,000 members and one school with 500 students. All of the teenagers on the charter bus knew a suicide victim: a 14-year-old cousin who hanged himself from his bunk

See APACHE Continued on Page 4

### Leaders share concerns about sacred sites

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - The Obama administration on Monday began reaching out to Native American political and spiritual leaders to address concerns over the protection of sacred sites on federal

 $Triballe a ders said they {\'refrustrated}.$ Some feel consultation between the federal government and tribes has become just a formality despite promises by the administration to improve discussions.

About four dozen tribal leaders

from New Mexico, Arizona and elsewhere packed a meeting room in Albuquerque for the first of a few listening sessions planned by the U.S. Interior Department.

Pointing to the importance of sacred sites to religious and cultural practices, the department is aiming to develop some kind of uniform policy for addressing the protection of such sites. That could mean a consultation policy specific to sacred sites or changes in law that would allow for greater protections, officials said.

Representatives of the Quechan

See SITES Continued on Page 2

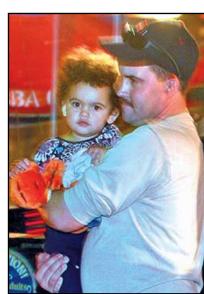
## Rehearing sought in Native American adoption case

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) - The South Carolina parents who adopted a Native American girl have asked a high court to reconsider its decision to send her back to Oklahoma.

Court officials confirm that the adoptive parents on Friday asked the South Carolina Supreme Court to rehear their case.

Last month, the court voted 3-2 to return the now-2-year-old girl to her biological father in Oklahoma. In its first decision weighing state adoption law against the federal Indian Child Welfare Act, the court wrote the adoptive family likely bonded in their time together but that the federal law gives custodial preference to the girl's father, a member of the Cherokee tribe.

No further details about the request were immediately available, and it wasn't clear when the court would decide if it would rehear the case.



Cherokee Nation citizen Dusten Brown holds his daughter Veronica in this undated Associated Press photo. Brown won custody rights of Veronica on July 26 when the South Carolina Supreme Court ruled in his favor over Veronica's adoptive parents, who are non-Indian.

## Artist shows off bobbleheads at Santa Fe Indian art market

KATHALEEN ROBERTS

Albuquerque Journal

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - Google "bobbleheads," and you'll come up with everyone from Einstein to Joe DiMaggio.

These pop culture mainstays have been around for at least 150 years, according to bobbleheads.com. In the 1920s, a New York Knicks basketball player bobblehead launched an avalanche of sports-related figures. All of the toys contained springconnected heads that bounced and nodded at the touch of a finger. By the 1970s, a bobblehead set of the Beatles became one of the most famous and rare of all time.

Cue to Cochiti Pueblo.

One night Jonathan Loretto (Cochiti-Jemez) was up late watching a Geico TV commercial. He watched the Geico gecko jump for joy after spotting a group of bobbleheads made in his

"I said, 'Boy, that's the happiest lizard I've ever seen," said Loretto, demonstrating his work at the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian on Monday. "I want to be that happy, too."

After multiple Googling and seemingly endless trips to the hardware and big-box crafts stores and back, he made his first hybrid piece about three years ago. He calls them "storyteller bobbleheads." Loretto sold his work at last weekend's Santa Fe Indian

He shapes the head separately from the body, beginning with a plastic foam ball from Hobby Lobby. He slices it in half, then inserts a spring and some wooden pegs using staples and glue. When Loretto demonstrates at the Wheelwright, the figures always produce a smile.

"People love them," he said. "They laugh."

Loretto's work is more than a joke. He combines traditional

See BOBBLEHEAD Continued on Page 4



Cochiti-Jemez artist Jonathan Loretto creates "storyteller" bobbleheads after being inspired by a television commercial. This one is called "Rainman."

### Cherokee Chief won't veto hiring bill

■ Although at least two councilors alluded to potential legal action while debating the bill on Aug. 13, no one has filed suit in tribal court as of close of business Aug. 17.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — A bill passed by the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council on Aug. 13 targeting non-Cherokee citizens in administrative positions will not be vetoed.

Despite a previous vow to veto the bill, Principal Chief Bill John Baker issued a statement last Friday afternoon that he would not take any action on it, citing an opinion issued Aug. 10 by Attorney General Todd Hembree and assistant Attorney General Robert Garcia stating the bill violates two clauses of the tribe's constitution, including the separation of powers clause.

"As the legislation passed requiring specific hires by the office of the chief is unconstitutional as determined by the nation's attorney general, I see no reason to sign it or veto it," Chief Baker said. "If the Council cares to challenge the separation of powers and work to diminish the stature and independence of the executive branch, then courts are the proper recourse."

Although at least two councilors alluded to potential legal action while debating the bill on Aug. 13, no one has filed suit in tribal court as of close of business Friday.

Sponsored by council member Dick Lay of Ochelata, Okla., the legislation specifically targets five positions: chief executive officer of Cherokee Nation Businesses, general counsel to the principal chief, executive director of communications, executive director of government relations and chief of staff.

According to the Cherokee Nation constitution, any bill not signed within five days of receipt in administration is automatically



Chief Bill John Baker

enacted. This legislation was enacted with an emergency clause, which means it goes into effect immediately, but will not be applied retroactively to existing contracts.

Of the five positions listed in the bill, four are within Baker's administration. They are not specifically mentioned in the tribe's constitution and are not subject to confirmation by the Tribal Council.

At the time of the bill's passage, chief of staff was the only position staffed by a Cherokee Nation citizen, with Chuck Hoskin Sr., filling the

Until Aug. 17, Kalyn Free, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation, was general counsel to the principal chief. In Baker's statement, he announced Free voluntarily relinquished the

On Aug. 16, Amanda Clinton, director of communications for Cherokee Nation Businesses, replaced former Osage Nation chief Jim Gray as communications director. A Cherokee Nation citizen originally from Kenwood, Okla., Clinton will maintain her title with CNB while overseeing the tribe's communications department.

A spokeswoman for Cherokee Nation confirmed Saturday night via e-mail that Gray is still executive director of government relations and Free is still under contract with Cherokee Nation and CNB. Free's new title was not disclosed.

Free and Gray declined to comment on the legislation and Hoskin Sr. could not be reached.

The Cherokee Nation and CNB both employ Cherokee-preference in their hiring processes. As of Aug. 13, more than two-thirds of Cherokee Nation Businesses' employees are Cherokee citizens.

CNB's board of directors is in the process of reviewing applications for a successor to former CEO David Stewart. Interim CEO and Executive Vice President Shawn Slaton is not a Cherokee Nation citizen. Requests for comment from Slaton and CNB board chairman Sam Hart were not returned.

As of the council's last Rules Committee meeting on July 26, 225 applications had been received for the position, but according to Speaker Tina Glory-Jordan, fewer than 10 were from Cherokee Nation

"Normally we do not step on hires made by the principal chief," atlarge council member Julia Coates said during debate at the Aug. 13 Tribal Council meeting. "However, I believe the positions described in this legislation should be held by citizens."

Along with Coates and Lay, councilors Buel Anglen, Jack Baker, Cara Cowan Watts, Jodie Fishinghawk, Don Garvin, Lee Keener and David Thornton voted for the bill. Councilors Glory-Jordan, Joe Byrd, Meredith Frailey, Janelle Fullbright, Frankie Hargis, Chuck Hoskin Jr., Curtis Snell and David Walkingstick voted against it, with several citing constitutionality

"I believe it (the bill) is unconstitutional, as the executive power is vested with the principal chief," Frailey said. "It is within his realm to appoint, employ and nominate candidates he considers capable of performing responsibilities.

"This act will set a precedent. If the Tribal Council requires administrative positions to be enrolled Cherokee Nation citizens, should we require the legislative branch to do that? The judicial branch? Our business entities? I understand and respect the intent behind this, but

I disagree and think we are overreaching."

### **Poarch Creek casino draws** criticism from Creek Nation

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

WETUMPKA, Ala. proposed casino expansion by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians has come under fire from another tribe over concerns of grave exhumation.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, headquartered in Okmulgee, Okla., is protesting the location of the Alabama tribe's proposed \$246 million expansion project, claiming it desecrates Hickory Ground, the last pre-removal capital of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council. In 2007, the two tribes signed a memorandum of understanding that the grounds, which were added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, would be preserved "in perpetuity."

"The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is committed to protecting the burial and ceremonial grounds of our ancestors," Principal Chief George Tiger said. "We have attempted to convey to the Poarch Band why it is wrong to disturb the peace of our ancestors and burial grounds. However, the Poarch Band does not seem to share our cultural

values and respect our traditional

In a statement released Aug. 12, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians denied the Oklahoma tribe's concerns, claiming the proposed site is outside the ceremonial grounds.

"As an Indian nation with close cultural, if not familial ties to the Muscogee Nation, we are disappointed by recent statements that do not accurately reflect Poarch's efforts to maintain the site and preserve a relationship with the Muscogee Nation," Robbie McGhee, the tribe's treasurer and head of the government affairs office, said. "We have honored our agreement to preserve the ceremonial ground, just as we honor the history and cultural significance of our shared heritage."

The expansion project includes plans for a 20-story hotel with 285 rooms, a full-scale casino with more than 2,500 electronic gaming machines, a resort-style pool and space for live entertainment.

The only federally-recognized tribe in Alabama, the 3,000-citizen Poarch Band of Creek Indians also operates casinos in Montgomery, Ala., and Atmore, Ala.

"We have attempted to convey to the Poarch Band why it is wrong to disturb the peace of our ancestors and burial grounds. However, the Poarch Band does not seem to share our cultural values and respect our traditional ways."

- Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger



**Chief George Tiger** 

### Osage voters reject proposed constitutional amendments

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

PAWHUSKA, Okla. — Osage voters rejected four proposed Constitutional amendments Aug. 13.

In order to be adopted, each amendment had to receive at least 65 percent of the vote. Although each amendment received at least 50 percent, none received the required supermajority.

The results became official Aug. 17 after unanimous acceptance by the Osage Nation Election Board.

Absentee ballots outnumbered in-person votes by an almost 2-to-1 margin. Among the 1,479 ballots cast, 455 were cast in person Aug. 13 at the tribe's Congressional Chambers.

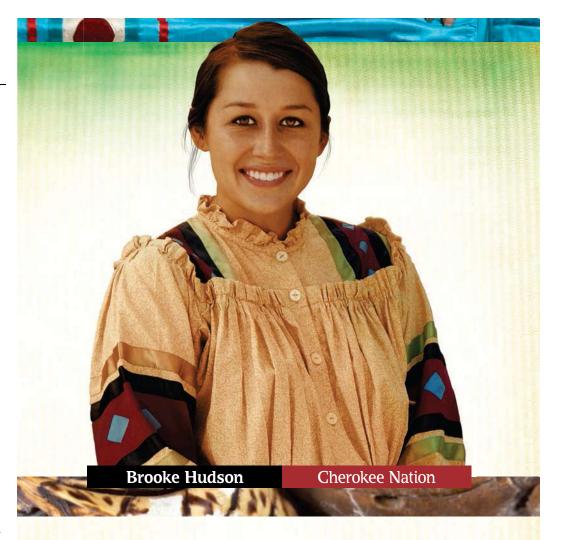
The first resolution, ONCA 11-12, would have removed the council from the Osage Nation's executive branch, similar to the Osage Nation Congress or the tribe's judiciary. However, the amendment, as written, does not state whether the council would be a fourth branch of government. It received 804 votes, or 54.55 percent.

The second resolution, ONCA 11-13, would have allowed the Minerals Council to enact its own election code and carry out its own elections. It received 815 votes, or 55.18

The third resolution, ONCA 11-14, would have given the eight-member council the sole authority to lease and develop the tribe's mineral estate. It received 831 votes, or 56.22 percent.

The fourth proposed amendment, ONCA 10-19, would have prohibited the Osage Nation Congress from passing any laws that would tax royalty income generated by the tribe's mineral estate. It would have also banned any taxes on the production and transportation of minerals within the tribe's mineral estate.

The tribe owns the mineral rights for all of Osage County and receives income for all oil and natural gas found within the 1.47-million acre county.



## Honor what is SACRE

### **Quit Commercial Tobacco**

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

Continued from Page

Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation complained Monday about renewable energy projects on federal land being fast-tracked by the administration without adequate review of potential effects on sacred sites.

Mandatory consultation meetings have not resulted in any protections and the tribe feels it is being "stonewalled" by high-level federal officials, said John Bathke, the tribe's historic preservation officer.

"These projects, they're going on with complete disregard to Indians. It's like we don't have any say." Bathke said, explaining that siting

of the projects is more about spirituality than land planning for many tribes.

"These renewable energy projects are part of a re-election campaign and we don't want to see this administration get re-elected at the expense of sacred sites, at the expense of native culture."

As part of gauging Indian Country's concerns with current protections of sacred sites, the agency has asked tribes to comment on whether it should attempt to define the term "sacred site."

Santa Ana Pueblo Gov. Ernest Lujan said that would be near impossible, especially considering future legal ramifications that could come from adopting a narrow definition.

"We're not only looking at

a hillside or rock feature," he said. "We're looking at water, we're looking at land, we're looking at plants."

Dion Killsback, counselor to the assistant secretary of Indian Affairs, acknowledged that developing a policy for addressing sacred sites is made even more difficult giventhesecrecysurrounding many native religious and cultural practices.

Killsback said the goal is to find a way to "bridge the gap" by including tribal leaders at the outset of projects so some kind of balance can be worked out that respects tribal beliefs but allows for projects to move forward.

Meetings on sacred sites are also planned later this month in Montana, Minnesota and Connecticut.

## Chickasaw flute presented to Shaolin Temple

neat connection."

**CHICKASAW NATION** Media Relations Office

ADA, Okla. – Chickasaws Jack and Wendell Pettigrew, making flutes was as natural a part of growing up as making their own fishing poles.

"When you'd go fishing, you didn't go out and buy a fancy fishing pole. You got a cane pole and put a line on it and Buddhism.

"There are Kung Fu tourists who go there," said Butler. "But to a lot of people this Abbott is like the Pope, because this temple is the birthplace of that style of Buddhism."

Butler said that as a student of Kung Fu, he recognized similarities between Chen Buddhism practiced by Shaolin monks and the Native American culture he is familiar

As it happens, his idea of presenting a Chickasaw flute as a gift opened the door to the monastery. "It was just kind of a spur

of the moment thought before I left - maybe I should take them a gift kind of thing," said Butler. "It turns out if I hadn't come up with that idea, if I hadn't thought about it, I never would have even been able to talk to the Shaolin."

Knowing he wanted a very special flute for the presentation, he went to his friends Jack and Wendell Pettigrew.

"I was blown away by the flutes he showed me," said Butler. "But there was no way I could afford anything like that. So I purchased a small one."

Thinking he would have to make do with the smaller flute, Butler was about to drive away when Jack Pettigrew stopped him to offer a larger flute as a gift.

"I felt that giving (the Abbott) a traditional flute would be more appropriate," said Jack. "So we thought it would be nice to just present him with a flute with a Chickasaw design."

Design elements included a wolf, paw prints, the southeastern symbol representing water, bead work made of porcupine quills and an eagle. Wendell said that some of the design elements came from the mounds in the Chickasaw homelands.

"This flute that he gave me was museum quality," said Butler. "It just blew me away. It was absolutely beautiful."

While Butler was pleased he had a fine gift to present to the

temple, there was some doubt he would ever get to make the presentation. When he first made the request to present a gift to the temple, his tour guide was very skeptical about his chances of meeting with one of the monks.

"She called back after she got the message and said that she didn't think that would be possible," he said. "She had been doing the tours for 12 years and she had never talked to the Shaolin directly.

"She said 'they are really busy and don't concern themselves with tourists. The students are the ones who do the Kung-Fu display. You probably won't even see a real Shaolin."

While Butler disappointed, he persisted.

"Then I told her it was a Native American gift from the Chickasaw Nation and I had made a promise to put it into the hands of a Shaolin monk and I wanted to make sure it got to the temple," he said. "I want to present it to the temple. It doesn't have to be the Abbott, but I would like it to be the Abbott.

"She said 'I have a number for the Abbott's secretary, I can call and see what happens."

Within an hour, the tour guide called back to say that the Abbott was very excited about the gift. While the Abbott was out of the country, he asked if Butler could delay his departure so the Abbott could receive the gift personally.

When Butler told her that was not possible, the Abbott appointed one of the monks to receive the gift. That monk brought a gift of prayer beads for Butler in exchange.

"I had a letter I had written

out about the flute," he said. "My wife had translated it into Chinese. I printed it in both English and Chinese and gave it to them. The interpreter was telling them a little about the flute.

"The monk said it was a great honor for the temple to receive the gift. He said they felt a connection with the Native Americans. They believe the Native Americans and the Chinese share common ancestors."

When they went outside the temple to exchange gifts, Butler received an impromptu Kung Fu demonstration of

"The monk was going to put the beads in my hands and a tourist kind of pushed in between us and was going to try to snatch the beads, because he thought it was one of the vendors dressed like a monk," Butler said. "I learned one thing – never try to snatch anything from a Shaolin

"There was this blur - he spun the guy around and headed him down the stairs and the bracelet was on my hand before I knew what happened," he said with a chuckle.

When Butler returned, he presented the prayer beads to Jack and Wendell Pettigrew, who said that it gave them a sense of satisfaction to know that their work is in a place of prominence in the temple in China.

"I've always had this feeling that you've got to make your mark on this life somewhere," said Jack. "That's one of the reasons we do this art work. You want to leave your mark on life somewhere."



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

#### NATIVE TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN Karen Shade

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.con

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

> > Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country -





#### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



David Butler presents the Chickasaw flute to a monk at the Shaolin temple near Zhengzhou, China.

that's how you fished," said Jack. "You would make flutes out of cane or whatever you could find. They would even use stalks of Castor beans."

At the time, they would have never imagined that one of their flutes would be presented to a Shaolin Monastery in China.

Today, Jack and Wendell Pettigrew, owners "JW Custom Flutes" are known for making a connection to musical instruments that are also fine works of art.

For David Butler, one of those flutes served as a ticket Americans. into a Shaolin Monastery in China.

Butler was planning to visit relatives in China, and hoped to meet with the Abbott or one of the monks at the monastery near Zhengzhou, China during his trip.

While the temple is well known for the Kung Fu martial arts style practiced by the monks there, Butler said it is even better known for Chen

with through friends such as Jack and Wendell Pettigrew.

"I'm not a student of Buddhism or anything, but I've always a connection to Native Americans and to the Shaolin," said Butler. "I've found my spirituality through nature. I've found a lot of similarity to that with Native

"So that is what gave me the idea of taking a Native American gift over there. I knew it would be something that would be new to them that they wouldn't have, but at the same time, it would be something familiar and it would be a really



David Butler presents prayer beads from the Shaolin Temple in China to Jack (left) and Wendell Pettigrew.

### PEARY L. ROBERTSON

ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

**INDIAN LAW PROBATE ADOPTIONS** RESTRICTED LAND

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY** 

**ISSUES** 



J.D, Oklahoma City University; MBA, Cameron University; B.B.A. (Economics), University of Oklahoma

1700 N. MILT PHILLIPS AVENUE, SEMINOLE, OKLAHOMA

VISIT US AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PEARYROBERTSON

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS. Visit online at www.nativetimes.com



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork **Big Brothers Big Sisters** Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

### **BOBBLEHEADS**

Continued from Dage

pueblo figures with basic bobblehead technology. His first piece was a traditional Cochiti drummer. He's also made traditional female singers.

His repertoire includes a bobblehead "rainman" and a bobblehead "pumpkin," each painted intraditional symbols incorporating jewelry, headbands, moccasins and sometimes drums. He was recently awarded a Rollin and Mary Ella King Fellowship at the School for Advanced Research. He wants to create a Catholic priest bobblehead.

a Catholic priest bobblehead. Collectors can't resist playing with them.

"They'll display them in their homes, but they like to play around with them a lot," Loretto said.

At the Wheelwright, a row of his moving clay figures lines the back of a display table. They range from the ubertraditional (pueblo singers) to figures with a decidedly contemporary bent. There's "Batman," complete with the "Dark Knight" logo splashed across his chest.

"I try to keep up with the times," he said.

A "Music Man" incorporates a traditional pueblo belt, but a galaxy of stars, treble clefs and quarter notes spangle his chest. A tribal tattoo embellishes his right arm.

The piece could be semi-

autobiographical. Between building, painting and firing, he plays the guitar – specifically Dylan, Hendrix and U2.

The more traditional figures incorporate Mimbres designs and traditional pueblo clothing. A corn mother figure comes with a tiny ear of corn and a grinding stone. A kneeling female in prayer wears a gold medallion and comes with a tiny blanketed baby to be placed at her feet or cradled in her arms.

"I was thinking about how much the Catholic Church has impacted pueblo society," he said. "They kneel down and pray. It's that spiritual connection between that person and their God."

And canteens are a new item he started making about two months ago as a break between bobbleheads. He decorates them with Mimbres designs or a more contemporary face: Mickey Mouse. Corn husks sprout from the spout, while multicolored parrot feathers dangle from a braided leather strap.

He gathers the red clay from a spot off Interstate 25 and La Bajada. The paints are a mixture of traditional and commercial pigments to ensure that they adhere properly. He polishes each piece thoroughly with a stone before firing to rid it of all

cracks.

"In the spring of this year, I had three pieces bust on me," he said. "Sometimes, it's moisture. Sometimes it's the clay itself. There's not too much (you can) control. It's a lot of faith. It humbles you."

He fires his pieces with pinon and cedar, using both a kiln and the traditional outdoor pueblo firing.

"They don't come to life until I do the outdoor firing," he explained. "The fire element touches life into it. When you just have a kiln fire, it's too commercial. There's no zest. It's the soot that imbues itself into the piece."

Before turning to clay, Loretto worked in construction and made jewelry. But silver and turquoise can be pricey.

He started making pinch pots as a cash-strapped teen after walking past the artists under the Palace of the Governors portal.

"It clicked to me that these people weren't paying for their material because it was free," he said. As he slowly grew from pinch pots to the Native coil method, he consulted with his cousin, famed Cochiti potter Diego Romero. Soon he was creating bowls.

"I tried a couple of storytellers, but it never really stuck with me," he added.

Then Ralph Lauren hired Loretto to make a line of concha belts. Oprah Winfrey bought one. But Loretto soon tired of the factory-like atmosphere of the production line. He made from 500 to 700 a month.

"It was just cutting, cutting metal and soldering," he said. "I went back into construction."

He doesn't mind teaching other potters his methods; he doesn't care if anyone copies him.

He'll gladly take commissions. So far, no one has asked for DiMaggio.

"I'm not selfish," he said.

"I don't put too many boundaries on art." Loretto's bobbleheads sell for \$900-\$1,500. The canteens are \$300.

Loretto studied at the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute and the Institute of American Indian Arts. When he was making iewelry, he worked with noted designers like Bagley & Hotchkiss and Ralph Lauren. His work has been featured at the Wheelwright, at IAIA, the Tower Gallery in Pojoaque, the Hui'noeau Visual Arts Center in Hawaii and at the Vermont Studio Center. He made his Indian Market debut in 2011.



"Pumpkin"

### DOI

Continued from Page 1

The Department of Interior is responsible for 56 million surface acres and 57 million acres of subsurface mineral estates for 384,000 Individual Indian Money accounts and 2,900 accounts for more than 250 tribes nationwide. In 2011, about \$400 million in funds from leases, use permits, land sales and income from financial assets were collected for the Individual Indian Money accounts under the Department of Interior. An additional \$609 million was collected for the 2,900 tribal accounts.

In addition to the commissioners' individual outreach efforts, the commission is in the process of developing and rolling out a social media plan. Among the platforms that will be utilized are Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Vimeo.

"It was really refreshing to meeting with our younger generation at the UNITY (United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc.) national convention," Sharp said. "Hopefully we will be able to better connect with them once we get our social media campaign up and rolling."

The commission's next public meeting is scheduled for Sept. 13-14 in Bismarck, N.D. More information is available through the Department of Interior's website, www.doi. gov

### **APACHE**

Continued from Page 1

bed, a 15-year-old girl who committed the same desperate act behind her aunt's house.

"I lost so many friends, one after another. I spent my junior year going to funerals," said Whitney Balderrama, 19. "They even had a blessing at our school in case an evil spirit was going through it."

The tribal government declared a state of emergency. What would make all these kids take their lives in such a short time? Most of them came from caring families. Investigators found they hadn't been drinking or using drugs. There was no suicide pact.

Native leaders called in mental health expert Greg Powers, who once ran the reservation's hospital and had since retired to Gulfport in Pinellas County. He helped the Apache apply for a federal grant to receive intensive counseling and suicide prevention services.

The \$6 million, six-year grant includes funds for an equine therapy program, teacher training and travel. It paid for the trip to the Orlando conference, where the kids would present videos about reservation life. And it enabled the Apache to bring along Maria Yellow Horse Braveheart, an associate professor at the University of New Mexico.

She believes the suicides stem, in part, from something she calls historical trauma.

"Generations of genocide, colonization, imprisonment, all of that trauma trickles down and leads to other issues," said Braveheart, who has studied and written about the issue for more than 20 years.

When the government systematically attacks a culture – when it uproots people, murders or jails them and steals their land – the disruption ripples through generations. Examples include Holocaust survivors, Japanese-Americans who were held in internment camps – and American Indians, Braveheart said.

"It's empowering for people to know what happened in the past," she said. "If they can understand where their issues are coming from, they have less self-blame and are less likely to succumb to substance abuse, anger and self-destruction."

Ofcourse, American Indians battle other, current issues: isolation, unemployment, poverty. Some of the Apache don't own cars, so they seldom leave the reservation. Many struggle to find even minimum-wage jobs. More than 70 percent qualify for Medicaid – and only 5 percent graduate from high school.

What's left of their culture is fading fast: These teenagers don't know their native language or how to ride a horse. But through computers and cable TV, they know all about hip-hop and hot rods, baggy jeans and bling, things they want to be a part of. But nothing that is a part of them.

"All of those factors, combined with how these kids are affected by their history, can lead to deep depression and despair," said Powers.

Some of the young Apache had heard of their ancestor Geronimo, how he was hated and imprisoned, his family hauled away. But none knew about the boxcars and boarding school. Or that towering shell fort in Florida.

After two hours on the bus, the teenagers tumbled out onto a narrow sidewalk in St. Augustine and found themselves surrounded by T-shirt shops.

"Where are we?" asked Tralin, the boy in the cowboy hat. "Where are we going?"

Counselors led the kids across the road to a winding path that climbed above the shore. In front of them loomed a 17th century fort with four diamond-shaped bastions jutting into the bay.

Tralin looked down at foamy waves lapping the sand. "Look at all that water!" he cried. "Is that the beach?"

A park ranger approached the 25 Apache and welcomed them to Castillo de San Marcos. "I know this will be controversial for some Native Americans, especially those of you who had ancestors here," said the ranger, Jill Jaworski.

"But I want you all to feel free to wander through the rooms. And know that we're installing new exhibits soon, ones that include your perspective. We're even going to enclose that Apache fire spirit in glass."

The teenagers didn't seem to hear. They were too busy taking pictures of the beach below. The elders looked at each other. What was an Apache fire spirit?

The ranger led them through a gate, past a gift shop, into the grassy center of the fort. "Is there a place they can change?" asked elder Bonna Dell Ortega, 68. She wanted the teenagers to wear their native dress so they would feel more connected to the history they were about to hear.

So the young Apache split off into the bathrooms, where the boys took off their backward baseball caps and pulled on long-sleeved shirts rimmed with ribbons. The girls pulled floor-length satin skirts over their jeans. Trinity Enjady, 14, forgot her moccasins; her Chuck Taylor high-tops flapped beneath her ceremonial dress.

"This way," said a counselor. "The elders are waiting."

In a corner of the fort, next to the powder magazine, an arched entry opened into a dark, vaulted room. There was no sign outside; the National Park Service map doesn't name this place. When someone asked the ranger, she said, "We just call it the Indian room."

The teenagers filed inside silently, staring at the rough walls made of coquina shells, peering through the metal bars striping the windows. It was hot in there, especially in their long sleeves and skirts.

"Please join hands," said Ortega. "Our people who came here always prayed to their creator, so we're going to open with our Apache prayer."

In 1886 U.S. troops rounded up the Apache and removed them from their native land in New Mexico.

"Our people were the last ones. Geronimo was their leader," Ortega said. He eluded capture for years, moving his people among the mountains. But the Army kept sending more soldiers and killing more Apache. "Finally," Ortega said, "he thought it would be best if he gave up. He wasn't captured. He surrendered, so his people could survive."

Troops forced 506 Apache into boxcars, mostly women and children. "Packed them in like cattle," said Ortega, whose great-grandfather was on the train. "They didn't know where they were going. And whenever they stopped, they were looked at as animals in a cage."

The train took them all the way to Florida, so they wouldn't be tempted to run home. Geronimo and 14 of his men were imprisoned at Fort Pickens in Pensacola. The rest "were brought here, to this fort, and kept in this very room," said Ortega. "Think of how hot this is; they had no airconditioning or bathrooms. Can you imagine living here? We are all descendants of people who suffered here."

One of the counselors held her hands to her face. The other elder wiped her eyes. But the teenagers had moved to the edge of the stuffy room and were standing in the doorway. Trinity was leaning against the wall, looking bored. Andrew Tsosie, 14, was texting.

"We are a strong people. We endured so much. Be proud of your past, and who you are," Ortega said. "Know where you came from and what others sacrificed for you."

The young Apache didn't seem to be listening when the elder talked about how, finally, guards let the prisoners move to the fort's top wall and erect makeshift teepees overlooking the water. They seemed unmoved when she explained that their ancestors built fires to try to make the Army rations taste more familiar.

"After two years, they put our people back on a train to take them to a fort out West," Ortega said. "But some of them didn't make it; 24 died here, of tuberculosis."

She began to talk about the children, and the teenagers looked up from the doorway. Andrew put down his phone.

"Guards ripped the children from their parents and sent them on another train, to Pennsylvania, to the Carlisle school for Indians, where they had to learn how to live in the white man's world."

The other elder, Dorene Fernando, 67, stood up and forced a slight smile. "But their prayers and their faith helped them, and if they hadn't held on, we wouldn't be here today," she said. "I tell you, their spirits are still here, making us stronger."

making us stronger."

When the teens ran to change out of their ceremonial outfits, one of the counselors stayed behind in the arched room. Clay Geronimo, 24, left the reservation to go to college, then returned to work in the new equine therapy program.

He had noticed something on the side wall. He leaned in and saw that someone had carved a face of a man wearing a pointed hat. "A crown dancer," gasped

"A crown dancer," gasped Geronimo, great-great-grandson of the leader. The outline was chiseled deep into the wall. The ranger had called the figure a fire spirit, but Geronimo knew it symbolized strength. It must have been a blessing, encouraging the Apache inmates to hold on.

"That took a long time," said Geronimo. He reached out and placed his right palm on the rough wall, beside the message from his ancestors, and whispered, "Thank you."

In the front of the charter bus, the two tribal elders were dozing.

The teenagers in the back were quiet. No one was taking pictures. "That made me sad," said Joe Little-Youngman, 15. "I kept thinking, what if my dad had been there? But it was also kind of exciting, I mean, that they didn't die there."

Trinity said she had never heard that part of her heritage. "It sounded like the Holocaust," she said. "I didn't know that happened to our people, too."

When the bus stopped outside a seafood restaurant, across the street from the Atlantic, all of the adults headed inside. But the teenagers lingered, looking longingly at the waves. "That's the beach, isn't it?" Tralin asked. "I want to go to the beach."

Geronimo told the other counselors he wasn't hungry, that he would take the teens to see the water.

So there on the shore near where their ancestors had suffered, on the sand those prisoners never got to tread, the young Apache kicked off their Converse, rolled up their Wranglers and, laughing, waded into the waves.

### SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00
Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

### CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00 **918-696-0407** 

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2

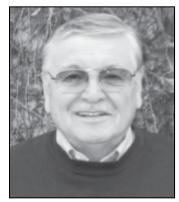
Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960



## COMMENTARY

## The word 'Honoring' should've read 'Remembering'



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

A faulty headline can they knew him. change the entire focus of a news story.

One year ago two Rapid City police officers were shot to death and a third wounded by a Lakota man named Daniel Tiger. A one year memorial anniversary was held by police officers at the site of the him from since before there shooting last week to honor the fallen officers.

relatives decided to hold their own memorial for Daniel block away from where the a local Native newspaper turned out be misleading police memorial was held. honored the man who and inflammatory, the news Martin, S. D. was found under word "Honoring" instead UnitySoDak1@knology.net

community. There had been just this one?" reports of uneasiness between since the shooting.

by the local media since the honor him. shooting and many Lakota

Association remembered his friend. He said, "He was more American newspaper that than just my cousin, he was my little brother. We grew up together; we both came from broken homes. I remember was a Head Start we attended. Several Lakota friends and I can't tell you how close I was Indian Movement was holding to Daniel."

Police Chief Steve Allender true. Tiger. They held it about a tweeted "I am disturbed that

Rapid City Police Department for Native Sun News. The headline read, "Honoring A Lakota woman named Daniel Tiger" when it should Jenn Ghost Bear memorialized have read, "Remembering Tiger with a prayer and grief Daniel Tiger." The gathering song in the Lakota language. of Native Americans that day Tiger had been demonized was to "remember" Tiger, not

If Chief Allender had read people who knew him well the article instead of only wanted to remember him as the headline, he would have understood what happened Tad Montgomery, head in the Native community of the Sioux Addition Civic that day and he would not have besmirched a Native was only covering the Indian community. Native Sun News was the only media present at the Lakota ceremony because the word had been spread by the other media and the police We grew up in the same family. department that the American the ceremony. That was not

Aside from a headline that

The editor of Native Sun News murdered two of our police article itself was a direct the 6th Street Bridge on May of "Remembering" in its and staff writer Karin Eagle officers last year." He then report of the feelings that had attended the memorial for added, "Guess I should read it spread throughout most of Tiger in order to get some and decide how I feel. But did the Indian community. They feedback from the Indian they honor other murderers or were remembering a young man most of them knew, Therein was the mistake not the man who shot and the Indian community and the made by the headline writer killed to white police officers. There is a lot of difference between "honoring" and "remembering" and the new and young staff at the Native 1998; Timothy Bull Bear, Sr., Sun News learned a valuable

> and the law enforcement departments in Rapid City goes back a hundred years or more. The failure of the George Hatton, 56, 1998, Dirk police departments, which includes the Rapid City Police Department and the Pennington County Sheriff's Department, to hire qualified Native Americans to serve alongside of their majority white police officers in an ongoing point of contention.

> Since 1998, 11 unsolved deaths have sullied the investigative capabilities of the Rapid City police. Most of the deaths were Native Americans or homeless people who could have been mistaken as Native. Ben Long Wolf, age 36 of Native newspaper chose the

died as a result of four gunshot wounds on November 12, 1998. Randell Two Crow, age 48, was found near the East Blvd. Bridge on December 8, 1998; Lauren Two Bulls, age 33, was found downstream of the East Blvd. Bridge on December 9, age 47, was found in Rapid Creek near Orchard Lane on Tension between Indians July 6, 1999 and Allen Hough, age 42 was found near South Valley Drive on July 4, 1998.

Other deaths included Bartling, 44, 1999, Arthur Chamberlain, 45, 1999, Lonnie Isham, 43, 1999, Wilbur G. Johnson, 41, 2000, all of them allegedly homeless men. Nearly all were found dead in Rapid Creek or nearby.

the Pine Ridge Reservation still remain unsolved and this leads many Native Americans wondering if these deaths are getting the same attention as were white.

headlines last week, but it Royce Yellow Hawk, age 26, is also untoward that Chief Allender chose to speak out on twitter with his inflammatory tweets without ever reading the article he smeared.

> There is still a divide between the Native community and the Rapid City law enforcement departments and when the Chief of Police makes heated comments over an article he did not even read, he only puts wood on the fire.

"Did they (Native Sun News) honor any other murderers or just this one" was totally uncalled for from Chief Allender. He owes the newspaper an apology.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Numerous deaths on or near Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1991. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. He would be applied if the victims was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame and the It was unfortunate that a South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame. He can be reached at

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## Judge throws out lawsuit over Fighting Sioux name

■ Supporters of the nickname are pressing for another proposed constitutional amendment that would require UND's sports teams to be known as the Fighting Sioux.

DAVE KOLPACK **Associated Press** 

FARGO, N.D. (AP) - A federal judge has relegated the political fight over the University of North Dakota's Fighting Sioux to the history books, but supporters of the retired moniker say they won't back down.

U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson, in a judgment posted last earlier this month, threw out a lawsuit by six American Indian students at UND, saying the overwhelming statewide vote in June against the nickname and the state Board of Higher Education's clear intent to retire the logo renders many points in the lawsuit meaningless.

"While some last gasps of further political action are still echoing across the state, it appears that as a political issue, the 'Fighting Sioux' nickname and logo dispute has been resolved and the losing position consigned to the dust heap of history," the judge said.

Supporters of the nickname are pressing for another constitutional amendment that would requireUND's sports teams to be known as the Fighting Sioux. Those gathering petitions for the second initiated measure said Tuesday they would not submitting signatures by midnight Wednesday, which is the deadline for the November ballot.

But they vow to press on and say they aren't swayed by Erickson's assessment.

"As a judge, it is his prerogative to issue his personal opinions from the bench," said Sean Johnson, spokesman for two groups in favor of the nickname. "Since this court case did not involve us, we are not bound to that opinion, however."

They have until Dec. 12 to turn in 27,000 signatures to Secretary of State Al Jaeger in order to make the next ballot in June 2014.

Johnson said the Spirit Lake Committee for Understanding and Respect and the Fighting Sioux Ballot Measures Committee did not want the nickname issue to be lumped in with other ballot measures set for November that "were not apparent when we first started our efforts."

Tim O'Keefe, head of the UND Alumni Association and Foundation, which campaigned against the first measure, said that plans for another referendum "are not only ill-advised, they become malicious attempts to damage UND, its students, studentathletes and reputation."

UND students Amber Annis, Lisa Casarez, William Crawford, Sierra Davis, Robert Rainbow, Margaret Scott, Franklin Sage and Janie Schroeder filed their lawsuit in August 2011. They alleged the nickname has had "a profoundly negative impact" on their self-image and psychological health, and has deprived them "of an equal educational experience and environment."

The lead attorney for the students, Carla Fredericks, a New York attorney and enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes in North Dakota, did not return a phone message left last week by The Associated Press.

Erickson said the lawsuit does not prove direct discrimination by the state or "deliberate indifference" to rights violations.

The judge earlier this year dismissed a separate lawsuit against the NCAA by nickname supporters at the Spirit Lake and Standing Rock Sioux tribes, who claimed they were not included in the discussions when the NCAA and the state negotiated a settlement agreement to retire the logo. That case is now before the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

UND was one of the last colleges standing in the nickname debate that started in 2005 when the NCAA listed 19 schools with American Indian nicknames, logos and mascots it deemed to be "hostile and abusive." UND sued the NCAA, which led to the settlement.

A law requiring the school to keep the moniker was repealed eight months after it took effect last year, after the NCAA refused to budge on sanctions. Nickname supporters gained enough signatures to put the issue on the June ballot, where more than two-thirds of voters chose to dump the moniker.

Duaine Espegard, president of the state Board of Higher Education and a resident of Grand Forks, where UND is located, had little reaction to the latest action on the nickname.

"The people of North Dakota have spoken and the university is moving forward," Espegard said.

## NAW'S OKLAHOM*A* **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single copy
Mail this form with a check or money order to:

Native American Times • P.O. Box 411

Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

## **Keetoowahs release** unofficial candidate list, election Nov. 5

**MARILYN CRAIG** UKB News Release

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - The United Keetoowah Band Election Board closed filings for the 2012 election cycle Tuesday at 6 p.m. with 30 people throwing their names into the hat to run the tribe.

This year's election is for the four officer positions with four-year terms and the nine district representative positions with two-year terms.

Incumbents Eddie Sacks, Canadian district representative, Jerry Hansen, Delaware district representative, William "Willie" Christie, Goingsnake district representative, and Peggy Girty, Illinois district representative, did not draw opponents and therefore are guaranteed their seats on the tribal council.

Cooweescoowee District, incumbent Clifford Wofford is facing Josiah Thorne.

For Flint District, incumbent Tom Duncan, Beverly Leach, Arthur Ross, Wiki "Joe" Squirrel and Frankie Still filed are running against each other.

For Saline District, incumbent Charles Smoke is facing Adalene Smith.

For Sequoyah District, incumbent Barry Dotson is facing Junior Levi

For Tahlequah District, incumbent Betty Holcomb, Jerry Henson, Perry Proctor and James Reese are running against each other.

For treasurer, incumbent Ella Mae Worley is facing Vanessa Hansen.

For secretary, incumbent Joyce Hawk, Carl Hornet and Kristene Scraper are running against each other.

For assistant chief, incumbent Assistant Chief Charles Locust, Joe Bunch and Woodrow Proctor are running against each other.

For chief, incumbent Chief George Wickliffe, Dallas Proctor and Donna McIntosh Shockley are running against each other.

The election is Nov. 5.

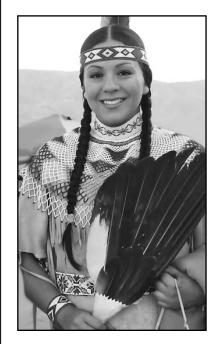
At this point, the candidate's list is only unofficial. The election board is still vetting the names for eligibility. An official list will be released as soon as it is available.

## Paiute first to represent USA in international pageant

STEPHINE POSTON

Reader submission

ALBUQUERQUE, Christina Thomas, a young Native American leader of Northern



Christina Thomas

Paiute, Western Shoshone and Hopi decent, will represent the United States in the 2012 Miss Humanity International Pageant. Marking the first time the U.S. has participated in the worldwide event, Thomas will serve as Ambassador of all Native Americans throughout the U.S. and Canada on the global stage dedicated to humanitarian causes in Bridgetown, Barbados, October 14-21, 2012.

"I am so honored to be selected out of many qualified applicants to represent our nation for the first time," Thomas said. "I consider this an incredible opportunity to strengthen awareness about key humanitarian issues on a worldwide scale."

Thomas will represent the event with a long history of community involvement supporting Native American issues. A recent graduate of the 2010-2012 class of Ambassador's for Americans for Indian Opportunity, Thomas was the first Nevadan to be selected for the prestigious international Ambassador Program, UpWithPeople.

Among Thomas' other notable accomplishments:

- · Founded the youth group Native Butterflies
- · Youngest person on her Tribe's Language Advisory Board for Reno-Spark Indian Colony
- · Youngest teacher of the Paiute Language for Washoe County School District
- · Youngest person to be featured as an emerging leader at the Pyramid Lake Cultural Museum
- Senator Harry Reid, Michele Obama, and Vice President

· Personally asked to sing for

Thomas will compete in the international event in various categories: Interview, Talent, Gown, Swimwear, National

Costume, Dance, Miss Photogenic, Miss Congeniality and People's Choice Award. The People's Choice Award will be decided through online voting, allowing viewers and supporters to participate in the selection of their favorite candidate. Please vote daily and often for Christina Thomas at http://www. misshumanityinternational. com/2012/delegate/miss-usa. Slide your mouse over the stars in the upper left and rate her 10.

Miss Humanity International is a pageant event to promote and raise awareness about humanitarian causes worldwide. The pageant is open to young ladies ages 16-27 whom exhibit a strong passion for community and humanitarian service. All national representatives are expected to engage in social activities with businesses and governments to benefit all of humankind through charitable causes. For more information about the pageant, visit www. misshumanityinternational.com.

## Little Cherokee Ambassadors crowned

**CHEROKEE NATION** 

Communications Office

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - Hulbert native Alayna Harkreader said being among the first graduating class of Sequoyah's Immersion School, where she learned to speak fluent Cherokee in six years, helped her snag the title of Little Cherokee Ambassador earlier this month.

Harkreader, the daughter of Nick and Jessica Harkreader, is now a seventh-grader at Sequoyah High School. She gave a presentation on the traditional game of stickball to a panel of judges and answered all three competition questions correctly, including when the Cherokee Female Seminary was established (1851), to win the title

in the 10-12 age group.

"I feel proud and honored to represent the nation," she said, after getting her sash and crown. "I wasn't nervous. I just looked up at the judges and tried my best."

There were 25 contestants vying for spots in three age categories for the Little Cherokee Ambassador competition held at Sequoyah's 'Place Where They Play.' The

ambassadors accompany Miss Cherokee and Jr. Miss Cherokee sponsored events and for thenext year act as representatives of the tribe.

Winning

the 4-6 age category was Maysi Fields, a kindergarten student at Brush Elementary in Sallisaw and Jared Thorne, 6, from Pawhuska.

Winning in the 7-9 age category was Lilli Jo Jordan, a Maryetta second-grader from Stilwell and Aaron "Eagle" Fischer, who is in third grade at the Sequoyah Immersion School and lives in Bunch.



Alayna Harkreader, Little Cherokee **Ambassador** 



## CLASSIFIEDS



PHOTO COURTESY CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

From left to right, Maysi Fields, Jared Thorne, Lilli Jo Jordan, Aaron "Eagle"

Fischer are named Little Cherokee Ambassadors for 2012.







Tule River Indian Tribe of CA

**Assistant Controller** 

Store Manger

**Personal Trainer** 

**Structure Firefighter Captain Gaming Security Director Gaming Security Lieutenant** 

**Procurement Clerk** 

**Chief of Police** 

These positions are located in

Porterville, CA. For more info

contact Eilene, HR Recruiter

at (559)781-4271 Ext. 1051 or

Go online to

nativetimes.com

for more jobs!

-New jobs posted

throughout the week-

hrclerk@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov





#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

**JOB OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

providing a wide range of banking services to the Native American

Native American Bank, N.A. is a financial services institution

communities throughout the United States.

NATIVE AMERICAN BANK, NA

Native American Bank is seeking an experienced banker and leader to fulfill this critical role on NAB's Senior Management team and to identify a successor to the Bank's retiring President and Chief Executive Officer. The ideal candidate for this position must be approvable by the regulators and have a strong management, finance, compliance, and capital raising background. The ideal candidate must have excellent public persona & interpersonal skills. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### **Lending Relationship Manager**

Seeking a Lending Relationship Manager to develop and manage commercial and agricultural loan customer accounts in the designated market. Responsible for developing building deposit portfolio as well as marketing the fee based services. Must be able to provide leadership, training and supervision and achieve of goals and objectives to business growth and profitability, credit quality and adherence to all bank policies and procedures. This position is located in the Browning, MT Branch.

#### **Credit Analyst**

We are seeking a Credit Analyst to conduct credit analyses including gathering, analyzing, and interpreting all types of credit information on existing and prospective customers and portfolio. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office

#### For a detailed Job Announcements, please visit: www.nabna.com

NAB is an Equal Opportunity Employer with Native American Preference headquartered in Denver, CO. Member FDIC. Competitive salary & benefits are being offered based upon qualified experience and educational level. Send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to:

Attn: Deb Emhoolah, VP/HR, Native American Bank, N.A. 999 18th St, Ste 2460; Denver, CO 80202, Fax: 720-962-9455 or Email: employment@nabna.com. Employment background checks are required for these positions.



Native American Bank, N.A. | 999 18th Street, Suite 2460, Denver, CO 80202 FDIC www.nabna.com | 800.368.8894 Phone | 303.988.5533 Fax | (Browning, MT) 800.307.9199

#### THE AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

Is currently seeking to fill the following position:

#### TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Full job description and application details visit our website at:

www.collegefund.org <About Us>

or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to:

applications@collegefund.org

## HEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

> **CURRENT OPPORTUNITY** #6492 Medical Technologist II/R/FT WW Hastings Hospital, Tahlequah, Okla. Closes 8/31/2012

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahleguah, OK 74465

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@ nativetimes.com

## **REQUEST PROPOSAL**

#### **SUB-BID ANNOUNCEMENT**

PROJECT: Pawnee Nation, Tribal

Ceremonial Roundhouse, Phase I 100,000 gallon standpipe upgrades & repair. OWNER: Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma NO CALLS TO OWNER. **ARCHITECT: Anishinabe Design** NO CALLS TO ARCHITECT. CONSTRUCTION MANAGER: Builder's Unlimited, Inc. 4677 S. 83rd E. Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74145 (918)835-1138 Fax: (918)834-5865 Contacts: Glenna Clark, **Bid/Project Coordinator** for bid and document questions.

PRE-BID DATE: Aug. 14, 2012 at 2:30 p.m., Meet at Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, Conference Room, 881 Little Dee Drive then a site visit is scheduled immediately following. \*\*NOT MANDATORY, HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

gclarkbuitulsa@tulsacoxmail.com

BID DATE: Sealed proposals will be received until no later than 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 24, 2012.

INDIAN PREFERENCE DOES APPLY -MUST PROVIDE COPY OF CDIB CARD OR TERO CERTIFICATION WITH SEALED BID. PREVAILING WAGE DOES APPLY.

Sealed proposals shall be delivered to: **Pawnee Nation** c/o Builders Unlimited, Inc. 881 Little Dee Drive Pawnee, Ok. 74058

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com







## CRYSTAL GAYLE Saturday, August 25 • 7 pm Tickets are \$25



#### Ticket Info

#### **Order your Event Center tickets** at osagecasinos.com!

Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.

4 miles from Downtown Tulsa • End of Tisdale Parkway

(918) 699-7777 osagecasinos.com

Find us on Facebook!

Tulsa Bartlesville Sand Springs Ponca City Skiatook Hominy Pawhuska

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.





# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact 
The Pawnee Service Unit information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria **Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs** sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@ naturalevolution.com

THIRD THURSDAY The Veterans' Administration The Native Nations Youth is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center meetings from 6:30pm to enroll all Native American and non-Indian Veterans for Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered

about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

**FOURTH THURSDAY** Each month the American **Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma** - Eastern Chapter hosts a monthly luncheon at Bacone College, Muskogee, Okla. 11:30 a.m. at Benjamin Wacoche Hall. Please RSVP one week ahead of time. Phone: (918) 230-3759

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** cherokeeartistsassociation.org Modoc Tribal Citizens **Meeting at Wyandotte** Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

> Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www. okchoctaws.org

YOUTH COUNCIL Council (NNYC) bimonthly 8:30pm @ the Youth Services AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 of Tulsa Activity Center (311 health care benefits the third S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, **Oklahoma City** 

**AUGUST 23-26** 136th Annual Ponca Pow-Wow at White Eagle Park, OK. For more info call (580) 401-3266 or (580) 401-0471.

**AUGUST 24-25 Lucky Star Casino Annual** Powwow, 101 N. Indian Hospital Rd, Clinton, Okla. Info call Issac Rhoads or **Danielle Cling** Phone: 580-323-6599 Email: irhoads@ luckystarcasino.org URL: www.luckystarcasino. org

**AUGUST 28** Muscogee (Creek) Nation **Diabetes Awareness Summit** at Okemah First Baptist Church, 120 S. 6th Street, Okemah. Summit is free. Info SEPTEMBER 8 call 918-636-8735.

**AUGUST 30- SEPTEMBER 3 Choctaw Nation Labor Day** Festival & Powwow, Tushka **Homma Capitol Grounds.** Information call 800-522-6170.

**Cherokee National Holiday** and Powwow, various locations, Tahlequah. Powwow begins 5pm Friday, 2pm Saturday at the Cherokee Cultural Grounds, Southwest of the tribal complex. Call 918-453-5536 or email holiday@cherokee.

**AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2** 

**Ottawa Powwow and** Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

**SEPTEMBER 1-3 Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Labor Day Powwow, Colony Powwow Grounds, Colony,** Okla. Contest powwow, Handgame tournament. Info call Cinci Hill, 405-887-4689.

**SEPTEMBER 8 Community Garage Sale/ Food Sale at Duck Creek** Community Ranch, 3890 HWY 75, Beggs, Okla. 8am-? Portion of proceeds to help with Miss Yuchi/ **Euchee travel expenses. Call** Jacqueline Rolland at 918-752-5300 to reserve a place.

**Teddy Bear Clinic at Indian Health Care Resource** Center, 550 S. Peoria, Tulsa, Okla., 10am-Noon. First 125 children get a free teddy bear. Children's activities, door prizes and drawing for a Wii. Call 918-382-1206 for more info.

SEPTEMBER 13-14 **Blue Thumb Water Pollution Education Program at Choctaw Community Center,** 2750 Big Lots Pkwy., Durant, Okla. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cheryl Cheadle, 918-398-1804 or cheryl.cheadle@ conservation.ok.gov Or Kim Shaw, 405-522-4738 or kim. shaw@conservation.ok.gov or visit www.conservation. ok.gov (Click "Blue Thumb" in upper left corner)

both days. More info call

**SEPTEMBER 15 Dance for Life contest** powwow - a community event bringing awareness to suicide prevention in our communities and among our youth. Sponsored by the **Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma Teen Suicide Prevention** Program. Event will be held in the Comanche Nation **Community Center in** Apache, Oklahoma. More info call 405-247-5200 or email gmbeaver@att.net

SEPTEMBER 20-22 **Oklahoma Indian Summer** Celebration, 300 S.E. Adams Blvd., Bartlesville. Info call **Jenifer Pechonick** 918-331-0934

**SEPTEMBER 21-22 Inaugural Salina Powwow** at Salina High School Gymnasium, Salina, Okla. **Contact: Doug Simpson** Phone: 918-704-3786 Email: salinapowwowclub@ yahoo.com or visit http:// www.facebook.com/ salinapowwowclub

**OCTOBER 5-6 Fort Sill Indian School** Annual Reunion, 7:00 pm

-12:00 Friday & 2:00 pm - 12:00 Saturday at FSIS Gym, Lawton, OK. Contact: Darlene Defoe 828.736.0851

**OCTOBER 6 Benefit Gourd Dance 2:00** PM to 10:00 PM - Supper @ 5:30 PM at Goodrich Memorial UMC, 200 W. Hayes St., Norman, Okla. Info call Linda Forrester (405) 833-1559 or Mary Lou Drywater (405) 361-2393. All proceeds will be given to the Womens Resource Center to help the DV Shelter/Rape Crisis Center.

**OCTOBER 20 Pryor Powwow at** MidAmerica Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional -16 yrs and up; Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

**OCTOBER 26-27 Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County** Fairgrounds, 17806 W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Info call Kathy 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-9385.



# "Your Total Solution for Medical Equipment and Supplies"

American Indian Woman Owned & Operated

We carry a wide range of products and equipment for:

- Home Medical Equipment
- Mobility
- Oxygen Therapy
- Bariatric Needs
- Support Surfaces/
   Wound Care

## **Other Services Include:**

- Non Emergency Transportation
- MRI Imaging (Financing Available)
- MRI Design Build
- MRI Mobile Unit

1400 SW Expressway Broken Arrow, OK 74012 (918) 994-4336 13924 B Quail Pointe Drive Oklahoma City, OK 73134 (405) 607-0687

www.TotalCareSolutions.biz



#### **Inside this issue:**

- Cherokee Holiday event schedule
- Military museum honors Choctaw Code Talkers
- OKC school launches 'Ervhvh Society' for girls









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 34

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**AUGUST 31, 2012** 

## Pawnee leadership still undecided on settlement money

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

PAWNEE, Okla. — A twicepostponed joint council meeting left many Pawnee Nation citizens still wondering Saturday how their tribe is going to spend a multi-million dollar federal payout.

Earlier this year, the tribe received a \$4.4 million settlement payment

as part of Nez Perce v. Salazar, a 2006 lawsuit against the federal government. Since the Pawnee Nation received its share, some tribal citizens have been speculating about how the money would be spent, prompting Saturday's joint meeting between the tribe's business council and Nasharo Council, or Chiefs' Council.

Originally scheduled for June the money and if folks want to give

16, then delayed until Aug. 18 and postponed again, more than 30 tribal citizens attended the Aug. 25 meeting to offer their suggestions on how to spend the money.

Several attendees expressed their support for using at least a portion of the settlement funds for a per capita

"Let each of us have a portion of

it back to the tribe, then fine," David Wichita said. "They can give it to burial aid, the education program or another program that they think needs help if they don't want to keep

"Our people shouldn't have to beg for this money," Pawnee elder Bea Realrider said. "It's a small amount

See PAWNEE Continued on Page 4





Cynthia Tiger watches a recorded online lecture from G. William Rice, co-director of the American Law Center at the University of Tulsa College of Law, at her home in Bixby. Tiger is studying for a master of jurisprudence in Indian Law degree, to learn more about environmental and property law as pertains to tribal-owned land.

## First of its kind: TU Indian Law program tailored for non-lawyers

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - It will not make you into a lawyer, but a new degree program through the University of Tulsa's College of Law could help individuals shape native determination legal issues for years to come.

The college began offering the online Master of Jurisprudence in Indian Law degree program in the fall of 2011. Beginning with 10 students, the program enrolled 25 new students for the fall 2012 semester and is taking applications for next spring.

Shonday Harmon, program director for the MJIL program, said it is the first master's graduate level program of its kind in Indian law.

"The inception of the program came about from area tribes contacting the Native American law center asking for professional

development courses," Harmon, Muscogee-Creek, said. "There was a need for non attorneys to understand the legalese of Indian law."

The program requires the completion of 30 hours of graduate course work in subjects ranging from civil and criminal jurisdiction on Indian land to gaming law, property rights and the child welfare act. As tribes throughout the country

See LAW Continued on Page 4

## Tiger signs tobacco compact with Okla.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

OKMULGEE, Okla. — For the first time in seven years, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has a tobacco compact with the state of Oklahoma.

"It isn't everything we wanted, but this allows our smoke shops to be competitive again," Principal Chief George Tiger said during an emergency meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Aug. 23. "This gives our local communities the opportunity to make money."

The Oklahoma tax on cigarettes is \$10.30 on a 10-pack carton, or \$1.03 per pack. Under this compact, Oklahoma will receive 50 percent of that tax rate from retail sales by the Creek Nation. Prior to Friday's compact, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's smoke shops were

remitting the full \$1.03 tax per pack sold to non-tribal members.

Tobacco purchases made by tribal members were tax-exempt; a provision not included in the new compact.

Additionally, state-licensed wholesalers will collect a "tribal tax" through Aug. 30, 2017, on purchases by smoke shops owned by or licensed through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Each carton with 10 packs of 20 cigarettes will be taxed \$1.50, or \$.15 per pack. A carton of 10 packs with 25 cigarettes each will be taxed \$1.88, or \$.18 per pack. All other products, such as smokeless tobacco, will be subject to a 14.6 percent sales tax.

Also, under the terms of the compact, as part of a settlement of a pending lawsuit in Tulsa County

See COMPACT Continued on Page 4



CHRISTINA GOOD VOICE | COURTESY MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Okla. Gov. Mary Fallin and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief George Tiger sign a tobacco compact Aug. 24 in the Oklahoma Capitol Building.

## Auction cancelled for SD land considered sacred

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - The planned auction of nearly 2,000 acres of land in South Dakota's picturesque Black Hills that is considered sacred by American Indian tribes has been cancelled, though it wasn't immediately clear why.

Brock Auction Company planned to auction five tracts of land owned by local residents Leonard and Margaret Reynolds Aug. 25. But a message on the auction house's website Aug. 23 said it has been cancelled at the land owners' direction.

The auction house and Margaret Reynolds declined comment, and tribal officials were left wondering what had happened.

"There are a lot of things we don't know at this point," Rosebud Sioux Tribe spokesman Alfred Walking Bull said. "If there was a change of heart, we're definitely thankful for that. We're hoping for the best. We can take a breath right now."

Tribes of the Great Sioux Nation consider the site key to their creation story and are trying to purchase the land, which they call Pe' Sla, because they fear new owners would develop it. The property, which spans about 1,942 acres of pristine prairie grass, is the only sacred site on private land currently outside Sioux control.

The Rosebud Sioux, whose

See LAND Continued on Page 4



BERNIE HUNHOFF | COURTESY SOUTH DAKOTA MAGAZINE

This 2007 photo provided by South Dakota Magazine shows Reynolds Prairie in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Nearly 2,000 acres of the ranch, which encompasses a sacred site known as Pe'Sla to a band of Native American tribes that once lived in the Black Hills, was to be auctioned Aug. 25.

# Cherokee National Holiday this weekend

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. -The 60th Cherokee National includes two games of stickball, a cornstalk shoot, horseshoes, blowguns and marbles.

Visitors can compete in or watch the ancient sport social game pitting the men against the women players will on the ball field at the Male traditional and the bow 1501 Graham Ave. Players can

dominick@cherokee.org.

Holiday, Aug. 31 and Sept. 1-2 traditional Cherokee game more information contact Jody in Tahlequah, will showcase that showcases bow and arrow Slover at 918-822-2428. several traditional Cherokee points made from natural Cherokee traditional longbow, 5544. youth ages 6-10 and 11-14,

need to enter about 15 minutes The Cornstalk Shoot, a prior to the competition. For

Cherokee blowguns are games that visitors can either materials, will be held on typically made of river cane, watch or play. This year's roster Saturday, Sept. 1 and Sunday, three to nine feet long, and Sept. 2 just west of the tribe's have traditionally been used main complex, 17675 S. for hunting and in warfare. At Muskogee Ave. Registration 9 a.m. on Saturday, individual will begin at 7 a.m. both days. marksmen will compete at the Archers can participant in Cherokee Heritage Center, of stickball at two locations any of the categories, which 21192 S. Keeler Dr. For more during this year's Holiday. A include the primitive shoot, information, call 918-453-

The game of Cherokee take place Friday at 5:30 p.m. recurve-laminates, community marbles has been played for the last 1,200 years. It involves Seminary Recreation Center, shoot. The entry fee is \$6 per as much strategy as it does competitor. Awards will be accuracy in throwing. The playing field is about 100 feet long and contains five holes. Players must toss their billiardball-sized marbles into holes that are about two inches in diameter while knocking the opposing players' marbles out of the way. A five-day marbles tournament will take place at Clouds Creek from 6-10 p.m. starting Aug. 27. The top four teams will then advance to the finals on Saturday, Sept. 1 at the CherokeeHeritage.Contestants must enter between 6-10 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 18 at Clouds Creek. For more information or for directions call Phil King at 918-837-1940.

> On Sunday Sept. 2, and women in marbles, Anotherpopulargame played horseshoes, cornstalk shoot partner. The entry fee is \$5 per Lou Slagle at 918-453-5544 or



COURTESY CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE Donnie Birdtail takes aim during the cornstalk shoot at the Cherokee National Holiday.

bring their own sticks and a given to first, second and third communities will match limited supply of sticks will be place in each category. For their representatives against available for those who don't additional information please each other to see what town have their own but would like contact Charolette Jackson at produces the best sportsmen to play. Stickball is a physical game similar to lacrosse in which competitors hurl a often in Cherokee communities and blowguns, as the finals of ball at a target on a pole to is horseshoes. A horseshoe Cherokee Nation's community score points. Additionally, a pitch will start Saturday, Sept. games are held. The community competitive men's game will be 1 at 9 a.m. west of the main games playoffs will take place held Saturday at the Sequoyah tribal complex. Contestants west of the Cherokee Nation Schools football field, 17091 may bring a teammate or complex, starting at 10 a.m. S. Muskogee Ave., starting at 9 show up alone and draw a For more information contact p.m. For more information, call 918-453-5221 or email shane- tournament, and contestants lou-slagle@cherokee.org.

918-456-5482, ext. 237.

**Holiday Event Schedule** 

<u>Aug. 31</u>

Art Show, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., Armory Building Arts & Crafts, 10 a.m., Cherokee Heritage Center Arts & Crafts, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., West of Tribal Complex Arts & Crafts, 5 p.m. to 12 a.m., Cultural Grounds Bingo, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., West of Tribal Complex Cherokee National Choir, 6:30 p.m., Armory Building Children's Fun Days, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., West of Tribal

Golf Tournament, 7:30 a.m., Cherokee Trails Golf Course Gospel Singing, 6 p.m., West of Tribal Complex Intertribal Powwow, 5 p.m., Cultural Grounds Quilt Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sequoyah Old Gym Softball Tournament, 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., Sequoyah Softball

Stickball Game, 5:30 p.m., Markoma Field Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament, 5 p.m., Markoma Gym

<u>Sept. 1</u>

Art Show, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Armory Building Arts & Crafts, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Courthouse Square Arts & Crafts, 11 a.m., Cherokee Heritage Center Arts & Crafts, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., West of Tribal Complex Arts & Crafts, 2 p.m. to 12 a.m., Cultural Grounds Bingo, 1 p.m., West of Tribal Complex Blowgun Contest, 1 p.m., Cherokee Heritage Center Cherokee Calendar Signing, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Gift Shop

Cherokee Cultural & Traditional Activities, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Across the street from Armory

Cherokee Families & Communities, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Across the street from Armory Building Cherokee National Holiday Parade, 9:30 a.m., Downtown

Cherokee National Youth Choir, 8 a.m., Downtown

Cherokee National Youth Choir, 10:30 a.m., Courthouse

Cherokee National Youth Choir, 2 p.m., Armory Building Cherokee National Youth Choir, 4 p.m., Sequoyah's "The Place Where They Play"

Children's Fishing Derby, 7:30 a.m. to noon, Pond East of **Tribal Complex** 

Children's Fun Days, noon to 11 p.m., West of Tribal

CN Complex Open House, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tribal

Cornstalk Shoot Competition, 7:30 a.m., West Complex

Elders Fun Day, noon to 6 p.m., TsaLaGi Community

5K Run, 7:30 a.m., East of Tribal Complex Fiddler's Contest, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Talking Leaves Job

Golf Tournament, 7:30 a.m., Cherokee Trails Golf Course Gospel Singing, 4 p.m., West of Tribal Complex History Exhibit, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., NSU Seminary Hall Horseshoe Pitch Competition, 9 a.m., West of Tribal

Intertribal Powwow, 2 p.m., Cultural Grounds Living Treasures Awards, noon, Courthouse Square Marble Tournament Finals, 9 a.m., Cherokee Heritage

Miss Cherokee Official Crowning, noon, Courthouse

Nancy Ward Reception, 2 p.m., Tribal Council Chambers Quilt Show, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sequoyah Old Gym

Softball Tournament, 9 a.m. to 1 a.m., Sequoyah Softball

Seminary Hall Tours, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., NSU Seminary

State of Nation Address, 11:30 a.m., Courthouse Square Stickball Game, 9 p.m., Sequoyah Football Field

Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament, 9 a.m., Markoma Gym

Traditional Indian Food Cook-off, 5 p.m., West of Tribal

Veterans Reception, 4 p.m., Sequoyah's "The Place Where They Play"

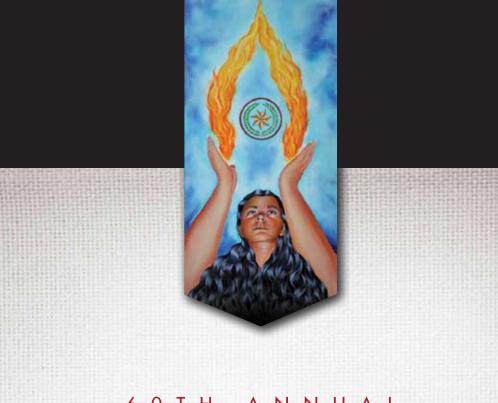
Art Show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Armory Building Arts & Crafts, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., West of Tribal Complex Bingo, 1 p.m., West of Tribal Complex

Car Show, 4 p.m., Cherokee Casino Tahlequah Children's Fun Days, noon to 11 p.m., West of Tribal

Free Feed, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sequoyah Cafeteria Golf Tournament, 7:30 a.m., Cherokee Trails Golf Course History Exhibit, noon to 5 p.m., NSU Seminary Hall Quilt Show, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Sequoyah Old Gym Softball Tournament, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sequoyah Softball

Sunday Morning Worship, 10 a.m. to noon, Sequoyah Schools Chapel

Traditional Indian Games Playoff, 1 p.m., West of Tribal



60TH ANNUAL

# **CHEROKEE**

NATIONAL HOLIDAY

TAHLEQUAH, OK • LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Celebrate the Cherokee legacy at the 60th Annual Cherokee National Holiday. With over 50 events and attractions, including an intertribal powwow, traditional Cherokee games, free concerts and arts and crafts, the annual event celebrates the 1839 signing of the Cherokee Nation Constitution in Indian Territory.

For an event schedule and details, visit Holiday. Cherokee.org.

FROM ONE FIRE TO A PROUD FUTURE



CHEROKEE NATION®



COURTESY CHEROKEE NATION COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Cherokee Nation crowned Julie Thornton (center) of Muskogee as the 2012-2013 Jr. Miss Cherokee at Saturday night's competition. First runner-up was awarded to Cierra Fields (right) of Fort Gibson and Megan Baker (left) of Locust Grove took home second runner-up.

## **Cherokee Nation crowns** 2012-2013 Jr. Miss Cherokee

Cherokee Nation News Release

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - Julie Thornton of Muskogee reigned supreme at Cherokee Nation's latest ambassador competition taking home the 2012-2013 Jr. Miss Cherokee title. For the next year Thornton will act as a goodwill ambassador for the tribe promoting the government, language, history and traditions of the Cherokee people.

Thornton, 17, is the daughter of Bryant and Shelly Thornton. She is a senior at Hilldale High School in Muskogee. Thornton won over the judges with her knowledge of Cherokee language and history and impressed the audience with a cultural presentation over traditional Cherokee basketry. She will assume the duties held by the 2011-2012 Jr. Miss Cherokee, Christy Kingfisher.

During her reign as Jr. Miss Cherokee, Thornton said she is going to focus on helping more people achieve higher education.

"Higher education is what will create a better foundation for [Cherokees] in the future,"

Thornton said during her platform presentation. "Cherokee Nation has boundless opportunities for higher education and as Jr. Miss I will do my best to inform everyone, young and old, of the vast opportunities available to them as Native Americans."

Cierra Fields, 13, of Fort Gibson was named first runner-up. Fields is an eighth-grade student at Fort Gibson Middle School and the daughter of Richard and Terri Fields. Fields also received the cultural presentation award and the traditional dress award.

Second runner-up went to Megan Baker, 15, of Locust Grove. Baker is a sophomore at Locust Grove High School and the daughter of Jeremy and Gina Baker. Baker won the essay and academic awards as well.

Also participating in the competition were contestants Deonna Toney, 15, of Sallisaw and Sage Butler, 15, of Jay. Butler was awarded Miss Congeniality. The Jr. Miss Cherokee Ambassador competition was held in conjunction with the 60th Cherokee National Holiday.

## Fort Sill Apache open first hotel among area tribes

S.E. RUCKMAN

Native Times Special Contributor

LAWTON, Okla. - Fort Sill Apache fire dancers ushered in the opening events last week for the tribe's new \$27 million hotel addition, calling forth both protection and prosperity for the venture.

The hotel is the first one among the eight local tribes gaming ventures and officials hope that it will set a new bar on area Indian gaming. Tribal chairman, Jeff Haozous, said expectations for the hotel will be fulfilled.

"This is a long-term investment, so it goes past short-term fluctuations in the economy," he said. "We made these decisions regardless of the overall economic climate."

Guests turned out for the new hotel's opening on Aug. 23 and more came back for an official grand opening and VIP party on Aug. 25 where the tribe introduced local and state officials along with tribal members to the new property. Opening ceremonies included a red carpet, showgirls and limousines. The event also featured the giveaway of a new car.

With 132 rooms, the newly named Apache Casino Hotel (formerly Fort Sill Apache Casino) has a restaurant, pool, bar and conference space on the 10-acre site. It also features a coffee bar, spa and gym in the 100,000-sq. ft facility, all visible on a new \$450,000 digital sign in front of the hotel. The hotel is projected to increase the Apaches' casino gross revenue by up to 20 percent, officials said.

While the hotel is expected to exceed expectations, tribal officials are already considering improvements to the site.



JIM HORINEK | COURTESY APACHE CASINO HOTEL

With 132 rooms, the newly named Apache Casino Hotel (formerly Fort Sill Apache Casino) has a restaurant, pool, bar and conference space on the 10-acre site.

The tribe rescaled a casino snack bar on its gaming-eligible property to put in more machines.

The hotel, sponsored by tribal bonds through Obama's 2010 economic stimulus act, was a combination of several factors besides financial backing, said tribal vice chairman, Lori Gooday Ware. Ware said their formula included a longtime trusted tribal attorney, Robert Prince, and a business committee that worked well together.

"Sure we argued it out as we went along, we did things that we didn't necessarily want to do," she said. "But we stuck to it anyways because we wanted a new hotel."

The multi-million dollar facility has evolved rapidly since it opened electronic gaming machines in 1999. It recently opened under a sprung structure that is the core of its current gaming operation.

The hotel is expected to draw both regular customers and new clients from Lawton and Texas, officials said. Much of the tribe's hotel progress has come by partnering with local civic groups, working closely with Lawton officials and keeping an eye to the end result, Haozous said.

"They knew about our internal tribal stability, that helped a lot," Haozous said. "I think it also helped to create

Lawton city council, Jay Burk, said the hotel would boost tourism for Lawton as a stand-alone venture.

"It proves we (Lawton) have a diversity of people who can boost our economy," he said. "That part of this is on school land, it will mean sales taxes on the property that will help

The hotel sits on land excluded from trust status, which allows local and state sales to be levied.

In the meantime, the tribe continues work on re-opening a gaming site in Deming, New Mexico. The tribe opened a facility in 2009 that was closed by state authorities in 2010. The tribe maintains the New Mexico land is eligible for gaming since it is in the tribe's original jurisdiction. It faced forced removal to the Fort Sill/Lawton area in the 1880s after Chiricahua Apaches were held captive by the federal government.

But the new hotel's opening has a special significance because upcoming centennial of their captive release approaches in 2013, tribal officials

"I think our ancestors will be proud of our new hotel," Ware said. "We've come through a lot and we didn't give up. I think (former chief and FSA elder) Mildred Cleghorn would be very proud of us."

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers DANA ATTOCKNIE LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL

advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country





**Native American** 

hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans!

FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY

E-mail your ad for a quote to

lisa@nativetimes.com

OKLAHOMA Oklahoma National Guard National Guard. female general will be among

their native language on honored. the battlefields against the German army in World War Lt. Col. Orville Munson and I and World War II.

(AP) - Choctaw Nation her military service. Aragon code talkers who served in was an educator before two world wars and the first entering the Oklahoma Air

Maj. Kenneth D. Bailey,



**VINITA** 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 Changing the culture of waste."

#### Native TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

## unique among neighbor tribes ■ The Cherokee Nation Council's the Chickasaw Nation," Chickasaw Nation

**New Cherokee employment bill** 

recent citizenship requirement for certain high-ranking jobs appears to be an exception rather than the rule.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – employment bill passed by the nation's largest federally recognized tribe appears to be more restrictive than its neighbors.

On Aug. 13, the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council passed legislation requiring five highranking positions - chief of staff, general counsel to the principal chief, director of communications, director of government relations and chief executive officer of Cherokee Nation Businesses - be held by Cherokee Nation citizens. Principal Chief Bill John Baker did not veto it, citing an attorney general's opinion that the legislation violates two articles of the tribe's constitution.

Federal law allows for tribes to give hiring preference to Native Americans. Although many other Oklahoma tribes give preference to tribal citizens and members of other tribes when filling vacant positions, the Cherokee Nation's restriction appears to be the exception rather than the rule.

"We practice Chickasaw and Native American preference for employment with

spokeswoman Robyn Elliott said. "That policy works well for us. Gov. Anoatubby is eager to employ Chickasaws and has made it a priority. We have been very successful with that policy

Judy Allen, executive director of public relations for the Choctaw Nation, said the Durant, Okla. - based tribe does not have a citizenship requirement, except for elected and certain appointed positions. The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee

Indians, which shares a capitol city with the Cherokee Nation, gives preference to its own citizens when hiring, but a representative for the tribe said it does not have a formal citizenship requirement for any non-elected position, including members of the tribe's

John Garrett, a Cherokee Nation citizen who was appointed to his tribe's Supreme Court in June, served as a UKB Supreme Court justice from 2006 until his resignation last year.

Additionally, the tribe's attorney general, Ken Bellmard, is a citizen of the Kaw Nation.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, headquartered in Okmulgee, Okla., did not respond to interview requests. According to the annotated legal code available on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation judiciary's website, citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is only listed as a prerequisite for Secretary of State. Justices and the attorney general must be members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bar Association, but are not required to be tribal citizens.





867 COOPER MEMORIAL DR. • SULPHUR, OK 73086-8697

Don't miss this rare opportunity! Film Forward and the Chickasaw Cultural Center will host free screenings of 7 independent films, panel discussions and opportunities to meet selected film directors. For more information visit sundance.org/filmforward or call 580-622-7138



## Military hall to recognize Choctaw code talkers

Fame Nov. 9.

Maj. Gen. LaRita A. will be inducted.

CITY Aragon will be honored for

Others being inducted are those inducted into the John Prichard; 1874 Calvary Oklahoma Military Hall of scout Amos Chapman and Col. Charles DeBellevue. The Oklahoman reported Capt. Boyd Barclay and in Sunday's editions that Command Sgt. Maj. Everett Choctaw code talkers used Bagley Jr., also are being

Capt. Vincent Kimberlin also

Stickball · Drawing

· Fancy dancing ·

Beadwork

of Oklahoma

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** Traditional language **Shooting hoops** Think of the possibilities!

Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved – matched with a child with similar interests! Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS

agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org



Last year, five Native students from across the Oklahoma City school district actively participated in the Little Sister Society program and were individually matched with Native career women from the Oklahoma City metro area.

## OKC Indian ed program launches Ervhvh, a 'Little Sister Society'

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY — After several years of dreaming, hoping and planning, an Oklahoma school district's Indian education program is getting a support program off of the ground.

Oklahoma's largest school district, Oklahoma City Public Schools, serves more than 43,000 students, including more than 2,100 Native Americans representing almost 50 tribes. In an effort to better serve its female students, the district's Native American Student Services office launched a Little Sister Society pilot program during the 2011-2012 school year.

"We already had a similar program for our young men," NASS director Star Yellowfish said. "It's very hands-on and culturally-based. Several parents asked why we didn't have an equivalent in place for girls. Our girls have different issues and need cultural role models as

Five Native students from across the school district actively participated in the program last year and were individually matched with Native career women from the Oklahoma City metro area. Participants were in contact at least once a week and the Native American Student Services office sponsored monthly activities, including basket weaving,

serving dinner at a powwow, zumba and ice skating.

After receiving overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents and participants, the district is now expanding the program, hoping to match 20 Native women in grades 5-11 with big sisters.

"Last year, we were really looking for girls who needed that intervention," Yellowfish said. "One of the changes we're making this year is implementing an application process. We had girls come up to us last year who wanted to be involved but didn't necessarily have the problems that would have gotten them nominated by a teacher, a counselor or a family member for the pilot program."

In addition to adding an application process, the program has undergone a

"We were called the Little Sister Society last year, but we found out another program is using that name," program coordinator Yafke Marks said. "So our new name is from the Muscogee (Creek) language: Ervhvh Society."

Ervhvh is the Muscogee (Creek) word for "little sister." Big sisters will be called cvrahhv, the Muscogee (Creek)

Cholakocee Werito, a Muscogee (Creek)/Navajo graduate of Oklahoma City's Northwest Classen High School and Oklahoma State University, volunteered as a big sister last year at the urging of Marks, her cousin.

"I was looking for something to get involved in last year," Werito said. "I had a really good adviser in high school, but would have liked to have had access to something like this when I was in their

"My parents are not college graduates and having that exposure to professional and college-educated women would have been really nice and educated me better. I hope that when I talk college stuff with my little sister, that it will help her plan ahead and start looking for scholarships when it comes time."

Werito has already signed up as a volunteer for the 2012-2013 school year and requested that she keep the same little sister if at all possible.

In the meantime, Yellowfish, Marks and the NASS staff are still looking for volunteers and ideas to build the program up to better serve the district's Native American girls.

"This is still a brand new program," Yellowfish said. "It will take time to get our numbers up, but we're more concerned about the quality of the program. I want these girls to come away with something positive that will stick with them for a long time."

To volunteer or for more information. contact Sarah Bradford at 405-587-0359 or e-mail her at Shbradford@okcps.org.

reservation is among the closest to the land, has allocated \$1.3 million toward trying purchasing the property, though tribal officials fear the selling price could be between \$6 million and \$10 million.

Walking Bull said he wasn't aware of the cancelled auction until contacted by The Associated Press. Rosebud Sioux President Rodney Bordeaux also said he didn't have details, saying: "I don't know anything more than you do."

Organizers of a website that has collected more than \$250,000 from 5,000 donors to help purchase the land said they also were unaware of why the auction was cancelled.

Sara Jumping Eagle, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe who started the site with her husband, Chase Iron Eyes of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, said they are trying to gather more information but are continuing to raise money since the property is still publicly listed.

Roughly 20 tribes make up the Great Sioux Nation, which was fragmented when American Indians were pushed to reservations. The tribes now span several states including Montana, Wyoming, the Dakotas and Minnesota, and Canada, and members hold ceremonies and rituals on the South Dakota land.

A United Nations fact finder had urged the federal government, and local and state officials in South Dakota to consult with American Indians ahead of the auction. U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs spokeswoman Nedra Darling said Thursday she also was unaware that the auction had been cancelled and declined comment.

The tribes believe the Sioux people were created from the Black Hills. According to part of their spiritual tradition, Pe' Sla is where the Morning Star fell to Earth, killing seven beings that killed seven women. The Morning Star placed the souls of the women into the night sky as "The Seven Sisters," also known as the Pleiades constellation.

## COMPACT

(Okla.)DistrictCourtbetween the state of Oklahoma and more than a dozen Muscogee (Creek) smoke shop owners and operators, the tribe must pay the state \$11.5 million dollars, including \$1.5 million upon the document's signing and annual \$2 million installments over the next five

While the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is making payments, the state has agreed to place a stay on its claims in the lawsuit. Once the settlement is paid in full, the state will dismiss most of its claims in the lawsuit, except for any individual criminal or tax liabilities under state law created by the new compact.

Filed in 2009 by thenattorney general Drew Edmondson, the lawsuit alleges that 17 Muscogee (Creek) smoke shop owners and licensees conspired to break state and federal laws concerning cigarette sales in Oklahoma by creating and using various methods of obtaining low-tax cigarettes and cigarettes without tax stamps in order to better compete in the market, including purchasing more than 5.3 million packs of unstamped cigarettes between February 2007 and May 2008 from a wholesaler not licensed by the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

"The state of Oklahoma values the financial, economic and cultural contributions of its Indian tribes," Gov. Mary Fallin said. "This compact between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the state of Oklahoma resolves past disputes and marks a new spirit of partnership between the state and the tribe."

Despite paying anywhere from two to 17 times more than other tribes in excise taxes, Muscogee (Creek) smoke shops sold 268.7 million cigarettes in 2011, second only to the Cherokee Nation among Oklahoma

The terms and per-pack tax rates for each tribe's compacts vary. A lower tax rate is available for tribal smoke shops within 20 miles of Oklahoma's borders with Arkansas, Kansas or Missouri, which have lower tobacco tax rates. That rate either \$.06 or \$.25 per pack - was not extended to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation due to geography.

We're landlocked," Tiger said. "Our compact does not have any provisions about our borders and I can't speak to the terms of our neighbors' compacts. I can only talk about this compact."

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is bordered by two tribes - Cherokee Nation and Osage Nation - that have border rates for some of their tribally-owned and licensed smoke shops.

Last Thursday's vote came less than 48 hours before the council's regularly scheduled August meeting. National Council Speaker Alexander said the decision to call an emergency meeting rather than wait until Saturday was made in an effort to help speed business along.

"We have a pretty full agenda for Saturday," Alexander said. "We wanted to get this out of the way so we can start moving forward."

that won't necessarily go that far, but we shouldn't have to beg or tell our life stories to justify getting a few extra dollars. It's our money and we want it

Another elder, Lillie Cummings, submitted a petition with more than 220 signatures this spring to the tribe's government, requesting a per capita

"Why can't we get a 'yes' or 'no' vote today?" Cummings asked. "At this point, I don't know if the council wants to listen to us or not."

Other attendees suggested allocating at least part of the money into tribal programs, primarily common education and elder assistance. Other suggested investing it into business ventures that would generate revenue and create additional jobs for the community, such as a grocery store.

After more than four hours of discussion and public comments, the remained stationed at the entrance

councils postponed a decision and announced a second joint meeting to discuss the matter after allowing additional time for out-of-state tribal members to voice their suggestions. The next meeting, scheduled for Sept. 8, will be held entirely in executive session, a decision many attendees derided.

"They don't want the people to know what's going on," Cynthia Rice said after the meeting. "They (the councils) should already have had something in place before the check hit the bank."

Despite comments and compliments about the turnout, several attendees were turned away early on.

As soon as the opening prayer ended, Pawnee Nation Business Council president Marshall Gover asked everyone to leave who was not an enrolled citizen of the Pawnee Nation.

"This is a tribal matter for tribal members only," Gover said. "This money came to the Pawnee Nation. If there is a per capita, it will be restricted to those who are enrolled here."

A Pawnee Nation police officer

during the meeting to enforce Gover's

Among those excluded from the meeting was June Hamilton, the director of Indian Education for Pawnee Public Schools. Half Pawnee by blood, she is an enrolled citizen of the Sac and Fox Nation.

"This isn't right," she said. "I've lived here all my life. I served on the tribe's housing and Head Start boards. Just because I'm enrolled in my father's tribe doesn't mean I'm not deeply concerned about what is going on. I love my community and my people.

"My mother was on the roll. My grandparents were on the roll. My kids and grandkids are enrolled and they're talking about plans for the future in there. I'd like to know how they're going to be impacted. Most of the kids I work with are Pawnee and I'd like to be in there to help speak for them as well."

The Pawnee Nation has about 3,500 enrolled citizens. It is the smallest of the 40 tribes that participated in Nez Perce v. Salazar and the only one based in Oklahoma.

Continued from Page 1

assert Native sovereignty through economic, social and policy means, the intricacies of Indian law become

Indian law is unique, said G. William Rice, co-director of the Native American Law Center at the TU College of Law, because of the relationship between tribes and the federal government and because of the trust status the U.S. has assumed regarding Indian people.

If you're enrolled in a federallyrecognized Native American tribe, are employed by one, live on tribal property or do business with a Native-owned or affiliated business, Indian law affects you.

"A classic example is a social worker, police officer or other entities doing

business with tribes. If they don't understand the legalities unique to tribes, they can make significant mistakes and open themselves up to liability," Rice said. "... People need to know the legal facts in which they are operating."

Headlines of the court custody battle for a Cherokee child, a Broken Arrow neighborhood's stance against a proposed Indian gaming facility and tribes fighting for access to sacred sites all attest to the complexity and reach of such laws.

"It seems to me that it's a program answering a need, really," Rice said. "I don't know how many times I've seen trials where the staff and officers needed information and just didn't have access to it."

TU's law school offers a Juris Doctorate degree program with more than 300 students enrolled. Candidates can study for a formal

Indian law certificate. The master of jurisprudence in Indian law, however, is a study of law theory. Rice and his colleagues at the Native American Law Center developed the curriculum to make it accessible to people from many professional fields who need to know the workings of Indian law. For that reason, the online program has attracted a broad spectrum of students.

Harmon said there is a total of 44 students enrolled in the program. Among them, 24 tribes from 15 states are represented as well as one from Canada. Many are Native, but others are not. Some work for tribes, others are business owners hoping to work with a tribe. Some are grant writers for organizations, some hold political office or work for tribes while others are practicing attorneys expanding their knowledge of Indian law.

The interactive online platform,

which allows students to watch the lectures either live or recorded, makes it possible for many to stay where they live and continue working fulltime. Faculty are also available for

advisement. For Cynthia Mae Tiger of Bixby, the online classes are making it possible for her to work toward a degree that will help her improve her small business, Tiger 2 Tiger, LLC, while she works and takes care of her family. Tiger, a single mother, is a grant writer/reviewer and independent project management consultant. She is particularly interested in Indian law focused on economic development, land and property rights and natural resources.

Tiger, Muscogee-Creek/Absentee Shawnee/Euchee, said the knowledge she is learning in her classes and reading is valuable to her success.

"This course helps (me) to

understand the obstacles of owning a business in Indian country," she said.

For students enrolled on a parttime basis, the course is designed to be completed in about five to six

Because the program is so new (its first students are expected to graduate in the spring) the faculty is careful to make too many adjustments to the curriculum at this time, but they do foresee improvements to the technology making the online platform more interactive for instructors and students.

Harmon said the school looks to enroll more students in the spring 2013 semester as word spreads about the MJIL degree program.

"Our hope is that it will be useful to Indian self-determination and that it will be a benefit for people on a day-to-day basis," he said.

## COMMENTARY

## Jim Amoss missed a wonderful year at Harvard



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) Notes from Indian Country © 2012 Unity South Dakota

When the Nieman Fellow Class of 1991 gathered for the first time at the Lippmann House in Cambridge on the Harvard Campus to meet the curator, Bill Kovach, his staff Fellow was missing.

His name was Jim Amoss and he was about to be named as editor of the Times-Picayune of New Orleans and he had a choice to make. He chose to

more than 200 employees. It Competition included." will drop its print publication go digital the other four days.

the daily news, but even that

Newhouse, owner of the Times-Orleans, a city already with fade away." odds against, you are taking taking away a source of news

Amoss didn't have a crystal officials accountable. This city ball. He could not have known is worse off for the loss. We that just a short 21 years later will struggle, new sources will he would oversee the demise emerge and serve the city in newspapers. Next month the a second think that this isn't a Times-Picayune will lay off devastating blow to everyone.

Amoss wrote an editorial to just three days per week and about the changes about to happen. He wrote, "In Since nearly 36 percent of the aftermath of Hurricane the population of New Orleans Katrina, we proved that great, does not have access to the essential journalism does Internet, this means that more not require newsprint and a than one third of the city's printing press. What it does residents will not be reading require is great journalists, people who know our city and shouldn't be such a burden have a sense of mission about since some city residents claim keeping readers informed that those 36 percent can't read and engaged, no matter the obstacles. Our commitment to Kari Dequine Harden, in a that mission is undiminished." and of course each other, one letter of resignation to Steven The headline for that editorial read; "The message for our Picayune wrote, "From New organization is clear: adapt or

to join the Nieman Class of and mundane - and to hold Harvard and joined me and not have access to the Internet Street Journal can relax and that year. He would have met to get their news the old from Russia, Poland, Tonga, weekly Native newspapers and Nigeria, India, and Canada Native-owned radio stations. of one of the great American positive ways - but do not for and from right here in the good old USA.

> and will no doubt survive Journalism reported, "Sales the changes taking place in the newspaper industry. The of print newspapers continues Internet and the digital age to plummet, and the current has forced many career and business changes in America and there are still more to come and everyone will have U. S. daily newspapers as we to adapt. Just as the automobile know them today as print drove the buggy and buggy whip industry out of business, so too will many businesses print newspapers that will circle. fall in the digital era.

newspapers like the Native Sun News, a newspaper I founded, will survive because Native Americans are late comers to the newspaper business and Jim Amoss was a great as the Internet reaches the and the Wall Street Journal." our historical record. You are editor. In 2006 his newspaper Indian reservations, but for took home two Pulitzer's now more than 70 percent of USA Today, a fellow stay on the job in New Orleans that has been relied upon to for its coverage of Katrina. of the residents of Indian South Dakotan, and Rupert rather than report to Harvard document it all - magnificent But I wish he had come to reservations in the West do Murdoch, owner of the Wall UnitySoDak1@knology.net

The Digital Future Report a niche in America. of the USC Annenberg Amoss is still a great editor School of Communication & figures do not lie; circulation generation of print newspaper readers is not being replaced. We believe that most major editions will be gone in five survive will be at the extremes For the time being, specialty of the medium - the largest least four major newspapers with global reach to continue to publish daily print editions: The New York Times, USA

Allen Neuharth, the founder

police and publicly elected the other Nieman Fellows and so they will continue LOL; they beat the digital age.

And until Native America some outstanding journalists fashioned way: through the catches up with the mainstream media, newspapers like the Native Sun News will still have

> In 1990 Jim Amoss had no way of knowing this and in the space of 21 years he saw the industry he hitched his star to dwindle and blink. But I think he would have really enjoyed his Nieman year at Harvard. I know that I will never forget the Nieman Fellow friends I made back then because they are still my special friends and it would have been great years; eventually the only to include Mr. Amoss in this

Tim Giago, an Oglala and the smallest. We expect at Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1991. His weekly column won the H. L. Native newspapers will adapt Today, the Washington Post, Mencken Award in 1985. He was the founder of The Lakota Times, Indian Country Today, Lakota Journal and Native Sun News. He can be reached at

## Just don't tell 'em about the pajamas

LISA SNELL

The Native American Business Enterprise Center recognized the Native Times with an award last week. It was a really nice affair. They fed us all a good dinner and I met some great people. I was even at the same table as Dana Lance, who until then I'd only known via email and news from the Chickasaw Nation.

The evening was going really well until I realized that I'd be expected to say a few words up on the stage. Yes. Up there. In front of everyone.

My first job out of high school was a radio announcer and I worked as an announcer for several years. You'd think public speaking would be easy. Well, it is. If I can't see who's listening and they can't see me talking. I felt like Forrest Gump standing in line to meet the President after getting shot in the buttocks.

I reached over and squeezed my husband's knee. "What do I say?" I asked.

"Calm down. Just say what's important and

don't tell 'em you spend half the day in your pajamas," he said.

Well, THAT cat is out of the bag, now, isn't it? And now I need to remember to discuss with our 5-year-old that she and I got dressed BEFORE Daddy got home from work so Daddy WOULDN'T KNOW we spent the day in our

I reached for my glass of wine and changed my mind. I pictured the episode of *The Big Bang Theory* where Sheldon drinks wine to calm his nerves before accepting an award. His drunken acceptance speech and pantless antics went viral on YouTube.

Then I remembered producing for John Erling of KRMG radio back in the day. Before his shift he'd sip a cup of hot lemon water to clear his throat. I made do with coffee. I was last to go, so I had time to consider. What was important? The answer was 'who,' not what.

Saturday marks my four-year anniversary of owning the Native American Times. When I bought the paper, the economy was sinking and newspapers across the country were shutting their doors. I was oblivious to that at the time. Owning a newspaper was a nearly forgotten college dream that was coming true.

However, one thing, a very important thing I hadn't considered, was what I'd do with the paper once it printed. It had to be delivered and I was so worried about producing the paper I hadn't thought of that little technicality.

*I didn't have the time to tell the entire story to* the dinner crowd last week, so I'd like to tell it now. There's a group of people out there I owe a lot to and I want them to know it.

I had a fax copy of all the distribution points written out in longhand by the former owners and the woman that delivered for them. None of them wanted to do it anymore. I knew I couldn't take care of my baby, deliver papers, edit, write, design, sell ads and manage the website, too. I needed help.

My parents stepped up. They loaded up the Toyota and away they went. It took three days and 1,500 miles. We didn't have street addresses so a lot of time was spent hunting around and asking "where is such and such." My mom kept a yellow legal pad that she filled with addresses and notes. After about three months, Dad

declared he was tired. His butt was tired. It was time to quit. I put an ad in the paper and hired a distribution driver. Thanks to my parents, I was able to get on my feet and keep it going during the worst of times.

Since then, I've been blessed with great contributing writers, talented tribal media friends and several readers who submit some pretty good articles. But I wouldn't have a newspaper if I didn't have people putting it out there for everyone to read. Advertisers need circulation and I need advertisers to pay everyone that makes the newspaper happen

I started off doing two routes myself and hired some help for the rest. I've been blessed with some good people (and learned lessons from some not so good). People stepped up who cared about the job and doing it well. Goodwin Bassett from up in Red Rock was my first hire. He passed the job on to Randy Whitehorn who passed it on to Curtis Johnson. All good people who did a great job but had to move on. The days are long and the miles are hard on a car and harder on the tires.

Wes Mahan has been with me the longest. He's been through a couple of cars now and who knows how many tires he's driven bald. He and Steve Lacy put in 10-plus hour days. Wes heads south and west one day, north and east the next. Steve heads west and north up to Ponca City and then makes sure the Osage Nation and a chunk of the Cherokee Nation gets their papers. My sister, Brenda Slaughter, is the crazy one. I think every newspaper has at least one Crazy on staff. She only delivers one day, but she's determined that as many Choctaws as possible get the Native Times. She drives more than 750 miles and puts in 14 hours, driving from Westville to Tahlequah and back over to the Arkansas border. Then she heads south down to far southeastern Oklahoma to Idabel, Broken Bow and Hugo. The air went out on her car and still she runs her route, even if it's 115 degrees. (She says she keeps an ice chest full of water in the front seat and the windows down.) Kathy Robertson takes care of Anadarko and often chases down the errant UPS guy in her car to make sure she gets her papers delivered

In addition, I owe a big thanks to Mike Marris (Durant) and Dana Attocknie (Oklahoma City) who deliver the Times for free. Why? They love the newspaper.

Because of these people who care about their jobs and the newspaper, the Native American Times went from 5,000 copies per week in 2008 to being the third-largest circulated weekly in Oklahoma.

Now that's pretty important.

\*It's also important to call before you drop by my office. I can't have you catching me in my

Lisa Snell is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and a graduate of the University of Tulsa where she earned a degree in Communication and a minor in graphic art. She publishes the Native Times from her home office under the watchful eyes of her 1-year-old son and two rather ugly dogs. She may be reached by emailing lisa@

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day. www.nativetimes.com

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:	
Address:	
City:	_ State: Zip:
Phone:	

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

□ \$65.00 for 52 issues □ \$32.50 for 26 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## IHCRC holding 'teddy bear' clinic Sept. 8

Indian Health Care Resource Center News Release

TULSA, Okla. - Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa, Inc. (IHCRC) will be hosting a pediatric health fair which will include a teddy bear clinic on Saturday, September 8th from 10am-12pm at 550 S. Peoria Avenue in Tulsa. A variety of health and safety information for parents will be available to all that attend. This event is free and open to the public.

Children are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear, stuffed animal or doll to the health fair. During the event, the child will serve as the "parent" of the teddy bear or other stuffed animal while accompanying them through the different service areas of the clinic which will include reception, waiting room, doctor's exam, and radiology. The goal of the teddy bear clinic

is to provide a fun environment that will alleviate a child's fears of the medical setting and allow doctors, nurses, and technicians to perform various procedures on the toys, including X-rays, lab tests and checkups. At the same time, children get a better understanding of how a doctor's office work and learn about wellness and injury prevention.

They will also get great prizes as they go throughout the clinic. If a child does not have a favorite toy with them, we will provide 125 children with their very own teddy bear.

"The Teddy Bear Clinic is designed to be a similar healthcare experience that a child might have when they go for an annual checkup," says Carmelita Skeeter, IHCRC CEO. "Participation in the clinic will help kids become more familiar with a hospital setting and allow them to become more at ease

when seeing a doctor."

In addition to the children being able to take their teddy bear through the clinic to learn about healthy living, they will also be able to enjoy Tulsa Firefighters with a fire truck from 10-12am, balloon twisters, face painting, games and activities. Attendees will also have the chance to win one of many great prizes including a new Wii.

Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa, Inc., (IHCRC), is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, comprehensive health care facility, governed by a local Board of Directors. IHCRC provides medical, dental, optometry, behavioral health, chemical dependency, health education, and pharmacy services directly to the Tulsa Indian community. Members of any federally recognized tribe and their dependents are eligible to receive care.

## Feds start training program to combat sex assault

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - Federal officials have started a training program to help the law enforcement community investigate and prosecute sexual assault cases on tribal land.

Representatives from nearly two dozen American Indian tribes turned out last week for the first training seminar at the National Advocacy Center in South Carolina.

Leslie Hagen is the U.S. Justice Department's Indian Country training coordinator. She says it's going to take federal and tribal commitment and a coordinated response to address the high rates of sexual violence in tribal communities.

Justice Department statistics show American Indians are 2.5 times more likely to be sexually assaulted compared to all other races. Also, one in three Indian women reports having been raped during her lifetime.

Some of the training is aimed at understanding federal statutes, initial crime scene investigation and forensic examinations.

## **Wind Horse Family Counseling** Center ready to serve SE Okla.

**BRET MOSS** 

Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

IDABEL, Okla. - The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma (CNO) officially opened the doors of the Wind Horse Family Counseling Center with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2012.

The center, located at 1303 Lynn Lane in Idabel, near the Idabel Children's Clinic, will provide drug and alcohol counseling, as well as mental health help in areas such as grief counseling, depression and anxiety.

Any CDIB cardholder will be able to receive help with any one of these disorders from qualified mental health professionals. Lisa Meredith, who heads operations at the center, has over 20 years of experience in the field of mental health. Her associate, M. Jane Wilson, has also had extensive experience in the field and both are ready to make an impact in the Idabel area.

As the ribbon was cut and doors opened on the facility, new possibilities to aid the people of McCurtain County were realized. We really want to expand our counseling opportunities and incorporate many types of counseling services, said Wilson as she explained her hopes for the impact of the center. "We are always looking to improve our services and expand," followed Meredith.

The center will be open to appointments, walk-ins, and emergency calls when needed. In cases of emergency, anyone seeking help will need to call the hospital, which will dispatch to the on-

Based on the assessed need of the area,

Meredith expects to see between 50 and 100 patients per week. A receptionist will aid Meredith and Wilson with the flow of patients. Plans to add a third member to the counseling team are in effect as well.

A facility such as this has been a goal of District 1 Tribal Councilman Thomas Williston for some time. During his 25-year law enforcement career in McCurtain County, Williston has seen much heartache associated with alcohol and substance abuse.

With the high rate of substance abuse in the area, many individuals feel the direct and indirect effects. Children, spouses, family and friends all suffer mentally, and sometimes physically, when someone they care for becomes involved in these types of activities.

Idabel's Assistant Chief of Police John Martin describes the mental state of substance abusers as a cycle. Once they get involved, it is hard to break that streak. "We are hoping this is an intervention that will get them out of that system," stated Martin.

It is the hope of all involved in this effort, that the resources and aid provided by the facility will give those who feel they are trapped by addictions or mental ailments, the power to pull themselves out of their rut and break the cycle.

"We want to be there to give a hand to people," said Assistant Chief Gary Batton as he gave his remarks before the ribbon

The Wind Horse Family Counseling Center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. -4:30 p.m. If you would like to make an appointment of find out more about services provided, please call 580-286-7025.

# CLASSIFIEDS











#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

#### **JOB OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Native American Bank, N.A. is a financial services institution providing a wide range of banking services to the Native American communities throughout the United States.



NATIVE AMERICAN BANK, NA

Native American Bank is seeking an experienced banker and leader to fulfill this critical role on NAB's Senior Management team and to identify a successor to the Bank's retiring President and Chief Executive Officer. The ideal candidate for this position must be approvable by the regulators and have a strong management, finance, compliance, and capital raising background. The ideal candidate must have excellent public persona & interpersonal skills. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### Lending Relationship Manager

Seeking a Lending Relationship Manager to develop and manage commercial and agricultural loan customer accounts in the designated market. Responsible for developing building deposit portfolio as well as marketing the fee based services. Must be able to provide leadership, training and supervision and achieve of goals and objectives to business growth and profitability, credit quality and adherence to all bank policies and procedures. This position is located in the Browning, MT Branch.

We are seeking a Credit Analyst to conduct credit analyses including gathering, analyzing, and interpreting all types of credit information on existing and prospective customers and portfolio. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### For a detailed Job Announcements, please visit: www.nabna.com

NAB is an Equal Opportunity Employer with Native American Preference headquartered in Denver, CO. Member FDIC. Competitive salary & benefits are being offered based upon qualified experience and educational level. Send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to: Attn: Deb Emhoolah, VP/HR, Native American Bank, N.A.,

999 18th St, Ste 2460; Denver, CO 80202, Fax: 720-962-9455 or Email: employment@nabna.com. Employment background checks are required for these positions.



Native American Bank, N.A. | 999 18th Street, Suite 2460, Denver, CO 80202 FDIC www.nabna.com | 800.368.8894 Phone | 303.988.5533 Fax | (Browning, MT) 800.307.9199

#### THE AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

Is currently seeking to fill the following position:

#### TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Full job description and application details visit our website at:

www.collegefund.org <About Us>

or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to:

applications@collegefund.org

# HEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITY** #6492 Medical Technologist II/R/FT

WW Hastings Hospital, Tahlequah, Okla. Closes 8/31/2012

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department** 

**PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results, Indian preference is considered

#### **Adjuncts for Criminal Justice Studies**

Adjuncts who are interested in teaching various criminal justice studies courses including Forensics I & II, Juvenile Justice, Organized and White Collar Crime, Courts & Constitutional Law, Corrections I & II. Criminal Investigation, Victimology and Domestic Violence heginning Fal 2012. Doctorate of ABD desirable or a minimum of a Master's degree in criminal justice or related field. College teaching experience preferred. Duties included instruction in courses leading to a BS in Criminal Justice Studies and engaging in college/professional service.

are competitive and Salaries commensurate with experience and credentials. Review of applicants will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Candidates should submit letter of intent, vitae and three professional references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Rd. Muskogee, OK 74403. Bacone College is a private fouryear college with a mission to provide opportunities to Indian students and employees. EOE

#### **Tule River Indian Tribe of CA**

**Assistant Controller** Store Manger **Personal Trainer Structure Firefighter Captain Gaming Security Director Gaming Security Lieutenant Procurement Clerk** 

These positions are located in Porterville, CA. For more info contact Eilene, HR Recruiter at (559)781-4271 Ext. 1051 or hrclerk@tulerivertribe-nsn.gov

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

OK PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

#### **CALL CENTER REP**

Responsible for large volume of inbound calls, providing benefit information and troubleshooting memberissues. Excellent interpersonal and customer service skills required. Must be proficient in current software applications including Word and Excel. Hiring rate: \$33,489/yr. Deadline for applications: 9/12/2012. For more information and application procedures, go to http://www.opers. ok.gov/jobs. EOE

#### **Adjunct Instructor-Biology**

Bacone College is looking for adjunct instructor (part-time) to teach in the following area for the fall 2012 semester: Biology. Minimum qualifications: Master's degree with higher education teaching experience. Salary competitive. send letter of application, vita, transcripts and three references to : Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Rd., Muskogee OK 74403. Bacone College is a private four-year college with a mission to provide opportunities to Indian students and employees. EOE

#### **Adjunct Instructor**

Bacone College is looking for adjunct instructor (part-time instructor) to teach in the following areas for the fall 2012 semester: OGET Prep (similar to GED Prep classes) which will be held on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 1:30 to 2:20 pm. Minimum qualifications: Master's degree with higher education teaching experience. Salary competitive. send letter of application, vita, transcripts and three references to: Human Resources, Bacone College, 2299 Old Bacone Rd. Muskogee, OK 74403. Bacone College is a private fouryear college with a mission to provide opportunities to Indian students and employees. EOE

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960 CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** Loans up to \$500.00

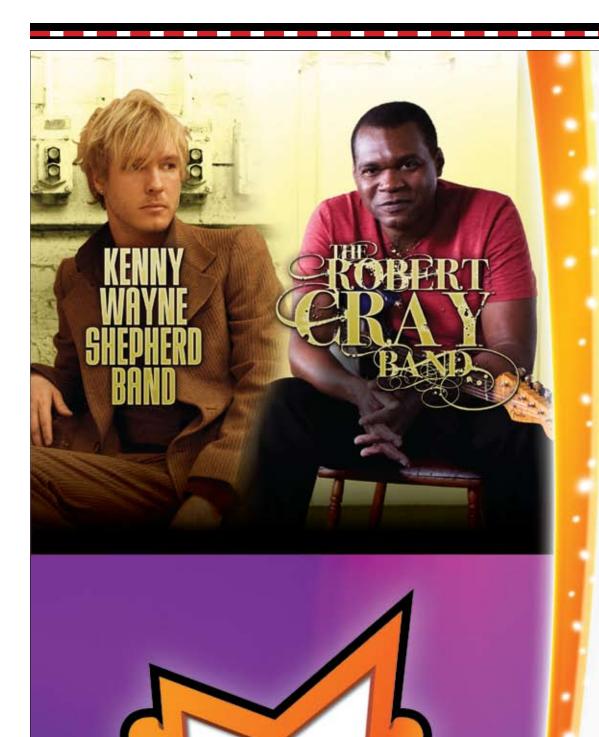
918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960 **Professional & Affordable Web Design** 



204-376-3428

www.ganica.net





# Thursday, September 13 7 pm • Tickets are \$48

Order your Event Center tickets at osagecasinos.com!



Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.

4 miles from Downtown Tulsa • End of Tisdale Parkway (918) 699-7777 • If Like us on Facebook!

# FREEOUTDOOR

## GATES OPEN AT 6 PM

**OPENING ACT • MICHAEL TODD & THE WILD FRONTIER BAND** 

STARSHIP
FEATURING MICKEY THOMAS
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
HOMINY

#### **SAWYER BROWN**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12
BARTLESVILLE

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.

LEE GREENWOOD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19
PAWHUSKA

JO DEE MESSINA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26
—— SAND SPRINGS

Rain or shine. All ages welcome. Bring your own chairs. No outside coolers, food or drinks allowed.





# EVENTS •

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@ nativetimes.com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

AUGUST 30- SEPTEMBER 3 Choctaw Nation Labor Day Festival & Powwow, Tushka Homma Capitol Grounds. Information call 800-522-6170.

AUGUST 31 & SEPTEMBER 1 Cherokee National Holiday Powwow - see schedule on Page 2.

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2 Ottawa Powwow and Celebration at Adawe Park, 11400 S. 613 Road, Miami. 918-542-1536.

#### SEPTEMBER 1-3 Cheyenne & Ara

**SEPTEMBER 7-8** 

Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes Labor Day Powwow, Colony Powwow Grounds, Colony, Okla. Contest powwow, Handgame tournament. Info call Cinci Hill, 405-887-4689.

Film Forward, a cultural exchange at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, 867 Cooper Memorial Drive, Sulphur, Okla., featuring free screenings of independent films, discussions and a chance to meet film directors. More info visit

sundance.org/filmforward

or call 580-622-7138

SEPTEMBER 8
Community Garage Sale/
Food Sale at Duck Creek
Community Ranch, 3890

HWY 75, Beggs, Okla. 8am-? Portion of proceeds to help with Miss Yuchi/ Euchee travel expenses. Call Jacqueline Rolland at 918-752-5300 to reserve a place.

SEPTEMBER 8
Teddy Bear Clinic at Indian
Health Care Resource
Center, 550 S. Peoria, Tulsa,
Okla., 10am-Noon. First 125
children get a free teddy
bear. Children's activities,
door prizes and drawing for
a Wii. Call 918-382-1206 for

more info.

SEPTEMBER 13-14
Blue Thumb Water Pollution
Education Program at
Choctaw Community Center,
2750 Big Lots Pkwy., Durant,
Okla. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
both days. More info call
Cheryl Cheadle, 918-3981804 or cheryl.cheadle@
conservation.ok.gov Or Kim
Shaw, 405-522-4738 or kim.
shaw@conservation.ok.gov
or visit www.conservation.
ok.gov (Click "Blue Thumb"
in upper left corner)

SEPTEMBER 15

Dance for Life contest
powwow - a community
event bringing awareness
to suicide prevention in our
communities and among
our youth. Sponsored by the
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
Teen Suicide Prevention
Program. Event will be held
in the Comanche Nation
Community Center in
Apache, Oklahoma. More
info call 405-247-5200 or
email gmbeaver@att.net

All proceeds
to the Wome
Center to hel
Shelter/Rape
OCTOBER 20
Pryor Powwo
MidAmerica
526 Airport F
Okla. Contest
Men's Fancy
and up; Men
16 yrs and up
Southern Clo

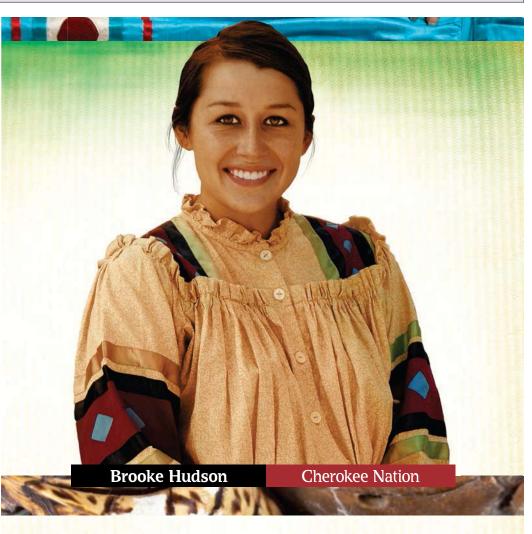
SEPTEMBER 20-22 Oklahoma Indian Summer Celebration, 300 S.E. Adams Blvd., Bartlesville. Info call Jenifer Pechonick 918-331-0934

SEPTEMBER 21-22
Inaugural Salina Powwow
at Salina High School
Gymnasium, Salina, Okla.
Contact: Doug Simpson
Phone: 918-704-3786
Email: salinapowwowclub@
yahoo.com or visit http://
www.facebook.com/
salinapowwowclub

OCTOBER 5-6
Fort Sill Indian School
Annual Reunion, 7:00 pm
-12:00 Friday & 2:00 pm
- 12:00 Saturday at FSIS
Gym, Lawton, OK. Contact:
Darlene Defoe 828.736.0851

OCTOBER 6
Benefit Gourd Dance 2:00
PM to 10:00 PM - Supper
@ 5:30 PM at Goodrich
Memorial UMC, 200 W.
Hayes St., Norman, Okla.
Info call Linda Forrester
(405) 833-1559 or Mary Lou
Drywater (405) 361-2393.
All proceeds will be given
to the Womens Resource
Center to help the DV
Shelter/Rape Crisis Center.

OCTOBER 20
Pryor Powwow at
MidAmerica Expo Center,
526 Airport Road, Pryor,
Okla. Contest powwow!
Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs
and up; Men's Traditional 16 yrs and up; Senior Ladies
Southern Cloth 55 yrs and
up Tiny Tots 6 and under.





## Quit Commercial Tobacco

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 QUIT NOW

784-8669 OKhelpline.com

# Total Care Solutions



"Your Total Solution for Medical Equipment and Supplies"

American Indian Woman Owned & Operated www.TotalCareSolutions.biz

## Purchase & Rental Equipment

#### Respiratory Care

Respiratory products are widely used by the elderly for the treatment of heart and lung disorders. They are also becoming more common in the treatment of children with asthma and sleep apnea with adults.

#### Home Care

This area includes a variety of products normally utilized during hospital stays. With the dramatic reduction in the length of hospital stays, it has become necessary to use these same products in a home environment.



#### Mobility

Mobility items comprise one of the fastest growing healthcare products segments. This product area has expanded from basic canes and walkers to multiple lines of electronic wheelchairs and scooters.

#### **Bathroom Safety**

Accessibility in one's own home is a great area of concern for those who have suffered injury or declining health. Total Care Solutions provides the bathroom safety products necessary for customers to maintain a safer and a more independent lifestyle in their own homes.

## Our Service Values

#### Servant Attitude

We are givers, not takers. We are listeners, not talkers. We are promoters of others, not of ourselves. We perform our roles with humility and dignity.

#### Ethics

We do not participate in, nor tolerate, dishonesty or unethical behavior. We respect the rights of our customers and staff.

#### Responsibility

We are personally accountable for our actions and how they affect others. We are obligated to do whatever it takes to meet the needs of our customers and staff.

#### Versatility

We adapt the equipment and services we provide to meet the every changing needs and service standards of our customers.

- Medical Equipment
- Non-Emergency Transportation
  - MRI Imaging by Hitachi (financing available & NAC Pricing)

#### Initiative

We are problem solvers. Our mission is to effectively search for new ideas and ways to help our customers, and thus, ourselves. We never say "NO" to

#### Communication

We communicate in an honest and fair manner, and recognize the value of honest feedback. We promote a positive environment free from harassment.

#### Enthusiasm

Our strength lies in our sense of family. We work together to reach our goals and openly celebrate other's success.

- MRI Design Build
- MRI Mobile Unit
- Medical & Surgical Supplies

TOTAL CARE SOLUTIONS takes responsibility to serve two unique customers. Our first customer and priority is always the patient. Our goal is to take care of their long-term needs with quality medical equipment and supplies. Our secondary customers are hospices, physician offices and long-term care facilities and in-home needs. Our goal offers our customers the freedom to focus their attention and abilities on the patients and their family members. We want to be an extension of the valuable care they provide.

The cornerstone of our values and service sets us apart from our competitors.

TOTAL CARE SOLUTIONS will continue to look for new sales and service opportunities to help us meet our customers ever-changing needs.

#### Corporate Office:

1400 SW Expressway • Broken Arrow, OK 74012 • 918.994.4336



13924 Quail Pointe Dr., Suite B • Oklahoma City, OK 73134 • 405.607.0687

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Millions awarded to farmers in settlement
- Banking on tradition for 75 years in Vinita
- State initiative to reduce infant mortality









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 35

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**SEPTEMBER 7, 2012** 

# Cobell on hold: 4 appellants petitioning Supreme Court



The late Elouise Cobell began a class-action suit in the latter 1990s requesting an accounting of the mismanagement of funds by the US Department of the Interior.

**EVELYN RED LODGE** Native Sun News

WASHINGTON - After 16 years of litigation, the historic \$3.4 billion Cobell settlement agreement has once more been delayed in litigation even as thousands of classaction members await their

On Aug. 20, the deadline to appeal a May ruling against her claims by a lower federal court, Sisseton Wahpeton

Oyate member Kimberly Craven filed for a writ of certiorari, or cert petition, with the United States Supreme Court as an objector to the Cobell settlement agreement.

Three others - Rosebud Sioux Tribe member Charles Colombe, Three Affiliated Tribes member Carol Eve Good Bear, and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe member Mary Lee Johns, will also file as objectors as it stands. On Aug.

17, the high court granted the three an extension to appeal until Sept. 22. The requested delay will allow Colombe, Good Bear and Johns to review Craven's filing before filing their own joint motion with the Supreme Court.

The late Elouise Cobell began a class-action suit in the latter 1990s whereby and through litigation a historical accounting of the mismanagement of funds by the U.S. Department of the

Interior was requested.

Craven's cert petition contends, "After more than fifteen years of litigation originally intended to achieve an adequate accounting for Indians holding Individual Indian Money accounts (trustland accounts administered by the Interior Department), the (lower) courts approved a settlement agreement with pervasive intra-class conflicts."

See COBELL Continued on Page 4

## Bank seeks to close down **C&A** accounts, mail check

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

ARAPAHO, Okla. – A Clinton, Okla., bank is requesting permission to close down more than 30 frozen accounts held by a divided Oklahoma tribe.

On Friday, Aug. 24, First Bank and Trust of Clinton, Okla., filed a petition with the Custer County District Court to close the accounts held by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, currently under the supervision of District Court judge Doug Haught. A hearing on the application is scheduled for Sept. 10.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes have been dealing with a split in leadership for more than 18 months. Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell and Leslie Wandrie-Harjo ran for office and were inaugurated together in January 2010, but their political alliance dissolved over a series of allegations. Each woman has formed her own government, claiming to be the legitimate authority of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes.

The tribes' accounts with the bank have been frozen since April 24 after conflicting reports of who had signatory authority for the roughly \$6.4 million. As per a June decision by Haught, no one can withdraw any funds from the accounts without a court

If its request is granted, accounts and mail a check to the address of record for the tribes, minus the bank's court costs and attorneys fees.

According to the certificate of service for the filing, the address of record is the tribe's complex in Concho, Okla., where Boswell's government is headquartered.

Tiger Woods, left, with Notah Begay, led the West squad to victory Aug. 29 at the Atunyote Golf Clube at Turning Stone Resort & Casino in central New York state.

## **IHS head stops in Lawton**

S.E. RUCKMAN Native American Times Special Contributor

LAWTON, Okla. - The head of Indian Health Services promised improvements continued to the aging Lawton Indian Hospital despite an upcoming presidential election. Dr. Yvette Roubideaux made an on-site visit at the southwest Okla. hospital Aug. 30 to meet with members of the Inter-tribal Indian Health Advisory Board.

"I'm surprised at how many improvements you've

made," Roubideaux told health board members, IHS administration and tribal officials. Representatives from the area's tribes included the Western Delaware; Caddo Nation; Comanche; Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma and the Fort Sill Apache.

The IHS director told attendees that her agency, under Health and Human Services (HHS), were going to continue to tackle problems even if Obama is defeated in

**See LAWTON** *Continued on Page 3* 

## **Cherokee Nation files against DOI to** rescind UKB land in trust approval

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - The Cherokee Nation filed a civil action against the Department of Interior Aug. 29 over a decision to grant another tribe's land in trust application.

Filed in the Northern District Court of Oklahoma, the tribe and one of its businesses, Cherokee Nation Entertainment, are asking that the Department of Interior rescind and renounce a July 30 approval of the United

Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians' land in trust application for 2.03 acres in Tahlequah, Okla., where the tribe's casino has been in business for more than 25 years and generated more than \$5 million in wages last

That decision was handed down hours before the casino was scheduled to close under an agreement with Oklahoma Attorney General Scott

See TRUST Continued on Page 2

## West Team wins 5th annual Notah **Begay III Foundation Challenge**

■ New format produced memorable moments for golf fans at annual event to raise awareness and funds to improve health and wellness of Native American youth

VERONA, N.Y. - The West team representing the United States outshot a world-class field of PGA and LPGA stars to capture the fifth annual Notah Begay III (NB3) Foundation Challenge title. Notah Begay III and Tiger Woods led the West squad to victory in the mixed team, best ball tournament at the Atunyote Golf Club at Turning Stone Resort & Casino in central New York. The real winners of the event are Native youth around the nation, who will benefit

from the \$500,000 raised by the NB3 Foundation to help advance its mission of improving health and wellness in the Native American community.

"Today's Challenge afforded us an invaluable opportunity to bring to light one of the most pressing health disparities facing Indian Country today childhood obesity and diabetes," said the event's host and four-time PGA TOUR winner, Notah Begay III. "To the elite athletes, the Oneida Indian Nation and the dedicated fans who lined the course - thank you for your continued support of the health and well-being of the next generation of Native American leaders."

The new East meets West format, highlighted by a field featuring some of golf's premier players from the PGA TOUR and LPGA and a crowd of eager fans, set the stage for a great afternoon of golf. The West team of Begay, Woods, Rickie Fowler, Gary Woodland, Cristie Kerr and Lexi Thompson emerged as the tournament champions, outpacing K.J. Choi, Se Ri Pak, Yani Tseng, Y.E. Yang, Danny Lee and Charlie Wi of the East team by the score of 8 to 6. Kerr sunk a birdie on the 18 to give the West team the lead and Begay birdied the final hole to clinch the victory.

"The gratification comes not from taking home the trophy for the West, but from playing a role in the betterment of the Native children," said Kerr, who was part of the winning team at the NB3 Foundation Challenge for the third consecutive year. "The real reason we're out on the course today is to shine a spotlight on a community in which the Notah Begay III Foundation is working

so diligently create positive

change? "It's an honor to walk the course with a field of golfers who use their international draw to make a difference in the lives of Native American youth," said Fowler. "Notah's unmatched commitment to a cause that is so near to his heart is inspiring."

the Ultimately, action from the 2012 NB3 Foundation Challenge happens outside the ropes, where all proceeds from the event go to the Notah Begay III Foundation. The money raised through the event supports the commitment to develop sustainable, evidence-based, innovative programs that can achieve significant results in helping to reverse the epidemics of childhood obesity and type 2 diabetes. Driven by Native staff, these programs

See BEGAY Continued on Page 4

# FTC conducting free tribal broadband, telecom 101 training sessions in Okla.

Oklahoma and Southern Plains session will be held in Norman, Okla., Sept.18-19, at the Gaylord College on the University of Oklahoma campus.

WASHINGTON

This September, Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) Office of Native Affairs and Policy will conduct two free training and technical assistance programs where the FCC has never before held Tribal training events - one in Wisconsin and one in Oklahoma - for Tribal Nations and those interested in improving broadband and telecommunications services Tribal communities and institutions. While these sessions are focused on their specific regions of Indian Country, registrants from across the nation are welcome to come to these geographically central locations and take part in these important sessions.

These Tribal Broadband and Telecom 101 training sessions will cover new FCC rules and funding opportunities for broadband, wireless services, and universal service fund supported services. The training will also cover new radio broadcast licensing opportunities for Tribal Nations, as well as changes to the Tribal Lifeline and Link Up discount programs for low-income households. Both sessions will include opportunities to dialogue with, and share experiences and perspectives with the FCC.

The Great Lakes session will be held in coordination with the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission in Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin, on September 12-13 at the Lake of the Torches Casino and Hotel. The Oklahoma and Southern Plains session will be held in coordination with the University of Oklahoma's Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication in Norman, OK, on September 18-19 at the Gaylord College. Both sessions will be provided free of charge to registrants. Space is limited, so please register to ensure your participation.

These Tribal Broadband and Telecom 101 training sessions are targeted to Tribal leaders and decisionmakers, including Tribal community, economic and education officials, as well as Tribal telecommunications, IT, and strategic planning professionals. The training will benefit Tribal Nations interested in setting up Tribally-owned and operated companies to provide telephone and high-speed Internet services. training will also benefit Tribal Nations interested in engaging or partnering with existing carriers to provide telephone and high speed internet services on Tribal

Topics in both sessions will include:

- · Setting up a Triballyowned communications company and applying for certification to receive federal universal service support as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier
- Engaging or partnering with carriers to provide voice and high-speed data on Tribal lands
- New Connect America
   Fund rules to deploy broadband services
   nationwide
- · The new Tribal Mobility Fund and how funding for wireless deployment can be

obtained

- · The FCC's new Tribal Engagement requirement for carriers serving Tribal lands
- · New FCC rules helping Tribes set up their own commercial and community radio stations
- · Changes to the Tribal Lands Lifeline and Link Up discount programs for lowincome consumers
- · U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Rural Utility Service loan and grant programs that support Tribal telecom and broadband deployment

· Consultation with the FCC, and how to participate in and affect federal telecom policymaking

Oklahoma and Southern Plains Tribal Broadband and Telecom 101 Training Details: This free two-day training program will be conducted in Oklahoma on September 18-19 at the University of Oklahoma's Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication, 395 W. Lindsey Street, Norman, OK 73019. There are numerous

affordable hotel options in the Norman area. Public parking is available near the Gaylord College.

To register for either of these free Tribal Broadband and Telecom 101 training sessions, please send an email to Native@fcc.gov and mention "Great Lakes Training" or "Oklahoma and Southern Plains Training" in the subject line. You will be contacted about completing your free registration. You may also register by calling Mr. Rod Flowers of the FCC's Office of Native Affairs and Policy at 202-418-2930. Draft agendas and additional program, location, and parking information will be emailed to you. Space is limited, so please register to ensure your participation.

For additional program information, please contact Daniel Rumelt, Senior Policy Advisor, FCC Office of Native Affairs and Policy, at 202-418-7512, or Dan.Rumelt@fcc.gov.

#### **SMSC Chairman dies**

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)

- Stanley Crooks, the chairman of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community for the last two decades, died last week. He

A statement from the tribe said Crooks died from natural causes but did not go into more details.

"Chairman Crooks was a leader in every sense of the word," tribal vice chairman Charlie Vig said in a statement. "I am honored to have worked with Stanley over the last 20 years. ... We join with his family, friends, and all those who were privileged to know Chairman Crooks in mourning his passing."

Crooks, who became the tribe's chairman in 1992, was a national figure in Indian country, serving as the chairman of the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association for many years and the tribe's representative to the National Indian Gaming Association, as well as to the National Congress of American Indians.

He served in the Navy during the Cuban missile crisis.

## **TRUST**

Continued from Page 1

Pruitt.

"The department's bootstrap reason – that it is the ongoing conduct of an illegal gaming operation that provides the basis for a finding of a 'need' for a proposed trust acquisition in order to cure the illegality of the gaming – is arbitrary and capricious, an abuse of discretion and contrary to the law," Cherokee

Nation Attorney General Todd Hembree wrote in Wednesday's filing.

In the approval letter, acting Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Michael Black also wrote that the United Keetoowah Band and Cherokee Nation have equal jurisdiction across 14 counties in northeastern Oklahoma.

"The secretary's 'former reservation' conclusion is contrary to an unbroken line of prior departmental rulings and to a series of decisions by this court," Hembree wrote. "This conclusion, however, was the basis for the department's unlawful decision to approve the acquisition of 2.03 acres of land located within the last treaty boundaries of the nation... for the use and benefit of the United Keetoowah Band Corporation."

Wednesday's filing only named Black and Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar as defendants. The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians is not listed.



COURTES

Peace and Dignity Runners journey through Sand Canyon to reach the waters of Sand Creek on the San Manuel Indian Reservation.

# Indigenous runners relay message of protecting waters from Alaska to Guatemala

SAN MANUEL INDIAN NATION, Calif.

-The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians hosted a leg of the Peace and Dignity Journeys 2012 intertribal run that joins the American continent in a prayer for peace for all peoples, dignity for the Native Nations and awareness of water and indigenous water rights.

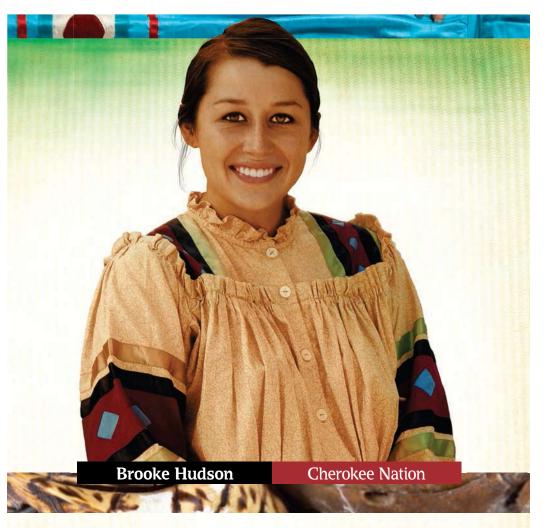
San Manuel leadership greeted and led 20 runners onto the San Manuel Indian Reservation at dusk on the evening August 28, welcoming them to spend the night and share in cultural observances tied to the land and water. The San Manuel Indian Reservation, located along the steep foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, presented the runners with a physical challenge as they completed their run for the day.

The group is running to raise awareness about water and indigenous water rights including diminishing access to good

sources among tribes in Central and South America. The run is held every four years and began in 1992, to bring awareness to the indigenous history of the American Continent as a counterpoint to the 500th anniversary of Columbus' landing. Runners begin on opposite ends of the continents (Chickaloon, Alaska and Tierra del Fuego, Argentina) and run for six months through hundreds of Indigenous communities. The run is broken up into legs with runners relaying prayer staffs among groups of runners with select runners continuing on to Guatemala.

Upon leaving San Manuel runners continued on to Sherman Indian High School in Riverside before embarking for Soboba, Cahuilla and the Quechan Indian Nations.

Additional information and routes can be found on the website: www. peaceanddignitysocal.net



# Honor what is SACRED

## Quit Commercial Tobacco

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.

784-8669



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 OUIT NOW

OKhelpline.com

## Runners to stop in Oklahoma

The Peace & Dignity Journeys 2012 is coming through Oklahoma beginning Sept. 5-12 and has asked S.P.I.R.I.T for assistance in coordinating this effort.

There are 11 runners and about two to three support people who are coming through Oklahoma on their way from Alaska to Guatemala to reunite the Eagle and the Condor – about 15 in all. They encourage support runners and community involvement in every city, to educate and inform about the mission and why its important. Following is a schedule of the Oklahoma stops of this incredible mission:

Wednesday (9/5) - Ponca City: hosts Ponca Indian Methodist Church and Ms. Casey Camp-Horinek

Thursday (9/6) – Pawhuska: hosts Marilyn and Zeke Yarbrough Friday (9/7) – Tulsa: TBA

Saturday (9/8) – Okemah: hosts Thlopthlocco Tribal Town (Outside of Okemah)

Sunday (9/9) – Oklahoma City: Church

of the Open Arms, 3131 N. Penn, OKC

Monday (9/10) – Norman: TBA

Tuesday (9/11) - Leave OKC heading to Dallas NEED SOMEWHERE TO STAY Wednesday (9/12) - NEED SOMEWHERE

Thursday (9/13) - Dallas

Here are a few links about the P&D Journeys: http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1568213893/peace-and-dignity-journeys-2012

http://www.facebook.com/groups/

Please if you are able we ask for donations of food, dried fruit, Gatorade, water, toiletries, socks, music, sunscreen, lotion, icy-hot muscle rub, etc., for these folks. We do plan to have pot luck dinners at each location to honor these esteemed guests, so please consider bringing a covered dish to the a location nearest to you on the specified evening of their arrival.



ASSOCIATED PRESS | FILE

From left, Marilyn Keepseagle, Claryca Mandan, and Porter Holder, plaintiffs in a class-action lawsuit by American Indian farmers, celebrate outside the federal courthouse in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010. The lawsuit filed in 1999 contends Indian farmers and ranchers lost about \$500 million because they were denied USDA loans.

## Millions awarded to farmers in government settlement

**CHEROKEE NATION** News Release

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - Hundreds of Cherokee farmers received settlement payments this week from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for \$50,000 each. The payment stems from the Keepseagle Settlement, which alleged that between 1981 and 1999 the USDA failed to provide technical assistance and, in some cases, denied or charged higher interest rates to Native Americans for farm loans.

"This is something we have diligently worked on for 15 years," said

Principal Chief Bill John Baker. "It was based on the federal government not fulfilling their promises to Cherokee farmers. For years Councilor Joe Byrd and I repeatedly brought up the issue in Washington D.C., and they finally recognized the problem and fixed it. These funds will provide much-needed assistance to Cherokee farmers and ranchers and have a major economic impact on the Cherokee Nation."

Baker reached out to Cherokee County banks and financial institutions to allow recipients to cash or deposit their settlement checks. He said there has been some alarm at so many

recipients walking into banks with checks for such large sums of money.

"I hope all of our local banks recognize these checks are legitimate and work with our farmers to process their funds," Baker said.

Eleven-hundred Native American farmers in northeast Oklahoma filed against the USDA, more than anywhere else in the country, according to Alicia Seyler, an Oklahoma tribal representative who assisted with USDA loans through the Intertribal Agricultural Council. The \$760 million Keepseagle v. Vilsack suit was settled in 2010.

Those who received checks in August were part of the Track A claims. Claimants with outstanding USDA loans will be notified at the end of October whether some or all of the debt will be relieved. More severe claims, Track B, will be notified by mail by Oct. 30.

The deadline to file a claim was Dec. 27, 2011. For more information on the Keepseagle Settlement, visit www. indianfarmclass.com, or contact Alicia Seyler at (918) 699-9850 or aseyler@ indianaglink.com.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers DANA ATTOCKNIE LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL

advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country





#### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND

918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 'Changing the culture of waste." TM

#### Native TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

Continued from Page 1

the upcoming election. In the meantime, there would be six months to keep working on areas they know needs to be improved.

"I don't know what will happen in the election but it's full steam ahead until Jan 21, 2013," she said.

Members of the health advisory board were able to ask Roubideaux about funding for the Lawton hospital. The hospital currently operates with upwards of \$30 million in federal funds, officials said. She acknowledged that despite the budget recommendations to Congress, the overall budget amount could see a significant under Republican leadership.

"We want to protect what we have here and improve it," said board member Lupe Gooday. "Despite the renovations, the facility is aging and money is needed for improvements. Are we gonna go forward or are we going to be a clinic?"

Roubideaux answered questions but left specific details to local leadership, includingarea officials Admiral Kevin Meeks and Capt. Greg Ketcher who attended the meeting. Unit directors for both Anadarko and Lawton were also present.

Western Delaware official, Watkins said that improvements had targeted some areas but they were concerned with staffing shortages to treat patients who were coming from North Texas and Northeastern Okla., not just the local area. Increased patient loads currently outpaced current funding levels, board members said.

"They expect everything and it costs us a lot and we not funded for it," Watkins said. "By the time the oil boom in the 1980s was over, our Indian hospital was in bad shape."

The facility has reduced staff, discontinued labor and cut inpatient services, relying on contract health care by area mainstream providers over the past decade. Because

the Lawton service unit is for direct service tribes, it relies solely on IHSfunding, unlike neighboring tribes who operate under self-governance provisions.

"It's kind of heartbreaking, we're not the only one's suffering, it's going on all over the country," said Lori Gooday Ware, Fort Sill Apache vicechairman.

Roubideaux said she was hearing from some tribal leaders in southwest Okla. that things are getting better, but acknowledged that there's an "enormous need," in Lawton's Indian hospital. She said she envisions a strong partnership between area IHS officials and the health board in the coming year to locate exactly what needs to be addressed. She asked all area unit directors to be more transparent with

budget information. "I've heard so many horrible things about this facility," Roubideaux said. "But it's not so bad, there have been

Among areas earmarked for improvements at Lawton

improvements."

are the reinstatement of an operating room and Intensive Care Unit (ICU) as well as the addition of medical specialists for conditions like autoimmune diseases. The immediate plans are to build two additional modular buildings for dental and behavioral health. Improvements in these areas would allow them to update existing spaces for other uses like the emergency room and radiology.

Ketcher said he had a longterm and short-term plan for the Lawton hospital that he would be happy to share with area tribal leaders.

Roubideaux continued to emphasize funding shortages plaguing most Indian health facilities. In budget formulation sessions, IHS estimates that it needs about \$7 billion to make all the recommended improvements to IHS facilities across the country. Only \$80 million is budgeted for such, which presses IHS to amp up their third-party payments for subsidized government programs like Medicaid and Medicare. At present, Oklahoma declines to expand Medicaid eligibility guidelines that could up government monies for operations, officials

At the end of the two-hour meeting, Roubideaux said that she maintains a strong vision for the Lawton Hospital and wanted to be updated whenever possible about its progress.

"Our plan for Lawton is to change and improve," she said. "I think in a way, Lawton has an image problem but it's changing and improving."



Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork** Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org



## Banking on tradition: Vinita's Oklahoma State Bank looks back and forward at 75

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

VINITA, Okla. – Oklahoma State Bank in Vinita has earned a reputation for solidarity, efficiency and quality – all the hallmarks of a fine thoroughbred in its prime. At 75, this horse is swift to stay ahead of its game.

The bank located at 120 W. Canadian Ave. in the heart of the Craig County seat celebrates this milestone in September at its locations in Vinita as well as its branches in Langley and Monkey Island.

President of Oklahoma State Bank Eddy C. Allensworth said it's "strange at 75," but in a very good way.

"It's a tremendous accomplishment ... and something we're very proud of," he said.

Allensworth has been part of the OSB family since 1989 and can attest to the transformations he has seen in his hometown as well as OSB. A tradition of community spirit continues, which makes its concept of "thoroughbred banking" as personal as it is excellent. Allensworth said he is reminded of this every time he looks at OSB's horse logo.

"It has deeper meaning for me because I've seen where we've come from and the fact that we do progress and we do have to change with the time," he said. "For a small community bank we're on the cutting edge. There are some things (in which) we can outperform and out service the bigger banks on."

To understand OSB, you have to know its beginnings and about the Hartley family.

Officially, OSB opened as Craig County Bank in November 1937, set up by a small group of investors, but its ties stretch way back to Indian Territory and the town of Centralia, northwest of present-day Vinita. In the late 1890s, Centralia was a hub for commerce and eventually became home to two banks. There, OSB Chairman of the Board F.M. (Monty) Hartley's grandfather, Fred Hartley, began work at a bank. Eventually, however, Centralia fell into decline, and other communities grew up along the railroads pushing through

Oklahoma. The banks closed like other businesses, and Fred Hartley moved on to Grove. Other bankers in Centralia left, too, some looking to Vinita.

When OSB was chartered in 1937, Vinita was an established community at the junction of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad (now the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad) and the however. To meet ever changing banking regulations, the push for convenience in customer service and the evolving economy of Oklahoma, OSB has diversified into new ventures, including wealth management, health banking (savings accounts) and financing of special tribal projects.

OSB's Chief Information Officer Brian Hartley also leads the bank's



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Oklahoma State Bank celebrates its 75th anniversary in September Pictured are Eddy C. Allensworth, president; F.M. ("Monty") Hartley, chairman of the board; Heath Hartley, CEO; and Brian Hartley, CIO.

Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway (back then called Katy, today known as the Union Pacific).

The Hartleys entered the banking picture again in the late 1950s when Hartley's father, the late Kelly Hartley, joined the bank and became an officer. He began buying shares of the bank gradually to become the majority shareholder and chairman of the board, a position he would pass to his son in 1992.

"We grew up in the agriculture business," F.M. Hartley said. "He was doing cattle inspections and monitoring loans and appraisals."

That aspect hasn't changed much. OSB is still rooted in Craig County's agricultural economics and banks on it.

"Many of the banks across the state will just kind of roll their eyes and look at us and say, 'You make loans on cattle? That's crazy because cattle die," Allensworth said. "We just kind of smile and say, 'Yeah, we're comfortable with that.' We understand where the risks are and feel like we know what we're doing."

Some things have changed,

business development sector. When he joined in 2002, he saw how OSB could improve its product to customers through online banking, automatic bill pay and other services now commonplace in the industry. Other upgrades were made to banking software, methods and products.

The bank has been TERO certified through the Cherokee Nation Tribal Employment Rights Office since 2010, affording OSB benefits as a Nativeowned business owing to the Hartleys' Cherokee blood.

Brian Hartley is also the bank's TERO specialist.

"It has given us new opportunities," he said. "It has allowed us to bid on (projects for) different tribes in the area for building hotels, building other ventures they have in businesses. We can help out in the financing side of that"

As a TERO-certified business, OSB is among a number of Native-owned business on the CN's list for special consideration when projects are up for bid, whether it means financing an addition to a casino gaming floor or providing payroll and cash

management services. In past 3-5 years, OSB has become more involved in tribe projects.

Such initiatives have allowed this institution to serve customers in 42 states and surpass more than \$100 million in assets to date. But OSB very much remains a local bank.

"Small town community banks, I feel, have a purpose," said F.M. Hartley.

Communities have a place for business transactions, and local banks have a clear perspective on what the community wants, F.M. Harley added.

"Hopefully we create a warm feeling in the community with a friendliness that big national banks can't offer," F.M. Hartley said.

Part of that formula is hiring good employees who reflect the community.

"Craig County is deeply rooted in agriculture, and I think that hard work and work ethic is a reflection of the agricultural industry that carries over into the bank," Allensworth said. "It's a reflection of the community that no one's scared to work hard or roll-up their sleeves to do their part ... When you surround yourself with

good people, good things happen."

Heath Hartley, OSB's CEO, said this celebration is as much an

this celebration is as much an acknowledgement of a supportive community.

"All of the bank's officers and staff

share an enthusiasm and passion for Northeastern Oklahoma and continue to have a long standing desire to see it prosper and flourish," Heath Hartley said.

E.M. Hartley added that he is proud

of his sons, the bank's officers and staff and that he confident the leadership will take OSB in the right direction in the future.

What would the founders have thought of their creation today?

"I think they would be proud," Allensworth said, "because I think the core values they built the bank on have carried through time in that you try to give good customer service and you try to be fair in all your dealings and be consistent with how you do things."

## BEGAY

ontinued from Page

empower youth to realize their potential as tomorrow's leaders. Since 2005, the Foundation has engaged and served more than 10,000 Native youth through evidence-based, sportscentered initiatives.

The NB3 Foundation Challenge continues to proudly demonstrate what Native groups can accomplish through shared efforts and resources aimed at addressing important issues in their communities. Indian Nations, like Oneida, have made extraordinary strides in recent years to build promising futures for their youth and communities, and this event exemplifies that progress.

"The Oneida Nation thanks Notah Begay for bringing some of the world's best golfers to Central New York," said Oneida Nation Representative Ray Halbritter. "We are pleased to be able to participate in a premier event that benefits the important work the NB3 Foundation does for children in Indian Country."

For more information on the NB3 Foundation visit: www.nb3foundation.org.

# Golf tournament to raise funds for OU American Indians

NORMAN, Okla. – The eleventh annual F. Browning Pipestem Memorial Golf Tournament will begin 8:30 a.m.. September 28, 2012 at the Jimmie Austin Gold Club, Norman, Okla. Proceeds from the tournament go directly to scholarships for eligible students.

For more information or to register for the golf tournament, contact Jarrod Tahsequah at 247-5475/jtahsequah@ou.edu or Anna Clough at aclough@okcu.edu.

## Cobell

Continued from Page 1

Tucked into the Cobell settlement is an Indian Education Scholarship fund of up to \$60 million and tribal trust-land management claims of \$1.9 billion, along with compensation for Individual Indian Money account holders or their heirs. These nearly \$2 billion awards further eroded the \$3.4 billion settlement.

questioned the constitutionality of the settlement since it was first announced," Craven told the Native Sun News. "I'm especially troubled by the creation of the second class, which includes issues which were never part of the quest for an (IIM) accounting. Most of Indian country has no idea why and what they are being paid for."

As for the IIM accounting, Craven states in her cert petition that under the Federal Rules of Procedure (23) "No person shall be deprived of property without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public usewithoutjustcompensation" and that due process of law requires adequate counsel representation for all parties.

Craven explains conflicts between the named class members (class representatives), counsel, unnamed parties (absent class members) and any future class members.

In her petition, Craven seeks the court to decide "the quantum of 'evidence' necessary to show an intraclass conflict."

She further seeks a decision as to "whether exorbitant

representatives compromise their ability to independently oversee counsel." She says a decision finding just that "would significantly strengthen the enforcement of the adequacy requirement ñ protecting the interests of future generations of class members."

Craven states intra-class

incentive awards to class

conflicts occurred when "four Class Representatives requested incentive awards and received \$2.5 million." She argues this conflict is not in line with federal procedure, which grants all class members adequate counsel and that incentive payments cloud the ability of class representatives to adequately represent the absent class. Additionally, she says counsel may be quick to settle, as per the settlement they stand to receive \$99 million.

In her petition, Craven explains the representatives "claimed they were owed over \$10.5 million more in 'litigation expenses' that included Representatives' personal rent and public relations related expenses," while absent class members are to receive roughly \$1,000 peech

In further clarification, she said the representatives will take home "eight times more money" than other class members whose rent was not compensated for.

"Ms. Cobell requested \$10 million, but alone received a \$2 million incentive award; Mr. LaRose received a \$200,000 award; and the two remaining named plaintiffs took in \$150,000 each."

Craven compares the proportion of incentive

payments in the Cobell settlement to incentive payments in other class actions. She cites a study by Eisenberg & Miller that states: "The average award per class representative was \$15,992, and the median award per class representative was \$4,357," which seems a far cry from tens of millions of dollars awarded to Cobell class representatives.

class representatives.

Furthermore, she claims the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia's "opinion creates a circuit split on the question of how to treat incentive payments." As legally defined by federalism. typepad.com, a circuit split is a "disagreement between one or more federal circuit court of appeals on an issue concerning federal statutory or constitutional law."

Craven cites several sources in her cert petition that explain, "There is 'no consistent standard for evaluating and approving special compensation for named plaintiffs."

In comparison to other suits, "some 28 percent of class action settlements include incentive payments to the named plaintiffs, and those payments are usually 'modest,' in the range of a few thousand dollars," she further cites.

She also claims "lower incentive awards are unlikely to push class representatives into agreeing to deals that are bad for the remainder of the class."

As a result, Craven says the absent class (unnamed parties) were denied just compensation and adequate representation, adding that the absent class had to settle for "rough justice" as Congress refused

to make funds available for an adequate accounting of the mismanaged trust accounts of each member of the absent class. As stated in court documents, Congress decided through years of litigation "an adequate accounting to each class member was prohibitively expensive."

Seemingly, "rough justice" and fair justice become synonymous as no one knows exactly how much money was mismanaged and how much each individual account is owed. Some recipients will receive far less than they are actually owed. Conversely, some will receive far more than they are actually owed.

Fair becomes 'unbalanced' and rough becomes 'chasmal,' as one of the other three Cobell settlement objectors points out.

Charles Colombe along with Carol Eve Good Bear and Mary Lee Johns are at this point considering filing a brief in the Craven objection to the settlement. Colombe confirmed by phone Aug. 24 that they have obtained an extension to file until Sept.

"We have a dilemma here: a fairness dilemma. I believe there should be a settlement, and I support the government position on that," he told Native Sun News. However, Colombe says the tribes are benefiting from settlement agreements which he supports, but the "individuals are left with less money."

As for the historical accounting of IIM account holders he said, "I am sure (the government) is able to do an accounting. I think the accounting alone would cost more to do than the

settlement."

According to the three-party extension court documents, Colombe, Good Bear and Johns filed the extension petition as the deadline for their Supreme Court cert petition would have expired on Aug. 20.

As Craven was also concerned for an opt-out in the settlement for IIM account holders and heirs, these petitioners asked in their extension petition "whether a mandatory class," as the settlement resolves all claims, "can be created in a settlement action for monetary relief without an opt out provision?"

In referring to the extension petition, Colombe told NSN the parties are not sure what or if they may file a brief with the Supreme Court appeal.

The three appellant's joint petition claims, "The (cert petition) will address an important question regarding the lower courts' evasion of this court's (Supreme Court) clear and unequivocal rulings on the essential element of commonality in class action proceedings."

However, the petition states it was also filed as the parties' attorney, David C. Harrison, is also involved in a complex 42-year-old water rights litigation, which made him unable to meet the Aug. 20 deadline to file in the appeal.

In the meantime, the Social Security Administration issued an emergency message stating it "would exclude distributions of tribal trust fund settlements from a member's countable income and resources for purposes of determining eligibility" for receiving certain public

benefits, according to a press release from Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP posted on www.kawnation.com.

The press release says, "In 2005, the Ute Indian Tribe represented by Fredericks Peebles & Morgan, LLP filed suit against the United States for mismanagement of the Tribe's trust assets and when the Tribe received the settlement funds in March 2012, it distributed the settlement funds on a per capita basis to each of its tribal members. The settlement funds were awarded to the Tribe to settle ongoing litigation against the United States regarding the government's mismanagement of tribal trust assets."

According to the release, the trust fund settlement will not be counted "as income and resources for purposes of determining eligibility for SSI (Supplemental Security Income) or Medicare Part D."

Additionally, "In May of 2012, the Ute Indian Tribe advocated for an exemption of these funds from program eligibility with the Social Security Administration, the State of Utah, Utah state agencies, and several other federal agencies on the basis that a one-time per capita distribution should not affect public assistance currently received by the most vulnerable members of the Tribe's community."

It is unclear how long this latest delay may take and that decision is in the hands of the court.

 Reprinted with permission of Native Sun News. Contact Evelyn Red Lodge at welakota@ yahoo.com

## COMMENTARY

## The time of prophecy: Keeping one eye open



S.E. RUCKMAN

I always think maybe they are wrong. As the cup tips on the second half of 2012, a most fateful day approaches. We're churning along while some of us keep one eye on current events. And most news bits are almost unbelievable, as if an over-the-top comic book were being penned in a moment of inebriation. It's that kooky.

We look at the rising floods,

cracked earth, shrinking great blue kachina (guessed ball lottery with one chance. discrepancies. So be it. Coincidence is best not taken Internet) in the last days. at face value.

a little vague by nature. Even fascination with the unknown.

In the Hopi prophecies, the path is laid out with markers Mayan prophecy is like buying

from indigenous origins. covered by a spider web (read

Much is implied in the Prophecies are complex and Hopi prophecies. Those with a peaceful heart will fare better so, humans are fascinated than those who strive against it by forecasting; it must have or try to prepare for it, we are something to do with our told. Alas, there is no holding back the inevitable. On the Flipping to the back page bright side, purification is in and reading the end is also order. We intuit this somehow human nature. I do it with any as we watch the Earth choke novel I read. I can't stand the on the backwash of our

that can be used as guides. A the winning ticket on the mega

crops, dying fish, falling to be an alien life form) will These brutal but brilliant birds, melting ice, failing remove his mask in front of astronomical geniuses devised a chance to turn from our crops and oil spills as if there all, which is now possible with a calendar that predicted a nonchalance and go back to isn't really something to internet bulletins. It will be a cataclysmic change on Dec. the all-for-one viewpoint. the prophecy hype. I refer game changer, an unveiling of 21, 2012. They simply don't Whether it will do any good to two of the foremost, the the long suspected. Reading have any more time on their by now is pure speculation. Mayan and Hopi prophecies. through Hopi prophecy is calendar after that day. The It's unclear if we really want It is not happenstance that a rehearsal for cold chills. Mayans figured the center these two viewpoints spring Case in point: the earth being of the universe was the Sun which has its own cycles. The conclusion of one phase is pinpointed on the upcoming cosmic tap on the shoulder winter solstice. Here, too, is a cleansing time called forth.

> predict rebirth. No serious renewal can come without an eradication of the former. By ends of time have been called lot of sense. and receded. The navsavers In the high stakes round, the pick apart the notion that these displaced the common sense to the Native American Times. predictions are credible by of preserving that which is She is a freelance writer who is

to turn from the error of our ways. Wait. We have shown no collective notion to do so.

But we may be getting a courtesy of the Mayans and Hopis. Native people knew Both Indian prophecies and have always known that the planet is a living thing; sacred, delicate and valuable beyond measure. We are definition it is a wiping clean merely the stewards. About of the slate so that the new can now, the old ones' way of emerge. Scoffers say that other thinking is starting to make a

quibbling over mathematical under our feet. It will be based in Oklahoma.

a welcome relief when the Still others say that we have calendar hits Dec. 22, 2012. If we are spared the apocalypse, will we make amends to the planet or continue to render senseless? Large scale technological farming, toxic runoff, unfettered fracking and maverick deep sea drilling are all a familiar chorus to indifference. I think I'll keep one eye open.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and is Greed and avarice has currently a special contributor

## A problem: He can't give away scholarships



DR. DEAN CHAVERS **Around the Campfire** © Copyright, 2012

In talking to my friend Al Paulson recently, it turned scholarships. What a shame.

computers, scholarships are everywhere, it seems. FastWeb, the most popular scholarship site, has over 1.5 million entries in its database. Other websites such as Scholarships.com have similar numbers. But it is hard to give them away, let me tell you. I have been doing it for 42 years, and we never have enough applicants.

Al, who lives in St. Paul, founded Marketplace Productions 20 years ago. After he had some success in business, he and other members of the Indian Chamber of Commerce decided to launch an Indian scholarship program. But for almost a decade now, he has had trouble getting Indian students to apply for it.

Al has worked with casinos and business development on volunteer, and has been for Macon, Georgia did in 1991. Indian reservations for over 30 years now. His mother was a LaDuke from White Earth before she married his father Albin Paulson. So Al is first cousin with the famous Indian activist Winona La Duke. He me in getting my college these books. says his mother got hooked degree," he told me. "I am

in the local area.

years, and then moved to the Minnesota." Twin Cities. Albin got a job citizens to finish college.

wanted to play. The Minnesota improving." Chippewa Tribe (MCT) gave him a scholarship; without he chaired for awhile, set up a out we have a common it, he says, he would not have scholarship fund several years "Without that grant," he told \$1,500 each to two students. from there?" she asked. In the modern age of me, "I don't know if I could They wanted to give them to have afforded to complete my college degree." He finished in 1966, and is now in the SCSU Hall of Fame as a hockey any major. And they still get player.

He was the first LaDuke to finish college, and Winona was the second. "By the end of my sophomore year," he said, "I realized that education was a great equalizer, so I got serious about college and graduated in four and a half years." He made the varsity hockey team as a freshman, and is still the only

St. Cloud State. himself, from work at Ford and from a rice business he 102 scholarships—which is from MCT paid his tuition for have been going since 1986.

the rest of his college. at Indian schools for Junior paying back for what the tribe did for me in paying for my tuition and books and assisting school libraries do not have

in the Ford plant and worked retention rates and graduation there until he retired. Al got rates, comparing all ethnic a job at Ford after he finished minorities with all the others high school, but the hard work and the Caucasian student convinced him he needed rates. There is a big difference to go to college. He became in rates, with white students one of the early White Earth and Asian students having the best rates ... and us Indians He picked St. Cloud State having the lowest rates. because they had a great From our state, it appears the hockey team, which he rates for Indian students are visited one high school on finished reviewing dozens of

The Indian Chamber, which students with business majors, they opened it to students with only a handful of applicants.

I told him about some of my experiences trying to get Indian students to apply for scholarships. I was in Holbrook, Arizona ten years ago to try to recruit Indian students for our scholarship.

We encourage students to apply not only for ours, but for every other one they can Indian ever to play hockey for find. These days, that is 40 or more. We had a student from He paid for his first year Laguna Pueblo four years ago, Isaiah Rodriguez, who found had set up. But the scholarship still our highest total. We The national record is still Al is also an enthusiastic 200, which a Black girl from 20 years. "I am an instructor Her name is Marianne (Angel) Ragins, and she is now "Miss Achievement as my way of Scholarship." She has written three books about how to win scholarships. Our reservation

As I talked to the students on his father because he was a also on the Diversity Council at Holbrook, I told them member of a band that played for MNSCU, the Minnesota they should find all the local

State College and University scholarships as well, such as to college, they are going to to do after graduation. But They lived north of White board, overseeing 42 state Lions, Elks, Rotary, Moose, have to take remedial classes, the rewards are huge. I tell Earth and farmed for a few colleges and tech colleges in and so on. The counselor, Dean which is a real let down to McNamee, whose daughter is the Indian valedictorian who "We talk a lot about one of our grads, piped up and was the BMOC (Big Man if they have more than they said, "Yes, the Elks had four on Campus) in high school. scholarships last year, and no Some of them never get over give their momma money. one applied for them."

> awarded. I know there is a student somewhere, maybe an that scholarship.

said, "Why are you going there has little to do with college but got so few applicants that every year?" I haven't been back. But old hard headed here will probably go back this year. We have to talk to 100 students to get two to apply.

I know the high schools are frustrating. not preparing Indian students for college. In a research project I did 15 years ago, fewer than 10% of Indian students had taken the courses in high ready for college.

than 10% had taken four years of science. Fewer than 10% had taken four years of Algebra II, Geometry, and Trigonometry. Fewer than 5% had taken Calculus. If they go in, and what you are going past 40 years.

over 80%?

High school preparation For four straight years, I student, by the way. I just I had to admit, "None." She For instance, traditionalism student," they told me. success, according to one article. Another article reports that high GPA students drop out about as often as low GPA students, which is at least

In the research I did, the average number of applied for was one. That is, most Indian students did not school that they needed to be apply for any scholarships; they rely totally on federal Fewer than 10% had taken Financial Aid. Then every the average up to one.

> Granted the scholarship difficult. You should know

students they should win all the scholarships they can, and need for college, they should the humiliation. Is it any And I mean it. Few students That makes me sad. I hate wonder that our dropout rate do that, but they should. And to see any scholarship not be for Indian college students is they can start their retirement with it if they want to.

There is a national Indian student, who could use for college is an excellent scholarship group that was research project for a graduate formed 15 years ago. It is an association of college and private scholarship people. the Navajo reservation to articles and books for my next I went to the first or second recruit students. But one day book, and there is very little meeting, and several people my assistant asked me why I research on the high school told me they wanted to get was going there. "How many preparation of Indian students applications from Indian problem. We can't give away been able to go to college. ago to give two scholarships of applicants have we gotten for college. The little that is students. "We never get an there is surprising, sometimes. application from an Indian

God bless Al Paulsen and the other people who are trying to run scholarship programs. Don't give up, boys and girls. We need to develop all the talent we can in Indian Country.

Dr. Dean Chavers is Director scholarships Indian students of Catching the Dream. Founded in 1986, CTD awards scholarships to high potential Indian college students. It also works to improve Indian schools. His next book will be four years of English. Fewer twentieth student applied for called "The American Indian 10 or 20 scholarships, bringing Dropout." It will be published in early 2013. He has written books on Indian leaders, racism math, including Algebra I, application process is a little in Indian Country, exemplary Indian schools, and how to what you are going to major write winning proposals in the

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:		
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issu	ues 🖵 \$32.5	O for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 iss	ues 🖵 \$1	.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

#### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program. Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!

## UKB candidates receive official verification

M. THOMAS JORDAN UKB News Release

TAHLEQUAH, Okla.—The United Keetoowah Band Election Commission released the official list of candidates for the tribe's 2012 election.

Each candidate passed a background check and was verified to live inside the jurisdiction of their respective race.

All four officers drew opponents.

Chief George Wickliffe pulled two opponents, McIntosh Donna Shockley and Dallas Proctor, in his run for a third term.

Assistant Chief Charles Locust, also, drew two opponents, Joe Bunch and Woodrow Proctor.

In the secretary's race,

council appointee Joyce Hawk is facing Carl Hornet and Kristene Scraper.

Ella Mae Worley is squaring off against Vanessa Hansen in the treasurer's race.

Five district representatives are, also facing opposition in their bids to retain their seats.

Clifford Wofford is facing Josiah Thorne in Cooweescoowee District.

In Sequoyah District, Barry Dotson is running against Junior Levi Catron.

Tom Duncan is facing Beverly Leach, Arthur Ross, Wiki "Joe" Squirrel and Frankie Still in Flint District.

For Tahlequah District, Betty Holcomb is running against Perry

Proctor, Jerry Henson and James Reese.

Charles Smoke drew Adalene Smith as an opponent in Saline District.

Canadian District Representative Eddie Sacks, Delaware District Representative Jerry Hansen, Goingsnake District Representative William "Willie" Christie and Illinois District Representative Peggy Girty did not draw opponents, so they automatically retain their seats on the tribal council.

The terms for officers are four years and the terms for district representatives are two years.

The election is Nov.

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Ask about special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

## It's 'International Update Your Resumé Month'

Career Coach and Author Ford R. Myers Offers Five Tips to **Develop Attention-Getting Resumes** 

HAVERFORD, Penn. September marks the 12th annual celebration of "International Update Your Resume Month." The observance, originated by Career Directors International in Melbourne, Florida, provides job seekers with a proactive approach toward obtaining the next step in career growth.

Ford R. Myers, career coach, speaker and author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring," (John Wiley & Sons, http://www.getthejobbook. com) recommends the following five tips for developing resumes that stand out from the crowd:

#### 1. BE BRIEF: Less is Always

Myers specifically points out that of all the main sections of a resume - Career Summary, Professional Experience, Education, etc. - the Career Summary section is where brevity counts the most.

"The 'Career Summary' is a brief statement of who you are, where you're 'coming from,' and what skills and expertise you have to contribute to an organization. To grab the reader's attention, you'll need five or six targeted lines oriented toward the benefits and contributions you offer as a



professional," states Myers.

#### 2. BE SPECIFIC

Although individuals should be as specific as possible throughout the entire resume, this tip should be exercised bmost in the "Professional Experience" section.

"The 'Professional Experience' section is where your past jobs, responsibilities, roles, accomplishments are

listed. It's also where most employers and recruiters focus 90% of their attention. The information you present

here, and how you present it, can decide the fate of your candidacy within about 10 seconds of scanning

Resumes that get noticed focus on specific results. Whenever possible, quantify your results," explains Myers.

#### 3. BE ACTIVE

Myers urges resume writers to use strong action words at the beginning of every sentence.

"Words such as 'direct,' 'launch,' 'initiate,' 'devise' and 'lead' have a lot more impact than a passive phrase like 'was responsible for," states Myers.

#### 4. BE SELECTIVE

Focus on information that is truly relevant to your career goal and edit out the rest. "There is no need to focus on volunteer work or temporary positions if they are not related to the career you're looking for, or if they're in your distant past," says Myers.

#### 5. BE HONEST

Myers warns job seekers to never lie on a resume. "If you lie, you will always lose in the long run," he

"If you find that your resume isn't getting the results you want, change it! Your resume is a 'living document' that will be edited and updated through the course of your job search and your entire career," adds Myers.

For more information and other useful tips for achieving career success, visit http://www. getthejobbook.com.

Copyright (C) 2012, Career Potential, LLC. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted by permission of Ford R. Myers, a nationally-known Career Coach and author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring." Download your free bonuses now at http://www. careerbookbonuses.com.

# CLASSIFIEDS











#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

#### JOB OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Native American Bank, N.A. is a financial services institution providing a wide range of banking services to the Native American communities throughout the United States.

Native American Bank is seeking an experienced banker and leader to fulfill this critical role on NAB's Senior Management team and to identify a successor to the Bank's retiring President and Chief Executive Officer. The ideal candidate for this position must be approvable by the regulators and have a strong management, finance, compliance, and capital raising background. The ideal candidate must have excellent public persona & interpersonal skills. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### **Lending Relationship Manager**

Seeking a Lending Relationship Manager to develop and manage commercial and agricultural loan customer accounts in the designated market. Responsible for developing building deposit portfolio as well as marketing the fee based services. Must be able to provide leadership, training and supervision and achieve of goals and objectives to business growth and profitability, credit quality and adherence to all bank policies and procedures. This position is located in the Browning, MT Branch.

NATIVE AMERICAN BANK, NA

We are seeking a Credit Analyst to conduct credit analyses including gathering, analyzing, and interpreting all types of credit information on existing and prospective customers and portfolio. This position is located in the downtown Denver Corporate office.

#### For a detailed Job Announcements, please visit: www.nabna.com

NAB is an Equal Opportunity Employer with Native American Preference headquartered in Denver, CO. Member FDIC. Competitive salary & benefits are being offered based upon qualified experience and educational level. Send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to:

Attn: Deb Emhoolah, VP/HR, Native American Bank, N.A., 999 18th St, Ste 2460; Denver, CO 80202, Fax: 720-962-9455 or Email: employment@nabna.com. Employment background checks are required for these positions.

Native American Bank, N.A. | 999 18th Street, Suite 2460, Denver, CO 80202 FDIC www.nabna.com | 800.368.8894 Phone | 303.988.5533 Fax | (Browning, MT) 800.307.9199



## HEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah. Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

> 6719 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (12 hour day/nights), Close 9/05/12

**5768 RPT Medical Technologist** (evenings/weekends/based on exp), Close 9/07/12

6493 RFT Medical Technologist II (based on exp), Close 9/07/12

5998 TPT Medical Technologist/PRN (as needed), Close 9/07/12

6470 TPT Medical Technologist (7 am - 4 pm), Close 9/07/12 6893 RFT Physical Therapist Assistant - Close 9/05/12

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

#### THE AMERICAN INDIAN **COLLEGE FUND**

Is currently seeking to fill the following position:

**DEVELOPMENT OFFICER** 

Full job description and application details visit our website at:

www.collegefund.org <About Us>

or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to:

applications@collegefund.org

### **ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY**

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma is seeking applicants for an Assistant U.S. Attorney position which may be assigned to the Civil Division, Criminal Division, or Appeals Unit. Salary is based on the number of years of professional attorney experience. Applicants must possess a J.D. degree, be an active member of the bar in good standing (any jurisdiction), and have three (3) years or more legal experience post-J.D. See vacancy announcement 12-0KW-738267-A-02 at www.usajobs.gov (Exec Office for US Attorneys). Applications must be submitted on-line. See "How to Apply" section of announcement for specific information. Questions may be directed to Lisa Engelke, HR Specialist, (405) 553-8777. Announcement is open from September 10, 2012, to September 14, 2012.

#### **SPECIAL ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY** (Uncompensated)

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma is seeking to appoint an uncompensated Special Assistant U.S. Attorney position to work in the Appellate Unit. This is a one-year appointment without compensation. Applicants must possess a J.D. degree and be an active member of the Bar in good standing (any jurisdiction). Resumes should be submitted to Lisa Engelke, HR Specialist, at usaokw.jobapplication@ usdoj.gov. Resumes must be received by September 14, 2012, and should reference announcement number 12-0KW-03-S.

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

#### **Executive Director**

The Comanche Nation Housing Authority, located in Lawton, OK, is currently accepting applications for the position of Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for the overall administration of the Housing Authority and reports to the CNHA Board of Commissioners Applicants should have a 4 year college or university degree in Business Administration or an associated major and have demonstrated successful nerformance in an administrative position; or, a minimum of 5 years demonstrated successful work experience in the housing administration field. Candidates must have knowledge of NAHASDA, federal housing regulations and must have demonstrated supervisory performance of housing authority functions. The applicant must have the ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing. Applicant must pass drug test and have a valid

Applications are available online at www.comanchehousing.com or by contacting the Housing Authority at (580)357-4956. Application deadline is 5:00 pm, September 17 2012. Indian Preference.

Oklahoma driver's license.

**US Foods Now Hiring** PT/FT Stockers, Cashiers & FT Supervisors Oklahoma City, OK All employees receive PTO Tuition reimbursment with other benefits available! Several Shifts available, no late evenings, come start a new career

with us today! To apply visit us at

usfoods.greatjob.net. For questions

call us at 866 682 9675 or email

USfoodservice@greatjob.net

**NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?** 

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

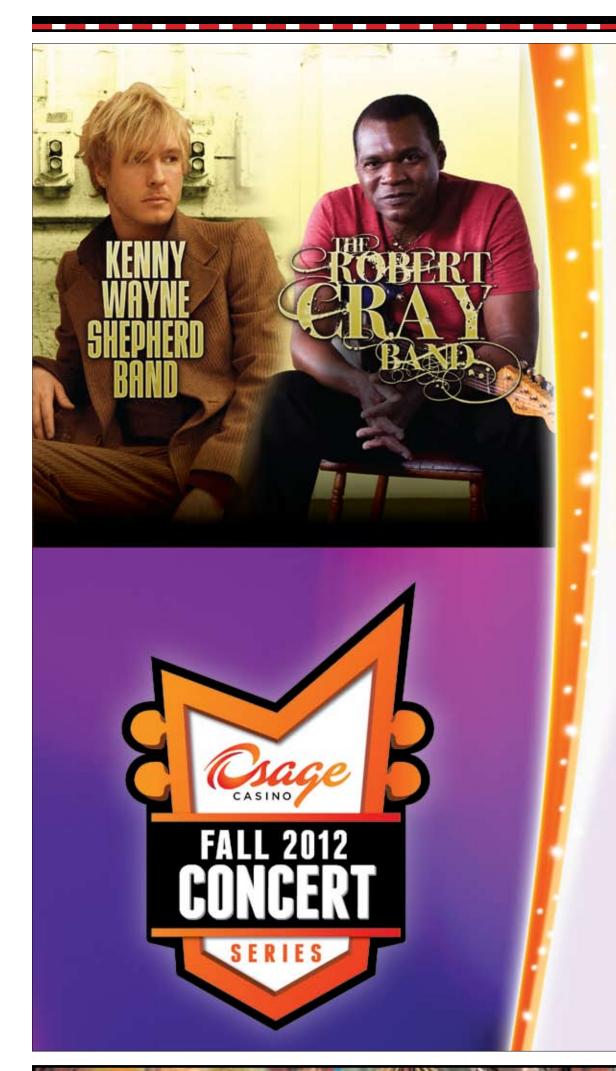
#### CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960





#### EVENT CENTER TULSA

# Thursday, September 13 7 pm • Tickets are \$48

Order your Event Center tickets at osagecasinos.com!



Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.

4 miles from Downtown Tulsa • End of Tisdale Parkway (918) 699-7777 • If Like us on Facebook!

# FREEOUTDOOR

## GATES OPEN AT 6 PM

**OPENING ACT • MICHAEL TODD & THE WILD FRONTIER BAND** 

STARSHIP
FEATURING MICKEY THOMAS
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
HOMINY

**SAWYER BROWN** 

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12
— BARTLESVILLE —

LEE GREENWOOD

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19
PAWHUSKA

JO DEE MESSINA Friday, October 26

SAND SPRINGS

Rain or shine. All ages welcome. Bring your own chairs. No outside coolers, food or drinks allowed.

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.



## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### EVERY THURSDAY

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

#### SECOND TUESDAY

Cherokee Artists Association meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

#### THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian **Health Center to enroll all Native** American and non-Indian Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. The Pawnee Service Unit is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

#### YOUTH COUNCIL

The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

#### THROUGH SEPT 28

The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, Oklahoma City

#### SEPTEMBER 7-8

Film Forward, a cultural exchange at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, 867 Cooper Memorial Drive, Sulphur, Okla., featuring free screenings of independent films, discussions and a chance to meet film directors. More info visit sundance.org/filmforward or call 580-622-7138

#### SEPTEMBER 8

Community Garage Sale/Food Sale at Duck Creek Community Ranch, 3890 HWY 75, Beggs, Okla. 8am-? Portion of proceeds to help with Miss Yuchi/Euchee travel expenses. Call Jacqueline Rolland at 918-752-5300 to reserve a place.

#### SEPTEMBER 8

Teddy Bear Clinic at Indian Health Care Resource Center, 550 S. Peoria, Tulsa, Okla., 10am-Noon. First 125 children get a free teddy bear. Children's activities, door prizes and drawing for a Wii. Call 918-382-1206 for more info.

#### SEPTEMBER 13-14

Blue Thumb Water Pollution
Education Program at Choctaw
Community Center, 2750 Big Lots
Pkwy., Durant, Okla. 8:30 a.m. to
4:00 p.m. both days. More info
call Cheryl Cheadle, 918-398-1804
or cheryl.cheadle@conservation.
ok.gov Or Kim Shaw, 405-522-4738
or kim.shaw@conservation.ok.gov
or visit www.conservation.ok.gov
(Click "Blue Thumb" in upper left
corner)

#### SEPTEMBER 15

Dance for Life contest powwow
- a community event bringing
awareness to suicide prevention in
our communities and among our
youth. Sponsored by the Kiowa
Tribe of Oklahoma Teen Suicide
Prevention Program. Event will
be held in the Comanche Nation
Community Center in Apache,
Oklahoma. More info call 405-2475200 or email gmbeaver@att.net

#### SEPTEMBER 19

Indian Taco Sale 11am- 2pm: \$6.00 Indian Fellowship Baptist Church 6130 So. 58th W. Ave: Oakhust, Okla. Deliveries needs to be called in by Tues. Sept 18, 2012: Info Call Mary Kelly: 918-636-8394

#### SEPTEMBER 20-22

Oklahoma Indian Summer Celebration, 300 S.E. Adams Blvd., Bartlesville. Info call Jenifer

#### Pechonick 918-331-0934

#### SEPTEMBER 21

Kanza Health System will host a Health Fair at Johnny Ray McCauley multipurpose room, 3251 E. River Road, 1 mile east of stop light at Newkirk, OK. Fun Walk at 8:30 a.m., Fair at 9:00 a.m. Lunch at 11:00. The Red Cross will be there for people to donate blood and the Lions will have a van available to do health screenings. Lots of Door Prizes. Information contact: Lana Nelson, 580-362-1039.

#### SEPTEMBER 21-22 Inaugural Salina Powwow at Salina High School Gymnasium, Salina,

Okla. Contact: Doug Simpson Phone: 918-704-3786 Email: salinapowwowclub@yahoo. com or visit http://www.facebook. com/salinapowwowclub

#### SEPTEMBER 29

Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration, Tahlequah, Okla. Call (918) 431-1818 for more information

#### OCTOBER 5-6

Fort Sill Indian School Annual Reunion, 7:00 pm -12:00 Friday & 2:00 pm - 12:00 Saturday at FSIS Gym, Lawton, OK. Contact: Darlene Defoe 828.736.0851

#### OCTOBER 6

Benefit Gourd Dance 2:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Supper @ 5:30 PM at Goodrich Memorial UMC, 200 W. Hayes St., Norman, Okla. Info call Linda Forrester (405) 833-1559 or Mary Lou Drywater (405) 361-2393. All proceeds will be given to the Womens Resource Center to help the DV Shelter/Rape Crisis Center.

#### OCTOBER 20

Pryor Powwow at MidAmerica Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional - 16 yrs and up; Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

#### OCTOBER 26-27

Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806 W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-9385.

#### NOVEMBER 3

Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd.david@jobcorps.org

#### NOVEMBER 3

Bacone College Fall Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

#### DECEMBER 31

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa Convention Center, 100 Civic Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999

# Reducing infant mortality focus of statewide initiative

African American and **American Indian babies** die at higher rates than white babies, according to the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH).

OKLAHOMA CITY - Each year in Oklahoma about 400 babies die before their first birthday. Tragically, babies born in Oklahoma are less likely to survive to 1 year of age than those born in almost any other state in the country.

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, Oklahoma ranks 44th in the United States in infant mortality, the death of a baby that is less than 1 year old. Oklahoma's infant mortality rate is 7.85, which means that almost eight babies die per 1,000 live births in Oklahoma. Further, African American and American Indian babies die at higher rates than white babies, according to the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH).

Many factors contribute to the loss of an infant, such as maternal health, quality and access to medical care, socioeconomic conditions, and health practices of individuals

and families. A statewide initiative, Preparing for a Lifetime, It's Everyone's Responsibility, works to positively impact many of those factors that contribute to infant mortality in Oklahoma.

OSDH and Preparing for a Lifetime partners are recognizing September as "Infant Mortality Awareness Month" in Oklahoma. Citizens, including policymakers, health care providers, community leaders, parents, grandparents, neighbors, clergy and others are urged to learn more about infant mortality and how everyone can play a role in addressing the issue, including sharing the following information:

- · Encourage and support a woman's healthy lifestyle choices.
- · Plan for pregnancy and strive to be healthy before and between pregnancies.
- · Take 400 mcg of folic acid daily to help reduce chances of having a baby with birth defects.
- · Quit smoking and provide a smoke-free environment for baby.
- · Get tested and treated, if needed, for sexually-transmitted diseases.
- · Have a full-term pregnancy (about 40 weeks).
- · Know the signs and get help for postpartum depression.

COURTESY

recommends breastfeeding baby and supporting a woman's choice to breastfeed.

- · Place baby on his or her back to
- · Breastfeed baby and support a woman's choice to breastfeed.
- · Keep your cool when baby will not stop crying and never shake a
- · Install and use properly an ageappropriate car seat.
- · Watch baby at all times and never leave a baby unattended.

"Too many Oklahoma families

and communities suffer from the heartbreaking death of a baby," said State Health Commissioner Dr. Terry Cline. "Actions we take now can influence the health and well being of Oklahoma babies for their entire lifetime and improve the health status of our state as well."

During September, Preparing for a Lifetime partners will work in their communities to distribute walletsize resource cards with health tips, helpful websites, and health resource telephone numbers to women of childbearing age and to locations where they frequently visit. Partners in this statewide initiative include the following:

- Community Health Centers, Inc./ Central Oklahoma Healthy Start
- Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa
- Coalition of Oklahoma
- **Breastfeeding Advocates**
- Indian Health Services
- March of Dimes - Oklahoma Child Death Review
- Board - Oklahoma City Area Inter-Tribal Health Board
- Oklahoma City-County Health Department
- Oklahoma Department of Human Services

- Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- Oklahoma Family Network
- Oklahoma Health Care Authority
- Oklahoma State Department of
- Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement **Endowment Trust**
- Safe Kids Oklahoma
- Smart Start Oklahoma
- The Parent Child Center of Tulsa - The State Chamber
- Tulsa Health Department/Tulsa
- Healthy Start
- Turning Point Coalitions - University of Oklahoma College of
- Continuing Education - University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center/Department of OB/
- GYN and Pediatrics - University of Oklahoma Medical

To obtain the resource cards for distribution in your community, contact one of the initiative partners or email Janette Cline at janettec@health.ok.gov. To learn more about what steps you can take to help ensure the health and safety of Oklahoma's babies, visit the Preparing for a Lifetime, It's Everyone's Responsibility web pages at http://iio.health.ok.gov.



COURTESY CHICKASAW NATION COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Eating the recommended servings of fruit and vegetables can help protect you from heart disease, bone loss, type 2 diabetes, and certain types of cancers.

## Nutrition education key to tribe's community health mission

Veggie Month/National Whole **Grain Month** 

**KYLE WITTMAN** 

Chickasaw Nation Communications

ADA, Okla. - Storytelling, cooking classes, collaborations with schools and farmers' market programs are among the creative approaches the Chickasaw Nation is using to meet their goal of better educating its clients on the advantages of healthy lifestyle choices.

"It is important that we continue to adults become enthusiastic about healthy lifestyle choices," said Bill Anoatubby, Governor of the Chickasaw Nation. "These programs encourage people to develop habits that can help them lead healthier, more productive lives for years to come."

A favorite among area children is the Chickasaw Nation's Eagle Adventure program. This program aims to fight the increasing numbers of Native American children who are at risk for type-2 diabetes. The program teaches children in grades 1-3 and their families by using the tradition of storytelling and lessons to show the joys of physical activity, eating healthy foods and learning traditional healthy habits from their elders. Since 2010, more than 2,000 children have participated in the program.

Nationally, September is Fruit and Veggie Month and Whole Grains Month. During this time, the Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services Department offers opportunities to help citizens make healthier food decisions. The department includes a Food Distribution program that provides nutrition education, food demonstrations, cooking classes, and food packages. In addition, it provides commodity foods through FDP grocery stores with fresh

September is National Fruit and Ada, Ardmore and Purcell, Okla.

Distribution Program) work toward a Community Nutrition Education Project Manager Connie Merriman. "We want the Native American people living in our communities to have the opportunity not eat better and exercise so they can pass the knowledge on to future generations."

The program serves more than 4,200 Native American families in the Chickasaw Nation's 13-county jurisdiction located in south-central Oklahoma.

Nearly one-third of adults in Oklahoma develop new methods to help children and are obese, according to a recent report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Among Native American populations, the number is even higher. The Department of Health and Human

Services' Office of Minority Health estimates that nearly 33 percent of all Native American and Alaskan Natives, both children and adults, are obese. The resulting health consequences are well documented, with diabetes and heart disease being abnormally present in Native American communities across the

The Chickasaw Nation works to combat these statistics by educating its people and communities on the advantages of a healthy diet and exercise.

Other nutrition services projects, such as the Summer EBT for Children demonstration project, are focused on nutrition of area children. The project, still in the testing phase, provides nutritious food to children during the summer months, when they do not have the luxury of a reliable source, such as a school lunch program. More than 5,300 students in 41 Oklahoma public school districts were awarded funding for summer-time food.

Another example of collaboration is seasonal produce in nutrition centers in the Chickasaw Nation's Farmers' Market your diet helps!

Nutrition Program (FMNP). By partnering "Each of the aspects of FPD (Food with the tribe's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, FMNP is able common goal," said Chickasaw Nation to provide checks to WIC participants to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets and farm stands during the summer and fall months. This program is not only beneficial to those receiving only be healthy, but learn why they need to funds, but it also aims to increase the awareness and utilization of local farmers' markets and farm stand locations, both of which are easily accessible throughout the Chickasaw Nation boundaries.

Though it is an uphill battle against obesity and the ever-present fast-food lifestyle, the Chickasaw Nation sees a bright future because of their dedication and variety of services aimed to educate its citizens and communities about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle.

#### About Fruit and Veggie Month

Research shows that fruit and vegetables are important to maintain good health. Yet most of us aren't eating enough fruit and

Eating the recommended servings of fruit and vegetables can help protect you from heart disease, bone loss, type 2 diabetes, and certain types of cancers. A diet rich in fruits and vegetables can also help you lose weight.

Check out MyPlate.gov (http://www. choosemyplate.gov/myplate/index.aspx) to find out how many servings of fruit and veggies you need based on your age, weight, level of physical activity, and gender.

#### **About Whole Grains Month**

Studies show that eating whole grains instead of refined grains lowers the risk of many chronic diseases. While benefits are most pronounced for those consuming at least 3 servings daily, some studies show reduced risks from as little as one serving daily. The message: every whole grain in

## Purple baby caps: A reminder not to shake

**Click for Babies** Project needs knitters to help prevent infant abuse

Frustration with a crying baby during the first few weeks or months of life is the number one trigger for the shaking and abuse of infants. In an effort to help spread awareness about normal infant crying and the dangers of shaking an infant, a project new to Oklahoma called "Click for Babies, Period of PURPLE Caps," invites knitters and crocheters across the state to make purple-colored baby caps which will be distributed to newborns in participating hospitals as part of the Period PURPLE® Crying program.

The Period of PURPLE® Crying (PPC) program offers a DVD and educational materials to participating Oklahoma hospitals to provide education to parents of newborns about normal infant crying and what to do when one becomes frustrated with a crying child. Parents are shown the video in the hospital and then given a copy to share with others who may take care of the baby after leaving the hospital. The handmade purple caps serve as an additional reminder to parents about the normal "period of purple crying" that some babies may experience and the dangers of reacting with frustration by shaking or abusing an infant. Currently, 25 Oklahoma hospitals participate in the PPC program.

When a caregiver shakes a baby, it can cause serious trauma to the brain, even causing death or serious injuries. A recent review

Child Death Review Board physical abuse data indicated 75.5 percent of the physical abuse deaths were caused by abusive head trauma, with many a result of shaking the baby.

of ten years of Oklahoma

Oklahoma knitters are being recruited to each make from five to 50 purple knit caps that will be distributed to babies born in participating Oklahoma hospitals this November. Volunteers are asked to help knit or crochet purplecolored newborn baby caps using any newborn baby cap pattern and any shade of soft, baby-friendly purple yarn. Send the caps by October 1 to: Lisa Rhoades, Oklahoma Child Death Review Board, 1111 N. Lee, Suite 500, Oklahoma City, OK 73103.

"We encourage clubs and community groups that knit and crochet to join this effort," said Ann Benson of the Maternal and Child Health Service at the Oklahoma State Department of Health. "If we have a positive response, we hope to offer the knitted caps for newborns every year. Knitters are needed, so

spread the word!" As part of the "Click for Babies" project, the public is invited to attend a "knitin" Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Norman, Oklahoma. Those participating in the "knit in" should contact Benson at (405) 271-4471 or email AnnRB@health.ok.gov.

The Period of PURPLE® Crying (PPC) program and the "Click for Babies" project are part of Oklahoma's "Preparing for a Lifetime, It's Everyone's Responsibility" initiative to reduce infant deaths in the state. To learn more, visit http://iio.health. ok.gov.



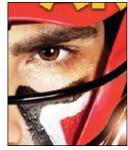
When a caregiver shakes a baby, it can cause serious trauma to the brain, even causing death or serious injuries.

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Wellness Court' aims at addiction
- Muskogee youth wins first at Santa Fe
- 'Crooked Arrows' lacrosse movie coming out









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 36

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2012** 

COURTESY | I LOVE LIAM LION FACEBOOK

Susan Kulick posted this photo of her balloons to Liam's Facebook page Sunday afternoon from Warrington, Pennsylvania.

## Little Choctaw lion 'earns his wings'

DANA ATTOCKNIE

Native American Times

POTEAU, Okla. - Porch lights across the nation are beaming love, reflecting a loss and lighting a path for 18-month-old Liam Lyon, who "earned his wings" Sept.

William Elijah Lyon, affectionately known as Liam, was born Feb. 18, 2011 with a congenital heart defect known as hypoplastic left heart syndrome. He had half a heart; with only two chambers and one ventricle.

Liam spent most of his life growing up in Arkansas Children's Hospital and Children's Hospital at St. Francis in Tulsa. After four open chest surgeries before he turned 6 months old, he underwent the one surgery

needed to save his life. On July 25, 2011, Liam received a heart transplant.

Liam's grandmother Nanci Tankersley previously told Native Times of the heart transplant, "I just can't explain how thankful we are, and then there's no way that we can put into words our gratitude for the donor family. I don't think we could ever say thank you enough. I mean, there's no way and for them to have to deal with their son ... it's just bitter sweet."

After the transplant Liam continued to have ups and downs, but he continued to roar. A year ago his parents Whitney and Brody Lyon of Cameron, Okla. were learning to actively care for him and he was being fed through a

See LION Continued on Page 4

# Court upholds dismissal of school abuse lawsuit

**CHET BROKAW** Associated Press

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - The South Dakota Supreme Court ruled Sept. 8 that nearly 20 former students who allege they were sexually abused decades ago at an American Indian boarding school cannot continue their lawsuits against the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls and

the religious organizations that ran the school.

In two rulings, the high court upheld a trial judge's decision to dismiss the lawsuits against the diocese and several groups that ran St. Paul's School in Marty at the time of the alleged abuse more than 35 years ago.

The Supreme Court said the students waited too long to sue Blue Cloud Abbey of northeastern South Dakota, Pennsylvania-based Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, and the Oblate Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament of Marty, which operated the school and provided priests, nuns and others to work there.

The justices also said the students cannot sue the diocese because it did not operate or control the school and it was not acting

as custodians of the school's students

Lawyers for the students and some of the religious organizations did not immediately return phone calls seeking comment last

Louise Behrendt, a lawyer for Blue Cloud Abbey, said Thursday that the abbey is

See ABUSE Continued on Page 4

## Appeals board approves C&A government contract funds

■ An employee in the Boswell administration said the programs were relying primarily on gaming revenue to stay afloat.

Native American Times

Interior Board of Indian Appeals approved a motion Sept. 6 to authorize the Bureau of Indian Affairs to fund several government contracts awarded to an embattled Oklahoma tribe.

The Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes have been embroiled in a leadership dispute for more than 18 months, prompting the First Bank and Trust in Clinton, Okla., to freeze one of the tribe's accounts earlier this year.

Last Thursday's decision allows for Janice Prairie-ChiefBoswell's administration to complete draw downs terms. on 11 contracts and one

and Education Assistance comment. Act. Leslie Wandrie-Harjo, that prompted the decision.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON opposition to the motion million in frozen funds have appears to simply assume been under the administration that denying funding to the of a district court judge since CONCHO, Okla. - The tribe for these contracts - as Wandrie-Harjo apparently urges - until the related appeals are decided would not adversely affect the public interest," wrote IBIA Chief Administrative Judge Steven Linscheid. "The board is convinced that the opposite is true, and that it is in the public interest to place the decision into effect in order to allow the contracts to continue to be funded."

The board also agreed with the Bureau of Indian Affairs' regional office that there is not any proof that the tribes are failing to meet the contracts'

Wandrie-Harjo and her grant authorized under the attorney, Jeremy Oliver, did

Indian Self-Determination not respond to requests for

Last week's who was initially sworn in as comes just before a hearing Boswell's lieutenant governor in Custer County District in 2010, also claims to be the Court in Arapaho, Okla., on tribes' legitimate governor and an application from the First contested the initial motion Bank and Trust in Clinton, Okla., to close the tribes' "Critically, Wandrie-Harjo's accounts. The more than \$6.4 June, prompting the Boswell administration to institute a 32-hour work week for its employees in early May and mandatory furlough days across its departments. As of Sept. 4, the abbreviated work week is still in place.

"Our employees feeling the pinch," said Lisa Liebl, a spokeswoman for **Boswell's** administration. "Our programs are feeling the pinch. Our people are feeling the pinch."

An employee in the Boswell administration said the programs were relying primarily on gaming revenue to stay afloat.

"In order to keep up with

See FUNDS Continued on Page 7 See LIAISON Continued on Page 3



Jacque Secondine Hensley

## **Oklahoma's** first Native American liaison

LENZY KREHBIEL-**BURTON** Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY - Despite a diverse professional background, Oklahoma's new Native American liaison feels right at home in her new

"I'm a people person," Jacque Secondine Hensley said. "I have to see results and I like to fix problems. This just appealed to me."

Prior to taking the position, Hensley worked

## **Eastern Shawnee Tribe** of Oklahoma makes an Ohio connection

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

NEWARK, Ohio - Not too long ago, members of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma thought their history was lost to them. After a visit to Ohio this summer, the tribe is gaining confidence that some traditions can be reclaimed.

Glenna Wallace, chief of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, and several members of the tribe traveled to the Newark Earthworks Center at the Ohio State University in Newark at the end of July. Comprised of six youth and four adults, the group performed native dances at the center. They also

learned more about the land their ancestors once called

The Eastern Shawnee are one of three Shawnee tribes recognized by the federal government, including the Shawnee Tribe in Miami, Okla., and the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma in Shawnee. The groups became distinct from one another following decades of white encroachment on Shawnee lands, Wallace said.

By the time the U.S. passed the Indian Removal Act of 1830, three bands of Shawnee had split under pressures of white settlement across a territory stretching from

See SHAWNEE Continued on Page 6



TIMOTHY E. BLACK | COURTESY NEWARK EARTHWORKS CENTER

Members of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma recently visited ancient earthworks sites in Newark, Ohio, where the youth showed residents powwow, social and ceremonial stomp dances. The Shawnee group got to see where their ancestor's homelands before removal to Indian Territory. Pictured are Talon Silverhorn (from left), Taryn Frantz, Mary Barnes, Steve Daugherty, Faithlyn King, Maliah Silverhorn, Brett Barnes and Chance Wallace.

## Cherokee council files lawsuit over redistricting

■ The suit alleges that the map is gerrymandered to remove some councilors' seats.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - Cherokee Nation Tribal Council is heading to court over a redistricting plan adopted in July.

Two petitions for declaratory judgment have been filed in the tribe's district court concerning a 15-district map passed at the council's meeting on July 16 by a 10-7 margin.

Currently, the council is divided into five districts with three seats each, with two additional seats for at-large citizens. Under legislation adopted in 2010, the Tribal Council was under a self-imposed mandate to design and implement a 15-district map by Aug. 1 for the 2013 election, which will have nine of the 17 seats on the ballot.

The first was filed on Aug. 31 on behalf of the council as a whole against the tribe's election commission.

"While a majority of the council

approved and passed this legislation, and is presumptively constitutional, it was not a unanimous decision," wrote council attorney Dianne Barker-Harrold in the legislative branch's petition. "In order to determine the validity and constitutionality of this legislation, the Council of the Cherokee Nation seeks a declaratory judgment so this legislation is final and will allow timely preparation for the 2013 Cherokee Nation elections without any further dispute."

Councilors Buel Anglen of Skiatook, Okla., Jack Baker of Oklahoma City, Julia Coates of Tahlequah, Okla., Cara Cowan Watts of Claremore, Okla., and Lee Keener of Claremore, Okla., filed the second one last Wednesday afternoon against the tribe's government as a whole, along with a request for an injunction to prevent the changes from being enacted. The map was passed with an emergency clause, which allowed for it to be enacted immediately upon Principal Chief Bill John Baker's signature.

Anglen, Cowan Watts and Keener represent tribal citizens in Rogers County and northern Tulsa County. Baker and Coates represent citizens who live outside the Cherokee Nation's 14-county jurisdictional area and would not be directly impacted by the redistricting efforts.

In their petition, the five councilors maintain that the map passed by council is unconstitutional because it does not evenly divide the tribe's citizens who live within its jurisdictional area among 15 defined, relatively compact districts.

In the Voter District Amendment Act of 2012, passed on July 16, the proposed 15 districts and their current occupants are named, but no definitive boundaries are spelled out. According to the map passed out of the council's rules committee in June, 106,772 Cherokee Nation citizens live within the tribe's 14-county jurisdictional area, putting the optimum population for a single district at 7,115.

Based on those figures, the district populations range from 6,466 in the proposed District 11 to 7,822 in the proposed District 14. District 11 would consist of Craig County and portions of Nowata and Mayes counties. District 14 would be portions of Rogers and Tulsa

That data does not include the estimated 12,000 Cherokee Nation citizens with unverified or bad addresses on file with the tribe due to various reasons, including mailing address shifts brought on by 911 implementation efforts in some counties. Officials said those citizens were sent two mailers or visited at home to request them to update their address with the tribe. After two attempts, those addresses were no longer counted for redistricting purposes.

"The Cherokee citizens of Tulsa, Mayes, Washington, Rogers, Cherokee and Delaware counties are being shorted adequate political representation based on population and tribal monies," Cowan Watts said. "Right now, apportionment based on bad addresses created by 911 arbitrarily moves folks to the atlarge population rather than count them where they live."

The suit also alleges that the map is gerrymandered to remove some councilors' seats while protecting the seats of several council members who voted in favor of the proposal.

Under the adopted map, Cowan Watts and Keener, who were both

elected to a four-year term in 2011, would live within the same district. Anglen, whose term is up in 2013, would be in a district represented by fellow councilor Dick Lay of Ochelata, Okla., whose term does not expire until 2015.

"Cherokee people elect their representation," Keener said. "Some on the tribal council are trying to take that right away."

The suit specifically questions the proposed districts that would be represented by current councilors Tina Glory-Jordan, Joe Byrd, David Walkingstick, Jodie Fishinghawk and Frankie Hargis.

"These five members of the majority live in close proximity to other incumbents and all have districts carefully drawn to give them individual districts," Parris wrote.

Currently, Fishinghawk and Hargis represent Adair, Delaware and southwestern Ottawa counties. Speaker Glory-Jordan, Walkingstick and Byrd represent Cherokee and eastern Wagoner counties.

Cherokee Nation Attorney General Todd Hembree did not respond to requests for comment.

## Ex-Tonkawa leader sentenced for embezzlement

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - A federal judge has formally sentenced the former president of the Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma to 41 months in prison for conspiring to embezzle funds from the tribe.

U.S. District Judge Robin Cauthron also on Thursday ordered Anthony Street to pay \$794,904 in restitution.

A grand jury indicted Street in October for allegedly conspiring with ex-Vice President Gordon Warrior and Secretary-Treasurer Dawena Pappan to embezzle more than \$500,000 from the tribe's general fund. Prosecutors allege the three began writing checks to themselves after taking office in 2005.

Street pleaded guilty in June to conspiring to embezzle tribal funds. Warrior and Pappan previously pleaded guilty to embezzling casino proceeds and were sentenced to fiveyear terms of probation.

attorneys didn't immediately return a request for comment left after hours.

## Peace and Dignity runner detained by sheriff's deputies in Okla. county

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

PONCA CITY, Okla. - Some Natives are crying foul over a local law enforcement agency's alleged treatment of a runner and eagle feather staff.

On Wednesday, Sept. 5, two Kay County sheriff's deputies detained a participant in the Peace and Dignity Journeys 2012 tour on U.S. Highway 177 near Ponca City, Okla., after receiving calls about a "suspicious-

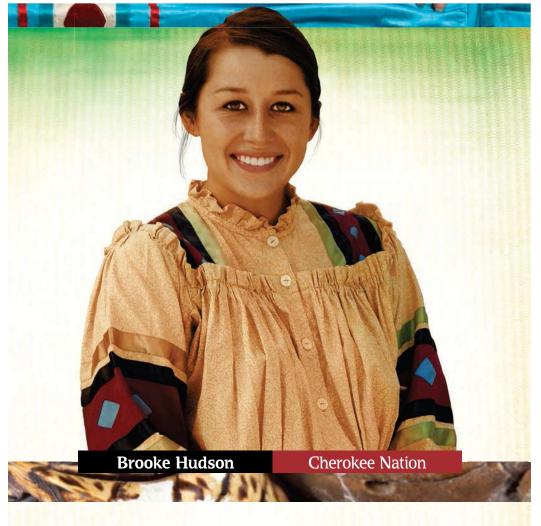
looking man" in an area that has recently had a rash of burglaries.

According to dashboard camera footage obtained and published by the Ponca City News, the Mohawk runner was asked to lie down on the ground and let go of a two-foot red staff covered with fur, deer antlers and eagle feathers. The runner was handcuffed and subjected to a criminal background check, as was a representative from the Peace and Dignity Journeys tour. Both were shortly released.

Despite previous published reports that guns were drawn, none were visible in the video footage.

Kay County Undersheriff Steve Kelley could not be reached for comment.

Started in 1992, the Peace and Dignity Journey happens once every four years, starting simultaneously in Chickaloon, Alaska, and Tierra del Fuego, Argentina. The runners are scheduled to meet later this year in Guatemala.



# Honor what is SACRED

## **Quit Commercial Tobacco**

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

784-8669 OKhelpline.com

## How to Develop a Winning Proposal

A Proposal Development Seminar - An "Insiders" View of What Works

ept 20, 2012 from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM and Friday, Sept 21, 2012 from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM (M

Rapid City, SD 57701

Register now at:

www.nade-nahn.org/upcoming-events

#### Course Summary

This 2-day course has been developed in response to an overwhelming number of requests for a simplified method of developing a proposal, realistic examples and guidance in establishing proposal development strategies.

This course brings the experience associated with an insider's review of the acquisition process, evaluation of hundreds of proposals and knowledge of the key elements and features of winning proposals.

This course provides a roadmap for firms new to the business of developing responses to a Request for Proposal (RFP) and those companies who have worked with RFPs sents and how to apply a deciphering process to extract key

detailed explanations of the importance of RFP proposal preparation instructions and evaluation criteria, the relationship to customer desires and why these sections hold the key to a winning proposal;

THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED TO

INFORM AND EDUCATE A FIRM ON:

understanding each section of a federal, state and prime contractor RFPs - understanding what each section repre-

a systematic approach to communicating responses, key information delivery and proposal structure so that document quality and content will surpass all other proposals;

templates and examples to assist firms in planning and developing effective strategies to better enable them to respond to a variety of RFPs;

detailed information on formatting, graphic styles and other techniques to enhance the proposal document;

examples that illustrate the look and feel of a professionally developed document.

#### COURSE OUTLINE

but want to improve their win record.

Early Proposal Planning The 5 "Absolutely Must Do" steps in proposal development Intelligence gathering - Why it is critical - Reaching the customer first Deciphering the RFP What firms don't know and the Government won't tell them - Taking apart the RFP to find the hidden information

Proposal Preparation Process. An insider's view of what works - Why some techniques don't work - Why the same firms keeping winning - What they're doing right.

New methods to write your proposal Developing Themes. What is a theme - Why themes make the difference in winning proposals - How to develop themes - How themes serve as your outline

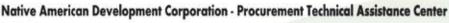
influencing the Evaluator. How evaluators think - How to get the evaluator's attention - What evaluators like and don't like - Developing your proposal so they love it - Writing so the evaluator understands - How evaluators score your proposal

Developing the Executive Summary Why the executive summary can make or break a proposal - Developing the executive summary - Writing so evaluators want to

ing the Management Proposal Maximizing the management proposal - Superior development techniques - Clear, stimulating writing - Giving evaluators what they want - Resume development style never seen before

ping the Technical Proposal Developing high-density data and information - How not to blow it - What it takes to engage the evaluators - Keep them interested - What to do so they remember you

Format and Graphic What works and doesn't work - Styles used in all winning proposals - Effective methods of graphic presentation - Visuals that work - From the cover to the last page - How to make them want to select you





Please contact for additional information

**Loren White Jr Standing Rock Satellite Office** PO Box D, Ft Yates, ND 58538 T: (701) 854-8539 C: (701) 390-7133 www.nadc-nabn.org

## US attorneys, tribal officials talk public safety

**JAMES MacPHERSON** Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) -Criminal prosecutions have soared on American Indian reservations in the Dakotas in the past year, though tribal officials told federal prosecutors Thursday that more needs to be done to quell crime.

Fifteen U.S. attorneys from Alaska to New York, who make up the Department of Justice's Native American Issues Subcommittee, met in Bismarck to discuss public safety issues with tribal leaders. U.S. attorney Brendan Johnson of South Dakota is chairman of the group; Timothy Purdon of North Dakota is vice-chairman.

Tribal officials from the Dakotas told the federal prosecutors law enforcement funding resources continue to lack in Indian Country.

Associated Press

Robert Shepherd, chairman of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate tribe in northeastern South Dakota southeastern North Dakota, said funding for public safety is an obligation the federal government has to the tribes.

"We can't do anything until money is available," Shepherd

The top federal prosecutors in the Dakotas said they have made crime in Indian Country a priority among issues.

Johnson said criminal prosecutions have increased 20 percent in the past year in Indian Country in South Dakota, while Purdon said the increase in prosecutions in North Dakota is up about 30 percent.

They said the numbers do not necessarily reflect a jump in crime, but an increase in cases taken up by federal

"We're spending more time in Indian Country than we ever have and we're spending more time with tribal leaders," Johnson told The Associated Press. "When you do that, you usually get results."

Purdon said he has assigned assistant U.S. attorneys to each of North Dakota's reservations and will have them visit their assigned reservations monthly to work with tribal prosecutors.

Charles Murphy, Standing Rock tribal chairman, said the reservation's police force is short-staffed and sometimes only one officer is on duty to patrol the 2.3 million-acre reservation that straddles North Dakota and South Dakota.

"The reason why is funding," Murphy said. "We do not have enough men out there."

Murphy told the AP that a more than \$5 million jail facility for juvenile offenders has been completed for about a year but has not yet opened because of red tape. He said officers often have to transport iuvenile offenders to other jails in the Dakotas, taking time away from patrols.

Darren Cruzan, director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Office of Justice Services, said the lockup would be open by year's end.

Standing Rock council member Sharon Two Bears said tribes have to compete for public safety funding and the application process is confusing. Housing often isn't available on the reservations for police officers.

Merle St. Clair, chairman of North Dakota's Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, said the tribal court system on the reservation is in "chaos" and backlogged with cases.

Unlike some tribal courts, the judicial system on the Turtle Mountain reservation is run by its own members.

"I want the Department to take over the court," St. Clair said. "You cannot have a tribal judge hearing her own son's case."

Three Affiliated Tribes Chairman Tex Hall said crime has increased with an exploding population on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, located within North Dakota's western booming oil patch.

Hall estimated that about 10,000 people are working in the region, which has brought both prosperity and problems to the reservation.

"Our restaurants are full, our hotels are full and our jail is full," Hall said. "There is a downside to it."

Hall said the tribe lacks jurisdiction to prosecute non-Indians on the reservation, and that's widely known and must change.

Non-tribal citizens are welcome on the reservation, he said. "But if you break a tribal law, or if you break a federal law, you will be arrested."

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers DANA ATTOCKNIE LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country





## **Native American**

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND

918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 'Changing the culture of waste." TM

#### Native TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

#### Tribe boosts jail time for reservation crime FELICIA FONSECA in Oregon, have put together all the

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) – The Hopi "The main thing is it will improve will be one of the earliest tribes to our law and order on the reservation, increase criminal sentences under a so we have a better way of protecting landmark federal law meant to improve any victims," Hopi Chairman Le Roy Shingoitewa said Wednesday. "If public safety on American Indian reservations - where a historic gap in something happens, we now have the U.S. justice system has left tribes stronger teeth in making sure the perpetrators are punished. It's a huge with little authority over offenders on their lands. step forward for us."

The changes place the Hopi in a The Hopi tribe recently updated its position of leadership, as the first criminal code for the first time since 1972 with changes that comply with Arizona tribe to implement the longer provisions of the Tribal Law and Order sentences. Tribes around the country Act passed two years ago. Regardless also will be watching to see if the of whether the crime was murder or Hopi's changes stand up to scrutiny and if they help deter crime on the something far less severe, all were considered misdemeanors with a reservation, said John Tuchi, the tribal maximum punishment in tribal court liaison for the U.S. Attorney's Office in of a year in jail.

> The tribe's new sentencing guidelines don't preclude longer or stricter federal sentences for major crimes like

> pieces to boost jail time under tribal

"The biggest advantage of it is it allows them to make determinations about serious offenders without of the Umatilla Indian Reservation having to worry about what the federal the perpetrators, instead of protecting sentencing authority.

government does or how fast it acts," Tuchi said. "It gives the tribes the opportunity to take more control of public safety."

The Hopi worked for 18 months to update the code, which includes an expansion of what had been one sex crime listed under tribal law and addresses stalking, disturbance of religious ceremonies, bootlegging and illegal drug use. It also needed to have at least one law-trained judge to handle the felony cases and provide public defenders to meet the requirements under the Tribal Law and Order Act.

Crimes against women, assaults resulting in serious bodily injury and domestic offenses have plagued the reservation. Tribal members told Hopi lawmakers before a vote on updating the code how they and their families suffered as victims of crime. One man who recently was released from jail even acknowledged his wrongdoing and praised the Tribal Council for moving toward stiffer sentences, Shingoitewa said.

What needs to be communicated to the public now is to "start reporting

them," said Wayne Kuwanhyoima, chairman of the Hopi Tribal Council's Law Enforcement Task Team. On the Umatilla reservation, some

crimes already have been charged under a list of about 50 felonies. Everyone there is entitled to a public defender regardless of whether they're indigent, and a judge who has been on the bench for 30 years is law trained.

"It's been working great so far," said Brent Leonhard, an attorney in the Office of Legal Counsel. "Certainly as with all tribes, we could use more resources. There's always a concern with being able to afford jail space when we do sentence to an extended period of time."

The lack of funding to implement the federal law has been a major concern for tribes considering longer sentences.

The federal Bureau of Prisons has space for up to 100 offenders convicted of felonies in tribal courts who are sentenced to at least two years, but justice officials say those spaces are expected to fill up quickly as more tribes take advantage of the enhanced

## LIAISON

The changes that go into effect later

this month create a class of felonies that

could send convicted offenders to jail

for up to three years for a single crime or nine years with stacked sentences

for multiple offenses. Few tribes,

including the Confederated Tribes

for the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a child abuse investigator, followed by a stint with the Department of Defense investigating fraud. She holds a bachelor's degree in education from Oklahoma State University and a master's degree in counseling psychology from the University of Tulsa and is a former adjunct instructor at the Indian Police Academy in Artesia, N.M.

A citizen of the Kaw Nation,

Hensley was appointed by Gov. Mary Fallin in July as Oklahoma's first Native American liaison. position was created during the 2011 legislative session to replace the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission and was originally scheduled to be filled by Dec. 1, 2011, but concerns about a one-quarter blood quantum requirement originally in the job description left the position vacant. That requirement was removed during the 2012 legislative session, but the position's extended vacancy gave Hensley more ground to

cover once she was appointed.

"I've been going around to all the tribes to introduce myself," she said. "I've spent the better part of the last three to four weeks making the rounds, meeting with tribal governments to find out about their concerns and trying to schedule roundtable

discussions for later this year." Among the potential topics for those discussions are compacts with the state. Hensley said that while the governor has the final word for the state, her position will allow for more conversation and potential compromises.

"My role is to take the compact proposals to the tribes, see what they like and don't like, then take that feedback back to the governor's office," Hensley said. "Hopefully there will be more input this time around."

Hensley was not involved in the recently signed tobacco compact between the state of Oklahoma and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as the

negotiations were almost completed by the time she took office. However, she said she will play an active role in future compact talks. "I meet with the governor

every week," she said. "I have her ear. I'm in her senior staff meeting every week... One thing I don't think was done in the past was having a direct line to the governor. Now there is one."

Stickball · Drawing



· Fancy dancing · **Beadwork Big Brothers Big Sisters** Traditional language of Oklahoma **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

#### **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** Bone chokers \$20 per dozen Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50 12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00 Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items. Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070 New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only. Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## Tribe secures money in effort to buy sacred land

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – A Native American tribe trying to buy land it considers sacred in South Dakota's picturesque Black Hills is in negotiations with the landowners and has secured money for a deposit, though no final agreement has been reached, tribe officials said last Tuesday.

The nearly 2,000 acres of pristine prairie grass plays a key role in the creation story of the tribes making up the Great Sioux Nation, and members fear that new owners would develop the property. The land, which the tribes call Pe' Sla, is the only sacred site on private land outside Sioux control.

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe, whose reservation is among the closest to the land, has allocated an undisclosed amount of money as an earnest

deposit on the land, though tribe spokesman Alfred Walking Bull said that he couldn't specify the amount or where negotiations stood with the land owners.

"Basically, Rosebud is working out the details and the details will be forthcoming as early as next week," he said.

The tribe had earlier said it was allocating \$1.3 million to the cause, and donations to an online fundraising effort totaled about \$300,000 last week, though tribal officials fear that the land could sell for between \$6 million and \$10 million.

The landowners, Leonard and Margaret Reynolds, declined comment. An auction to sell that land had been scheduled for Aug. 25, but the couple cancelled it a few days before without commenting. Walking Bull said both sides have been working through a third party to handle negotiations.

Despite the hushed negotiations, tribe supporters praised the news of the progress.

"We are very pleased we've reached this positive milestone," said Chase Iron Eyes, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe who led the online fundraising effort. He said supporters planned a celebration rally in Rapid City.

The tribes believe the Sioux people were created from the Black Hills. According to part of their spiritual tradition, Pe' Sla is where the Morning Star fell to Earth, killing seven beings that killed seven women. The Morning Star placed the souls of the women into the night sky as "The Seven Sisters," also known as the Pleiades constellation.

Tribal citizens hold ceremonies and rituals on the land.

## xesman Despite the hushed neg

the school.

"The monks at Blue Cloud Abbey are truly sorry if anyone was harmed and would like to reach out pastorally to anyone who claims to have been harmed at Marty," Behrendt said.

offering spiritual help to former students of

**ABUSE** 

The legal fight started in 2003, when former students at St. Paul's School and another Indian boarding school in South Dakota filed a federal lawsuit seeking \$25 billion in damages from the federal government for the alleged mental, physical and sexual abuse of students

at the schools.

After the federal lawsuit was dismissed, the former students filed lawsuits in state court alleging that the religious organizations that ran the schools failed to protect students and were negligent in hiring, retaining and supervising staff.

St. Paul's School was founded in 1922 by religious organizations, but ownership and control were transferred to the Yankton Sioux Tribe in 1975.

At issue in the case was a state law that requires a lawsuit seeking damages for childhood sexual abuse to be filed within three years of the alleged abuse or within three years of the time the victim discovered or should have discovered that an injury was caused by the abuse. The students argued that they should get an extended time to file their lawsuits because they did not discover until much later that their injuries were caused by the alleged abuse.

However, the Supreme Court said the law giving extra time to file such lawsuits only applies in lawsuits against those who engaged in intentional conduct or actually committed the abuse. The former students' lawsuits do not claim any intentional conduct by the religious organizations that ran the school, and there is no evidence that the organizations engaged in criminal conduct, the justices said.

Another law gives victims of childhood sexual abuse until they turn 19 to file such lawsuits, but none of the lawsuits was filed in state court until 2004, long after the youngest former student turned 19 in 1981, Justice Steven Zinter wrote for the court.

"Therefore, none of the students commenced his or cause of action until more than twenty years after the time for filing suit had expired," Zinter wrote.

The lawsuits also argued that the Catholic Diocese could be held liable because the abuse was committed in the scope of employment by priests, nuns and others at the school. But the Supreme Court said the alleged sex abuse was outside the scope of employment and was not committed in pursuit of any diocese business.

The students also contended the diocese should be liable because it exercised control over the school, its employees and the religious organizations that operated it, but the Supreme Court said there is no evidence that the diocese was controlling the school's operation or that the religious organizations were running the school for the diocese.

The high court also rejected the students' argument that the diocese could be sued because it failed to protect students at the school

"The students identified no facts indicating that the Diocese – as opposed to the priests, monks, nuns, entity defendants, and the school – was acting as the custodian or parent of the students while they attended school," Zinter wrote for the court.

## Duo to see canonization of Mohawk saint

A woman and her daughter will make the journey to the Vatican in October to see Kateri Tekakwitha declared America's first Indigenous saint - completing her mother's quest.

**ANITA FRITZ**The Recorder

ERVING, Mass. (AP) – Thirty-two years after her mother traveled to the Vatican for the beatification of a Native American Catholic woman who had died 300 years before that, Anna Jarvis will travel to Rome with her daughter, Roberta Allen, for the canonization of Kateri Tekakwitha.

The tearful pair said that to be at the Vatican when Pope Benedict XVI declares the Native American of Mohawk decent, known as Lily of the Mohawks, a saint will be almost as exciting as being there for Jarvis' mother, who died in 1993 and would have loved to have known her family completed her quest.

"She so wanted to see Kateri canonized," said Allen of Erving. "She worked very hard to help get her there."

Tekakwitha will be America's first indigenous saint.

In 1980, Josephine Warisose Angus traveled to the Vatican to watch the beatification of Kateri Tekakwitha, which is a recognition by the Roman Catholic Church of a dead person's entrance into Heaven and the capacity for the church to intercede on behalf of individuals who pray in that person's name. Pope John Paul II performed the ceremony at that time and Tekakwitha was given the title, "Blessed Kateri."

"My grandmother was a member and one of the first officers of the Akwesasne Kateri Circle, a group that advocated for her canonization," said Allen. "We were asked by the Kateri Circle to go to the canonization in my grandmother's name."

Allen said all Mohawk reservations have a Kateri Circle. She, her grandmother and her mother, like Tekakwitha, are of Mohawk descent – and all three are Catholic like Tekakwitha.

"You have to live on a reservation to be a member of the circle. That's why we had to be asked," said Jarvis of Erving.

Jarvis said that like Tekakwitha, her mother was committed to the Catholic faith. But, she said, in the 1600s, unlike over the past few decades, turning outside of Mohawk faith was frowned upon.

"Kateri faced ridicule for converting to Christianity," said Jarvis. "I'm glad my mother didn't."

Pope Benedict XVI cleared the way last December for Tekakwitha to become a saint, something the two women weren't sure would ever happen.

"The only sad thing is that my mother didn't get to see this happen," said Jarvis.

There are four steps to becoming a saint in the Catholic religion:

First, the church opens an investigation into the virtues of the individual after members of the faith petition it to do so.

Second, the body is exhumed and examined.

Third, the person is recommended for sainthood and beatification takes place.

Finally, the person is canonized, but only after the church attributes two miracles to him or her.

Jarvis and Allen said the two miracles connected with Tekakwitha are the smallpox scars that disappeared from her face when she died in 1680, and the recovery of a dying boy in Seattle, Wash., in 2006, which was 326 years after her death.

It appears the Native American woman who was born in 1656 and grew up in the Mohawk Valley in New York watched her parents and siblings die of smallpox. She contracted the disease when she was a teen, but survived with some damage to her eyesight and with facial scars.

When she died, those who buried her said she glowed and her scars disappeared, according to investigations done by the Catholic Church.

In 2006, a 6-year-old boy cut his lip during a game in Washington. His face swelled and he developed a fever and according to reports by the church, doctors at Seattle Children's Hospital said a flesheating bacteria was attacking his face. It eventually destroyed his lips, cheeks and forehead.

Catholics from around the world began to pray to Kateri Tekakwitha – she was chosen because of the facial scars she lived with, said Allen – and soon after, the disease inexplicably stopped progressing and the boy recovered.

The Catholic Church declared it a miracle after a 31/2-year investigation.

Tekakwitha will become America's first Indigenous saint in October.

"I'm so proud to go for my mother," said Jarvis. "I never dreamed I'd have the same chance she did so many years ago."

Allen said her grandmother will have tears in her eyes, if she knows about Tekakwitha and about her daughter and granddaughter making the trip.

"She's dancing in Heaven," said Allen. "She's doing a ceremonial dance. I can hear her moccasins." Jarvis and Allen said they don't know what to expect when they get to the Vatican, but can't wait to meet the pope. The two said they received some donations to help cover their costs of their trip and saved the rest.

"I've been doing extra landscaping jobs all summer," said Allen, who has been a special education paraprofessional at Erving Elementary School for the past 16 years.

Jarvis is a retired caregiver who has six children, 19 grandchildren and 32 greatgrandchildren.

They said it will cost about \$1,000 each to make the eight-day trip, which will included local guided tours and the canonization ceremony. They will leave the area on Oct. 17 to spend the night on a reservation in Canada and will leave from Montreal on Oct. 18.

The mother-daughter pair will hold a fundraiser – their final push – on Sept. 15 at The Route 63 Roadhouse in Millers Falls at 2 p.m.

They are selling 100 tickets at \$20 each for a raffle that will have four winners, with prizes of \$500, \$250, \$100 and \$50. There were 10 tickets left at the end of last week.

Allen said there will also be a coffee can raffle to raffle off numerous items donated by local businesses and individuals, a 50-50 raffle and free food. She said the event is free and open to the public.

"Anyone who wants to stop by is welcome," she said. "If anyone would like to bring a dish, that would be nice, too."

For more information, or to purchase one of the "main raffle" tickets, call Allen at 413-824-8811.

## LION Continued from Page 1

gastronomy tube, or Mickey button, until he learned how to swallow. He also began sleeping in a crib. Overall, the focus remained to get Liam home. The efforts worked.

Liam was transferred to Children's Hospital at St. Francis in Tulsa on Nov. 16, 2011 to heal and be closer to family. On Nov. 22, 2011, Liam left the hospital and made his first journey home to Cameron, Okla. He spent Thanksgiving with his parents and big sister Cheyanne.

"He's the strongest person I ever met ... He's the biggest fighter I've ever, ever seen. For somebody that small to be able to go through as much as he has it's amazing ... He's really taught me a lot. For him to go through all of this that he's gone through and still be able to smile, that says a lot about a person. It puts everything into perspective ... he's such an amazing little boy," Whitney Lyon, Choctaw, previously told Native Times.

Liam went back into the hospital after Thanksgiving weekend and eventually fluid began to collect in his belly and later throughout his body. His inferior vena cava (one of the two main veins bringing deoxygenated blood from the body to the heart) was no longer functional

and he needed collateral circulation so blood could flow to the heart for oxygenation.

In December 2011, the family began a national search for experts in collateral circulation willing to help Liam. Some of the nation's top pediatric transplant and cardiology teams thought Liam's conditions were too complex or needed further evaluation. Boston Children's Hospital was willing to evaluate Liam and helped to partially open the inferior vena cava to improve drainage so his body would not retain fluid and swell. He returned to Arkansas Children's Hospital where he spent his first birthday. In March he was moved to Children's Hospital at St. Francis in Tulsa. By April he began to fade and, "He was so swollen he was almost unrecognizable - he couldn't bend - his skin was cracked and dry - and they said 'he had little chance for a meaningful recovery," Liam's aunt Susan Pickle posted on Liam's Facebook page.

At that point a Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) order was in place, and 11,000 people flicked on their porch lights and prayed for Liam. He heard them, and once again roared back causing the DNR to be revoked. Liam was baptized and in May candlelight vigils were ignited in Oklahoma and around the world. Meanwhile the family continued their "One Doctor" campaign, which sought

one physician from a major hospital equipped and willing to help Liam survive. As they waited Liam's health continued to have highs and lows; hopes were lifted then dashed. The family was turned down by major hospitals and encouraged by some physicians to sign another DNR, yet they clenched onto their hope and continued to "believe."

The family now needed a thoracic surgeon proficient in tracheoesophageal fistula (TEF) surgery. In August, Dr. David Morales of Cincinnati Children's Hospital said yes. The family climbed the mountain of medical records, insurance and transportation arrangements to get Liam to Cincinnati. As soon as he arrived on Aug 21, Liam was in crisis mode. The medical team opted to drain the excess fluid from his abdomen, a procedure that no other physicians had been willing to do over the last six months. Later a triple scope procedure revealed there was not a tracheoesophageal fistula, but a pouch. His airways were washed and cleaned out then discussion began on how to correct his clotted inferior vena cava and an infection he developed. He also had a biopsy, along with a handful of other procedures and treatments. The biopsy results came back Aug. 31 and showed his heart had no signs of rejection. However, Liam began having difficulties and on Sept. 3, he died cradled in his parents' arms.

"Heaven has a new angel, that bright shining star above, Liam has changed us forever. Fly high baby boy ... Grandma Nanci said it best – we're shattered ..." Aunt Susan posted on Facebook.

Liam's Facebook page, http://www.facebook.com/pages/I-Love-Liam-Lyon/137992366273067, has been an outlet for friends and family to share the tears and the triumphs of Liam's life. To date, Liam has 89, 770 friends worldwide and the numbers continue to climb. His best buddy was Curious George, and needless to say, lions. T-shirts were made with a lion's head in the center and the words Team Liam, Hear me Roar printed on them.

The family motto remains "Believe" and anyone who wishes to help the family through donations can send them to the William Elijah Lyon account at Simmons First National Bank in Fort Smith, Ark.; directly to Liam's great-grandfather, Paul Tankersley, at 234433 Shoup Rd, Cameron, OK 74932; or as a personal gift via PayPal at iloveliamlyon@ yahoo.com. The family would like to create a non-profit organization for advocacy and support to families with chronically ill children. The organization will be called, I Love Liam Lyon.

Liam's Celebration of Life memorial service was held at 2 p.m.

Sept. 9, at the Reynolds Center in Poteau, Okla. Liam's final bed was draped in fall colored flowers with a Curious George stuffed animal snuggled on top. On that day, in Poteau and around the world, red balloons danced high above the earth tickling the blue sky on their way up to Liam.

"I can't imagine your view from Heaven at the millions of red balloons going up for you today!" Jaime Allison Wagner from Austintown, Ohio wrote to Liam on his Facebook page. "You are so missed, so loved and will always be remembered!"

Jackie Killian Dunlaney was also one of the hundreds of people who wrote to Liam as he was being laid to rest. She wrote, "Oh Dearest Liam. Even though we've never met, I have thought of you every day since the first day I've known about you! I can never know the pain your family is feeling ... My heart is heavy today. I will continue to pray exceptionally hard for your family as I prayed hard for you. I love you as if you were my own. Fly high little wing for you have brought so much joy and faith to so many people worldwide ..."

Members of Liam's Facebook family around the world were able to view Liam's service via http://www.shawnsanomaly.org/ where there is also a video tribute to Liam with "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" playing in the background.

## COMMENTARY

## Hickory Ground: Statement from the Mekko

Oce Vpofa Mekko for 42 plus years. This is a lifetime position and it will be until the day I die. It is not our character as Muscogee (Creek) people to express our customs, rituals and traditions to those outside. Things that have been passed down decades and decades stay deep within. So it is a rarity that I come to you to express myself. But I feel strongly about the subject at hand and I come to you with a heavy heart.

The Mekkos before me were lifetime positions as well. It was only four chiefs ago that our people sat at our traditional ceremonial grounds in Wetumpka, Oce Vpofa (Hickory Ground) Alabama. This was the beginning of our people and our traditional home. We are not rich in money, but we are rich in our knowledge and the language of who we truly are land. as Muscogee (Creek) citizens in Oklahoma. These chiefs

Alabama.

Today, truly makes me sad.

the Muscogee (Creek) Nation it is being built. of Oklahoma. The Poarch Tribe by using this lineage to ceremonial ground. We do not validate their claims as Indian want them to build on top of States government gave them up the last known cultural federal recognition, they also capital of the Muscogee gave them the Hickory Ground (Creek) Nation. This was our

Alabama was being preserved. sacred As Mekko of Hickory Ground ceremonial ground and burial in Oklahoma, if building a site have been disturbed and multi-million dollar casino on is a parking lot and hotel top of our ceremonial grounds casino for the Poarch Band is the Poarch Band's way of Creeks in Alabama. In the of preserving our ancestral process of building this casino home, then I don't want it to expansion, the Poarch Band of be preserved their way. My Creek Indians dug up seven way of preserving this land is chiefs and 56 remains. This by leaving it alone and putting it back to its natural state. We The Poarch Band of Creek are not opposed to the Poarch Indians claims that they are Band casino, or their parking lineal (direct) descendants of lot. We are opposed to where

I ask you to stand with us Band of Creek Indians gained in stopping the destruction Federal recognition as a of our burial sites and sacred people. When the United our people. They are digging property to be included in known as "The Trail of Tears."

name is George and participating in sacred would be pleased to know that survived, and our fires kept our traditions so that our traditional people of my sacred Thompson; I have been the ceremonies in Wetumpka, their ancestral homeland in burning and our ceremonies ways become a novelty that homeland one day. and traditional lifestyle stayed can be sold in a gift shop. Our that ran down our face during not a tourist attraction. this march was because we left our ceremonial grounds and Nation or group of people our dead behind. We worried that condone digging up their what would happen to them relatives for financial gain. and would we ever be able to return to our ancestral lands. Little did we know at that time, that some 180 plus years later that our "brothers," the fight for our people because where they were taken from. Poarch Band of Creek Indians, I have to face them someday would dig up our dead for when I die and I will have to financial gain. The Hickory explain to them how hard I Ground people of Oklahoma fought to preserve their final have a new reason for tears to resting place. When my spirit alive and well. Not only are flow down our faces.

When the Poarch Band of Creeks became federally your casino to greet them. recognized, they promised to protect the historic and sacred men, women and children of Hickory Ground. The Poarch Band of Creeks offered to for supporting this cause will build a "Memorial Garden and land in Wetumpka, Alabama land until the United States Interpretive Center" to honor as part of their reservation government forced us to Hickory Ground and the for your support in preserving relocate to Oklahoma during estimated 60 remains they had this sacred site and burial The Poarch Band Creeks' the death marches in the 1830's, already dug up. The Muscogee ground. But for now, this of Hickory Ground here claim in the 1980's that this or what is more commonly (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma is all that I can offer. To my did not agree with this plan. people of Oce Vpofa (Hickory commonly referred to as Chief. that came before me sat in their reservation was valuable During the Trail of Tears, we We do not publicize our Ground), I will fight to protect This position is a traditional their arbors, surrounding and that the Hickory Ground lost thousands of our people dances or sell our medicine. our ancestors until the day I Chief as opposed to the modern

We do not know of any that I am aware of where this would be acceptable.

As the Oce Vpofa Mekko, I

To all the agencies, the all Nations, saying thank you Mvto (Thank You) never be enough. There are no George Thompson, words to express my feelings the fire, and taking medicine Creek people in Oklahoma along the way, but our people We don't invite outsiders into die, for I will have to see the day Chief.

I send this plea to all Indian alive. I believe that the tears tradition and our ancestors are Nations, all Nations of color and Nations throughout the world to stand with the Oce Vpofa (Hickory Ground) people and stop the Poarch Band of Creeks from further There is no custom or tradition desecrating our sacred lands and implore them to return our ancestors and their burial objects, and our cultural items

> In closing, I would especially like to thank the people of Muscogee (Creek) Nation for keeping our ceremonies comes to face them, I do not we closing ceremonies for the want my spirit to walk through winter with medicine now, but also with the "LITTLE BROTHER OF WAR."

Oce Vpofa Mekko (Hickory Ground Traditional Chief)

\*Mekko means "King" or

# No longer the 'Vanishing Americans'



**Notes from Indian Country** 

**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

At the turn of the 20th century Native Americans were known as the "Vanishing Americans." And now, 100 years later, they are one of the fastest growing races in America.

For instance, in South Dakota where there are nine Indian reservations, every county located on a reservation has shown growth in population while many of the other rural counties have shown a loss.

were known as the "Vanishing American" in the early 1900s

Americans, for that matter.

all commercials had white spending it. actors and presenters only. But commercials followed suit.

In essence it was not only a revolution in advertising, but a revolution in race relations. Minorities consumers was a new concept Americans." to the corporate big wigs and a rapidly growing in numbers century of backward thinking and in economic stability. It is ironic that Indians forced to move forward and to Reservation alone there are be all inclusive.

The key ingredient in this elementary

citizens of the United States minorities had jobs and they until 1924 so one can say that were moving up the economic they really weren't Americans ladder. They now had money to buy cars and other goods For those old enough to and commodities. The mindset remember think back to when that had relegated them to you first started to see African the back of the corporate bus Americans or other minorities had to change along with in television commercials, or the economic growth of the Asian Americans or Hispanic minority races. The color of money is green and so it didn't Prior to the 1980s nearly  $\$ matter the color of the person

something happened as the Native Americans, this lesson minority races continued to in economic reality has not grow in numbers. They were sunk into the minds of the looked upon as consumers by corporate advertisers located the large corporations. Retail far away from the Indian chains like J.C. Penney's and reservations and although Sears began to use different the local business and retail minority races in the flyers they outlet managers know they inserted into local newspapers have a very strong customer and those businesses that base in the Native American utilized television to air their population, their corporate counterparts find it difficult to understand, or worse yet, to absorb this fact.

Americans Native no longer the "Vanishing They in advertising was suddenly On the Pine Ridge Indian four high schools and several and middlebecause they didn't become revolution was money. Racial schools employing several

hundred well-paid teachers frustrating. and administrators and the majority of these employees are Native American.

There are gaming casinos on nearly all Indian reservations contributing to the economic growth of not only the state, but of the Indian reservations. The people and the tribal governments spend millions goods and services. Every major construction project is usually bid out by firms located in the cities bordering the reservations and these projects that build new schools and tribal government buildings can run into the millions of

Retail stores such as Wal-Mart are the major recipients of the dollars flowing from Indian country. On any given weekend all one need do is visit the local Wal-Mart store and you will find that about 25 percent of the customers in the store are Native Americans. But this reality has not caught up with the corporate powersthat-be living in the cities far away from South Dakota and Indian country and trying educate them is truly

But this is true of most major businesses in South Dakota: look upon the fastest growing population in the state as consumers and, indeed, still look at Native Americans as poverty stricken welfare recipients.

Just as the African American, off the reservation purchasing Hispanic American and Asian American populations grew to the point where their dollars made an economic impact, so too is the Native American population expanding. For the local merchants it is an education in progress and the sooner they learn the faster intelligence.

> In order to get this point Band of Ojibwe in Minnesota, business owners in Bemidji started to call each other cash registers were suddenly filling up with \$2 bills. Jordain of Red Lake spend thousands

of dollars every month and the community had better shape up and start to treat his They have not learned to people like customers instead of as dirt. Jordain is now deceased, but he understood the economic power of his reservation and used it to vastly improve race relations. He proved that money is a great equalizer.

And so my advice to merchants in cities like Sioux Falls and Rapid City, South Dakota is to take a lesson from innovators like Roger Jordain: Native Americans are not the "Vanishing Americans" but are instead the fastest growing minority in the state and their businesses will grow; it they will soon be one of your is simply a matter of economic most important economic contributors.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, across, Roger Jordain, then is President of Unity South president of the Red Lake Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the saw to it that one entire payroll Class of 1991. His weekly was handed out in \$2 bills. The column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. Giago was the founder and first president of trying to find out why their the Native American Journalists Association and the founder of Indian Country Today. He can proved his point: the citizens be reached at UnitySoDak1@

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

#### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program. Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!

## **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issue	es 🔲 \$32.50 for 26 issues

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

■ \$1.25 single copy

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues

## SHAWNEE

Continued from Page 1

Pennsylvania westward to Ohio. Members of what would become the Absentee Shawnee pushed on to Missouri while the Shawnee Tribe ancestors were relocated to Kansas. A smaller band began traveling and living among the Seneca, and together, they were forced into Indian Territory in 1832 around the Grand Lake region. The rest of the Shawnee would soon follow.

It was in the Ohio River Valley, where Tecumseh, the great Shawnee leader, made a stand in 1812 with his Indian confederacy and vision of a separate nation against the U.S. government for the right to remain in the tribe's increasingly shrinking territory. As it was in his time, the Newark Earthworks are still visible, constructed with precision by a mound building people known as the Hopewell culture more than 2,000 years ago. Today, the intricate complex of earthworks structures is now home to an education center of the Ohio State University of Newark for the preservation of ancient American Indian architectural sites.

At first, Newark seemed like a long way from the Eastern Shawnee Tribe's present-day offices on the Oklahoma-Missouri border and in Wyandotte - both literally and metaphorically.

"We have, without question, lost more of our culture, more of our language - 99 percent," Wallace said. "We have no ceremonials. When we assimilated into the white man's world, we assimilated into the white man's world."

The loss of unity with the other Shawnees left the Eastern Shawnee afloat in a different culture without an anchor. By the 1870s, there were but 69 people enrolled in the tribe.

"Many of us can go no further back than our greatgrandfathers to know names, to know where they were born, where they died, when they died, if they were buried and where they were buried," Wallace said.

Today, it has close to 3,000 citizens.

According to the tribe's website, the Eastern Shawnee own approximately 1,000 acres, and the tribe has more than 600 employees working among tribal enterprises that include a travel center, a restaurant and two casinos - the Bordertown Outpost Casino in Wyandotte and the new \$85 million Indigo Sky Casino that opened last week near West Seneca.

As the tribe works to regain economic autonomy, it continues its search for its heritage. Wallace said the Eastern Shawnee have rediscovered their language in classes and learned some ceremonial traditions from members of the other Shawnee tribes. Youth and adults are actively involved.

A few years ago, the tribe came in contact with the Newark Earthworks Center. The Shawnee were eager to visit the ancestors' lands, and the center researchers wanted to know the tribe's perspective of the earthworks.

"There's no doubt (that) every part of our work is enriched by communication with the historic tribes of Ohio," said Marti L. Chaatsmith, the center's associate director.

There are no federally-recognized tribes based in Ohio today. The center wants input from tribes with historic ties to the state about how to best and properly preserve the sites, many of which are ceremonial in nature. There is also the matter of artifacts found in the area.

"The more we have a connection with the historic tribes, the more we feel that, when listening to what they want, we feel we're following the right path to caring and preserving the earthworks," Chaatsmith, Comanche and Choctaw,

In recent years, the Eastern Shawnee have brought two busloads of tribal citizens to Ohio to take in the homeland experience, but for the July trip, a small delegation brought a new experience to the Newark community and Ohio Historical Society. The youth performed several powwow, social and stomp dances for an audience. It was a vital reminder to the Newark residents of their state's indigenous past, Chaatsmith said.

The summer program was part of a National Endowment for Humanities-funded project called the Ancient Ohio Trail (www.ancientohiotrail.org). The Newark earthworks site is a stop on Ohio's map of heritage tourism.

"It was a wonderful exchange, a wonderful experience,"

Plans are in the works to bus another group of tribal citizens to visit Newark next summer.

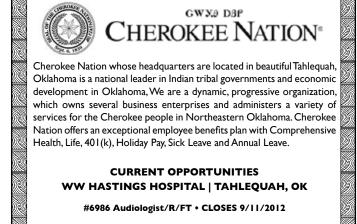
## CLASSIFIEDS







### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



#7005 Surgical Technician/R/FT • CLOSES 9/12/2012

#7026 Inpatient RN/R/FT/ER • CLOSES 9/11/2012

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** 

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Tahlequah, OK 74465

#### **American Indian Studies Full Time Faculty Member**

The Pawnee Nation College, a tribal college located on the Pawnee Nation Reserve near Pawnee, Oklahoma, is seeking a full-time faculty member to teach a variety of courses in American Indian Studies, especially in the areas of leadership and management. The appointment will be for one year and possibly more years, contingent upon funding. The position is funded through a Department of Education grant. Start date for this position is September 20, 2012 and the position will be kept

Candidate is required to have a master's degree in American Indian Studies/Native American Studies or Bachelor's Degree with at least 18 hours of graduate courses in American Indian Studies/Native American Studies. Knowledge of Pawnee history and culture are preferred. Teaching experience of Indian students at the college level is required. In addition, full-time faculty must have a demonstrated record with concern to: carrying out instructional responsibilities (including developing syllabi and lesson plans) at the higher education level, assessing student work, working with both internal and external organizations, developing a professional dossier that clearly demonstrates advancement and activity, teaching life-skills to students, and serving the College by assisting with extracurricular activities, when necessary. American Indian candidates, especially Pawnees, are strongly encouraged to apply.

All interested applicants should send a letter of interest, which addresses qualifications, teaching experience, level of education, and so on, as well as a current resume or c.v., three writing samples, teaching evaluations, three letters of recommendation, a completed PNC Application for Employment (available online), and copies of all transcripts to: Dr. Joseph Bohanon, Ph.D., President, Pawnee Nation College, 861 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058; applications can also be sent by email to: jbohanon@pawneenationcollege.org. Application materials are due September 14, 2012.

#### **Crime Victim Advocate #2**

The Seneca-Cavuga Tribe is accepting applications for a Crime Victim Advocate #2. In compliance with the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, Tribal Government Office Employees Personnel Policy, applicants will be solicited from within the Tribe, with consideration being given to upgrading the existing staff according to the Tribe's Career Development Program. At the same time, all other applications will also be accepted for this position in order to satisfy the immediate need. The Crime Victim Advocate #2 is a full-time position and is under the immediate supervision of the Crime Victim Advocate #1 and direct supervision of the Director of Family Services. The Crime Victim Advocate #2 is responsible for client assistance on all domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking cases. Activities will include, but not be limited to, the following: train/educate professionals and community regarding protocols and awareness. This position will ensure that appropriate services are offered and procedures are followed while promoting victim safety and maintaining communication within the guise of confidentiality. This position involves functional and crossfunctional team participation with a focus on the promotion of both team and personal development. Applicant must have a Bachelor's degree in Social Work, Psychology, or Criminal Justice and/or experience working with in Family Service or Social Service type jobs, or any equivalent of education and experience. Comprehensive knowledge of Native American culture and program functions will be beneficial. Applicants should be computer literate and proficient with compatible program software. Applicants must be willing to accept any and all other appropriate duties assimilated with the position as assigned. Selected applicant will be required to complete and pass a drug screen. Applications are available at 23701 South 655 Road, Grove, OK 74344 and online at www.sctribe. com . Resumes with applications may be submitted to Human Resources or online at cbrown@sctribe.com, Indian/ Tribal Preference will be observed. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 pm CDT, September 14, 2012.

#### **Account Executive**

The Seneca-Cayuga Tribe is accepting applications for an Account Executive. In compliance with Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, Tribal Government Office Employees Personnel Policy, before applicants are solicited from outside the Tribe, consideration shall be given to upgrading the existing staff according to the Tribe's Career Development Program. The Account Executive under the supervision of the President of Skydancer Office Solutions and Seneca Cayuga Commercial Furniture is responsible to plan and carry out all sales activities for assigned accounts or areas. Responsible for ensuring customer satisfaction throughout the sales process. The Account Executive will also generate and qualify leads, source and develop client referrals, develop and maintain a customer database, conduct direct marketing activities, develop and make presentations of company products and services to current and notential clients, monitor and report on sales activities and follow up for management. Applicant must be proficient in the use of office machines and personal computer and willing to accept any and all other appropriate duties assimilated with the position as assigned. Applications are available at 23701 South 655 Road, Grove, OK 74344 and online www.sctribe.com. Resumes and applications may be submitted to Human Resources or online at cbrown@sctribe.com. Indian/ Tribal Preference will be observed.

#### **INVESTIGATOR** Up to \$46.8K + State benefits package

Position open until filled.

Bachelor's degree in criminal justice or related field; and 1 yr of investigation exp (e.g., criminal or welfare fraud). to include surveillance work; or An equivalent combination of 5 yrs of education and exp. Preference for: Familiarity w/the SoonerCare (Medicaid) program; Familiarity with reimbursement methodologies (e.g., fee-for-service or rate-based); Exp w/ the DA's office; Fraud certification (e.g., Certified Fraud Examiner); and/or Exp testifying in court. Download appl. and questionnaire from website. Deadline: Sept 14th, 2012.

OK Health Care Authority Attn: Human Resources 2401 NW 23rd St. Suite 1A OKC, OK 73107 personnel@okhca.org www.okhca.org/jobs

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

## **NATIVE AMERICAN**

#### PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

**HIRING** 

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!

#### THE AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

Is currently seeking to fill the following position: **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER** 

Full job description and application details visit our website at: www.collegefund.org <About Us> or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to:

applications@collegefund.org

#### --- Native American Owned Business? ---

Let the Native American Community know!

The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Northern Oklahoma. Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838





www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES** FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

## WANTED

#### *NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS*

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

#### **DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP**

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960



204-376-3428

www.ganica.net

## CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

# 'Wellness court' aims at addiction

**TOM ROBERTSON** Minnesota Public Radio

CASS LAKE, Minn. (AP) -Fred Isham sits near a blazing fire just outside Cass Lake on the Leech Lake Indian Reservation. The 37-yearold tribal member helped you come back out there it's a rebirth. You're clean again," said Isham, who is a member of the Boise Forte Band of Ojibwe but grew up here.

Isham was a chronic drinker and pot smoker. Last summer he got his second DWI citation, and he later violated

the country. It's a voluntary prison diversion program that provides structured supervision and rehabilitation for non-violent, repeat drug and alcohol offenders. The average length of the program is 18 months for gross misdemeanor offenders

staff can require him to take a urinalysis test at any time, even in the middle of the night.

Initially, that part of the program kept him on track. Later, his own success drove him, he said.

"They're really on you all

It gave the tribe a direct say in the outcome of cases involving band members.

The Leech Lake tribe has a lot at stake. By some estimates, as many as 60 percent of the reservation's tribal residents struggle with drug and alcohol addictions. It's a problem that touches nearly every family.

In Cass County, Ojibwe people make up about 12 percent of the population, but they typically account for close to half of the county jail population. They're over-represented in the state corrections system, too, and they're more likely to reoffend and get sent back to prison.

Korey Wahwassuck is an associate judge for the Leech Lake Band. In wellness court, she shares the bench with her counterparts from Itasca and Cass counties. Wahwassuck says the program is a way to heal people rather than lock them up.

"Nothing else has worked," Wahwassuck said. "We've had people that go back through the revolving door and have repeat offenses, and nothing ever really breaks that cycle of addiction."

Wellness court encourages family members and others to come to court and get directly involved in the process. The wellness team has helped participants find jobs and housing. It's even helped reunite families. Wahwassuck says that broad approach is the only way to slow down the revolving prison door.

"We hear from so many of our participants that maybe a spouse or a significant other got sober with them. Then that affects their children and really has a way to start breaking that cycle of addiction in people's lives," she said.

Because of limited resources, wellness court is capped at 25 participants at a time. In the past six years, 61 people have gone through the program in Cass County. About half have successfully graduated. And among the graduates, only two have reoffended.

Cass County District Court Judge John Smith, who helped establish the court, says the numbers show far better results than traditional

probation programs.

"I think they're phenomenal, almost miraculous," Smith said. "The recidivism rate is under 10 percent, which, for chronic alcohol offenders, is absolutely miraculous to me. I think it's probably the best thing I've done as a judge, and most rewarding, in the sense that, we really get the feeling that we're helping people."

The court doesn't deal only with tribal members. About half of its participants are non-Indian.

Thirty-one-year-old Mike Rowell of rural Pine River wears a cross around his neck and a T-shirt that says "Celebrate Recovery." He's been involved in wellness court since 2010, when he got his fourth DWI. He's been in and out of treatment 12 times. Rowell says it was either spend the next three years behind bars, or get sober for good.

"The way I put it, there's a noose around your neck and you're standing on a bucket, and if you don't conform, they're going to kick the bucket out from under you," Rowell said. "That's how it is when you start the program. That's how you feel. That's not how it is. They actually care."

Rowell is set to graduate from the court in November. It has given him the tools he needs to lead a better life, he said. He goes to AA up to four times a week, attends church functions and speaks once a month at his treatment group. Rowell says his life now revolves around sobriety.

"I am into this," Rowell said. "This is my life. Because I tell you what, my life before and my life now, you wouldn't see a smile on my face before. I was a pretty rugged dude, I was. And I've embraced the program. I live it, I walk it, I breathe it."

the effectiveness of alternative justice programs like wellness court is currently underway. The study is expected to be completed next year.

A statewide evaluation of



TOM ROBERTSON | COURTESY MINNESOTA PUBLIC RADIO

Ojibwe tribal member Fred Isham throws sage on a fire that's heating stones used in the sweat lodge behind him. Sage is a sacred, purifying medicine for the Ojibwe. Isham, a participant in the Cass County - Leech Lake Tribal Wellness Court, uses the sweat lodge and other cultural ceremonies to help him stay sober. The wellness court program is the first of its kind in the country.

build the fire to heat carefully selected stones that will be used in a nearby sweat lodge.

Inside the sweat lodge, Isham and others will pray and conduct spiritual Ojibwe ceremonies.

Isham participates in the Cass County-Leech Lake tribal "wellness court." He's encouraged to use ceremonies and other cultural activities as part of his recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. It's not required, but evidence suggests cultural and spiritual connections can help the healing process.

"The sweat lodge to me ... in a sense what you're doing is you're going back into the womb of the mother. When

Oklahoma Indian Summer

probation. But in December, he took the opportunity offered to participate in wellness court, an alternative to a year in prison.

The court is a unique partnership among the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and Cass and Itasca counties in northern Minnesota, Minnesota Public Radio reports. It uses intense supervision and, in some cases, tribal culture, to target chronic substance abusers and cut the cost of crime, and it is among a variety of new strategies and approaches to are trying.

Wellness court is similar to the DWI and drug courts that have become popular across

Oklahoma Indian Summer celebrates 25 years

and 24 months for felony offenders.

For participants, it's strict. Isham must attend weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. He answers to a probation officer and must attend wellness court meetings every other week. The court sessions are convened jointly by both tribal and county judges, who get updates on his

The judges praise Isham for his successes and sanction him if he messes up. He's not allowed to leave Cass public safety the local officials County without the court's permission.

> One of the most stringent parts of the program is drug and alcohol testing. Program

the time," he said. "I've got to do breathalyzers anywhere from two to three times a week. They do have faith and they do believe in a person that you can get to where you want to be, you can be sober, you can live a good life."

Some Leech Lake tribal leaders were suspicious when asked to help create the wellness court back in 2006. The tribe is sometimes at odds with the state, and band leaders are protective of their sovereignty.

But the tribe came to realize that participating in the program gave tribal judges the chance -- for the first time ever -- to sit in a courtroom with county judges as equals.

## **FUNDS**

these (grant) guidelines, we have had to adjust and cut back on programs solely funded through our gaming funds to provide services for our grant-funded programs," the employee said on the condition of anonymity. "Right now, we're running on gaming revenue to keep

open the programs that have to be open or we'd lose those grants."

"It has taken its toll on the gaming programs," the employee said. "We still have not been able to open up and provide assistance."

The Cheyenne Arapahos own and operate five Lucky Star casinos across its nine-county jurisdictional area in western Oklahoma.

Despite the frozen accounts, 16 job vacancies

through the Concho complex were advertised in the Sept. 1 edition of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal Tribune, including three teaching positions with the tribe's Head Start centers in Canton, Okla.; Clinton, Okla.; and Concho, Okla., that require an associate's degree or higher.

More than 12,000 people are enrolled in the Chevenne and Arapaho Tribes, including about 5,000 who live within the tribes' jurisdictional area.

## News Release BARTLESVILLE, Okla. -

Oklahoma Indian Summer is gearing up for its 25th year of providing the state's largest intertribal event and multicultural exchange in downtown Bartlesville, Oklahoma. The festival, which features a juried art show and fine arts market that runs throughout the festival, a competition pow wow as well as many other special events, is scheduled Thursday-Saturday, Sept. 20 - 22 at the Bartlesville Community Center at the corner of Cherokee Ave. and

Adams Blvd. According Jenifer to Pechonick, the festival coordinator, 14,000 visitors from across the state and beyond take part in Oklahoma Indian Summer annually.

"We have visitors come from all over Oklahoma and the surrounding states to enjoy the fest, and we invite everyone to come be a part of Oklahoma Indian Summer," Pechonick said.

She adds that the Oklahoma Tourism Industry Association has previously selected the festival as the Outstanding Event of the year.

In celebration of the 25th anniversary, OIS will host guest speaker Billy Mills, the only Native American still living to win an Olympic gold

"It is always an honor and very humbling to a Native American man when I am invited to the traditional lands of other tribal nations," Mills said. "Oklahoma is the home of the heartbeat and soul of many proud tribal nations."

Mills is scheduled to speak on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Community Center auditorium, followed by Distant Thunder on the main stage at 8:30.

an athlete the caliber of Billy Mills is coming to Bartlesville" says OIS Executive Board Chairman Dee Ketchum. "What also makes this

"We are very excited that

double special is that this is an Olympic year and to have an Olympic champion in our midst is tremendous." In addition to Mills, this

year's American Indian and Western juried art competition and show will showcase the work of more than 30 artists displayed in Community Hall in the Bartlesville Community throughout Center weekend. Authentic Native American sculpture, paintings, clothing, gourd art, pottery, wood sculpture, basket weaving, silverwork, beadwork, leather goods and more will be available to see and purchase.

Ketchum says he's excited about the inclusion of western art into the already popular

"I think it's great to have

western artists involved in Indian Summer," he said.

The annual intertribal Powwow kicks off with Gourd Dancing at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings in the Powwow arena of the Bartlesville Community Center parking lot. Adult dance competition includes the categories of Women's Cloth, Buckskin, Northern Fancy Shawl and Jingle (combined), Men's Straight, Fancy, Traditional and Grass (combined). There are boys and girls with two age categories in the youth division. Prize money will be awarded to the winners of all the dance competitions.

On Friday and Saturday the festival opens at 10am and closes late night after the pow

Youth activities include Friday's demonstration day for area school children/ youth groups and a youth art contest and show with a \$1000 scholarship for best of show.

Oklahoma Indian Summer is a 501c3 organization run by volunteers and donations. OIS accepts donations throughout

Admission to the festival is free and more information can be found by visiting the OIS website at www. okindiansummer.org or by contacting Jenifer Pechonick, festival coordinator, at 918-331-0934 or via email at jeniferp917@aol.com.

## WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment - Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services.
 Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details.
 \*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com



Member FDIC TRIOR



Lisan Tiger-Blair, Creek/Cherokee, of Muskogee won 1st place in the youth sculpture division Aug. 18-19 at the Sante Fe Indian Art

## Muskogee youth wins Art Market 1st prize

Reader Submission

SANTA FE, N.M. -- Lisan Tiger-Blair, 17, of Muskogee won first place in the youth sculpture division at the 91st Santa Fe Indian Art Market on Aug. 18-19.

Tiger-Blair, a junior at Tahlequah-Sequoyah High School, won for his clay piece "Yvnvsv Hokkolen," meaning "two buffalo" in the Muscogee (Creek) language.

More than 1,000 artists from the United States and Canada competed in the festival, which is considered the largest and most prestigious Native American art show in the world, drawing around 100,000 viewers and buyers annually.

In March, Tiger-Blair, of Creek and Cherokee descent, won first, second and third places, including the Willard Stone Memorial Award, at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum Student Art Show in the 10th grade sculpture/woodcarving category.

The son of Dana Tiger and Donnie Blair, both of Muskogee, Lisan has work on permanent display at the Oklahoma Supreme Court building, and has won shows regionally and nationally, including the Red Earth Native American Cultural Festival in Oklahoma City.

## Lacrosse film hits store shelves this fall

Prepare for an underdog story like you've never experienced before -"Crooked Arrows" arrives on Blu-ray and DVD Oct.

LOS ANGELES - Crooked Arrows, a lively, engaging, humorous and inspiring feature film centered around the actionpacked sport of lacrosse, arrives on Blu-ray and DVD from Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment on October 23, 2012. The film stars Brandon Routh ("Superman Returns"), Birmingham (Twilight Saga), Crystal Allen (Maid in Manhattan) and an amazing cast of lacrosse players.

The film centers on Coach Joe Logan (Brandon Routh), who reluctantly leads a Native American high school team on their unlikely journey to the state lacrosse championship game against their prep school rivals. Along the way, Joe and the team rediscover their connection to the spiritual traditions of the ancient sport of lacrosse. This is an underdog story that will inspire and entertain viewers just like The Mighty Ducks and Hoosiers.

The film has received an incredibly positive reception due to its authentic representation of the cultures of both Native

Americans and Lacrosse. Crooked Arrows was thoughtfully produced in order to create a film that highlights both communities in a genuine and entertaining way. With carefully selected music and scenery, Crooked Arrows strives and delivers audience resonance.

"Crooked Arrows has a touch of magic." - The Baltimore Sun

"Crooked Arrows has universal appeal." - The Dallas Morning "The film's spiritual, historical

and cultural perspectives - prove enlightening." - Los Angeles

"Crooked Arrows scores as a family film with terrific action." -The Boston Globe

The film has proven to be well received by all audiences alike. Roxana Hadadi of Chesapeake Family says, "Crooked Arrows is the kind of triumphant underdog story that will work for the whole family."

The audience has spoken, "Crooked Arrows is the best movie ever made about lacrosse. The film has universal appeal." Crooked Arrows Blu-Ray and DVD lets you experience and share the thrill and emotion with your whole family. The release includes several bonus features and a free Crooked Arrows Decal Sticker in every DVD and Bluray. Available on Blu-ray & DVD

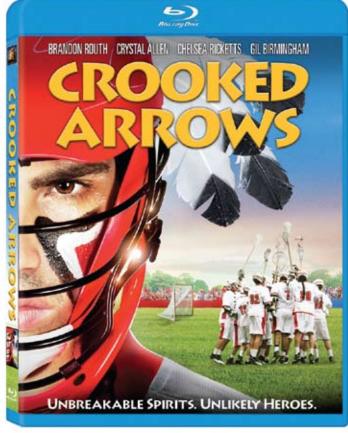
on www.Amazon.com . Crooked Arrows Special Features:

- \*\*Commentary Featuring Mark Ellis, Steve Rash, and Neal J.
- \*\*The Story of Crooked Arrows \*\*Keepin' It Real - Crooked
- Arrows Lacrosse \*\*Native American Lacrosse - A Crooked Arrows Tribute
- \*\*The Game of Life: Heart and

Spirit of Onondaga

\*\*Crooked Arrows Theatrical

- Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment, LLC (TCFHE) is a recognized global industry leader and a subsidiary of Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation, a News Corporation company.



Crooked Arrows stars Brandon Routh (Superman Returns) as a coach who leads a Native American high school team to the state lacrosse championship game.

## **New Native American plays wanted for festival**

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Oklahoma City Theatre Company is accepting submissions of original plays for its 2013 Native American New Play Festival. The deadline is Feb. 15.

The selected plays will be presented at the fourth annual festival, April 11-21, in a readers

theater format, each open to the public. One play will be selected from the finalists for a fully-staged production at the 2014 festival.

The next festival will feature the play Chalk in the Rain by Bret Jones, panel discussions with playwrights and artists, art exhibitions, storytelling events, Native American cuisine and more. The Native American New Play Festival is scheduled to be

held at the Oklahoma City Civic Center Music Hall.

Scripts submitted for the staged readings must be for a full-length play. Previously produced plays will not be considered. Finalists will be announced in March. For complete submission guidelines, go to www.okctheatrecompany.org or call Rachel Irick at (405) 593-6600. Irick can also be reached by email at rachel@okctc.org.

Advertise your **Native Owned** business in the Native Times. Special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@ nativetimes.com



## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and

contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance **Abuse and Behavioral Health** Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

#### **SECOND TUESDAY**

**Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

#### THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian **Health Center to enroll all Native** American and non-Indian Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. The Pawnee Service Unit is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City

#### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

www.okchoctaws.org

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

#### **THROUGH SEPT 28**

The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & **Gallery, Oklahoma City** 

#### **SEPTEMBER 13-14**

**Blue Thumb Water Pollution Education Program at Choctaw Community Center, 2750 Big Lots** Pkwy., Durant, Okla. 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days. More info call Cheryl Cheadle, 918-398-1804 or cheryl.cheadle@conservation. ok.gov Or Kim Shaw, 405-522-4738 or kim.shaw@conservation.ok.gov or visit www.conservation.ok.gov (Click "Blue Thumb" in upper left corner)

#### **SEPTEMBER 15**

**Dance for Life contest powwow** - a community event bringing awareness to suicide prevention in our communities and among our youth. Sponsored by the Kiowa

**Tribe of Oklahoma Teen Suicide Prevention Program. Event will** be held in the Comanche Nation Community Center in Apache, Oklahoma. More info call 405-247-5200 or email gmbeaver@att.net

#### **SEPTEMBER 19**

Indian Taco Sale 11am- 2pm: \$6.00 **Indian Fellowship Baptist Church** 6130 So. 58th W. Ave: Oakhust, Okla. Deliveries needs to be called in by Tues. Sept 18, 2012: Info Call Mary Kelly: 918-636-8394

**SEPTEMBER 20-22 Oklahoma Indian Summer** Celebration, 300 S.E. Adams Blvd., Bartlesville. Info call Jenifer Pechonick 918-331-0934

#### **SEPTEMBER 21**

Kanza Health System will host a Health Fair at Johnny Ray McCauley multipurpose room, 3251 E. River Road, 1 mile east of stop light at Newkirk, OK. Fun Walk at 8:30 a.m., Fair at 9:00 a.m. Lunch at 11:00. The Red Cross will be there for people to donate blood and the Lions will have a van available to do health screenings. Lots of Door **Prizes. Information contact: Lana** Nelson, 580-362-1039.

#### **SEPTEMBER 21-22**

**Inaugural Salina Powwow at Salina** High School Gymnasium, Salina, Okla. Contact: Doug Simpson Phone: 918-704-3786 Email: salinapowwowclub@yahoo. com or visit http://www.facebook. com/salinapowwowclub

#### September 28

Elephant Revival in Tahlequah, Okla., at 10 p.m. during the Tahlequah Art of Living Music & Arts Festival, Norris Park. For more information visit online at: www. elephantrevival.com

#### **SEPTEMBER 29**

2012 Homestead Event at In A Good Way Farm, 13359 SE 1101 Avenue (Coon Hunter Rd) **Corner Coon Hunter Rd and Pear** Grove Rd, Talihina, OK. GPS 34.721051,-95.145829 Free presentations from 8am-4pm For further information call 918-567-3313 or email teddi@ inagoodway.org

#### **SEPTEMBER 29**

**Annual Keetoowah Cherokee** Celebration, Tahlequah, Okla. Call (918) 431-1818 for more information

#### **OCTOBER 5-6**

Fort Sill Indian School Annual Reunion, 7:00 pm -12:00 Friday & 2:00 pm - 12:00 Saturday at FSIS Gym, Lawton, OK. Contact: Darlene Defoe 828.736.0851

#### **OCTOBER 6**

Benefit Gourd Dance 2:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Supper @ 5:30 PM at Goodrich Memorial UMC, 200 W. Hayes St., Norman, Okla. Info call Linda Forrester (405) 833-1559 or Mary Lou Drywater (405) 361-2393. All proceeds will be given to the **Womens Resource Center to help** the DV Shelter/Rape Crisis Center.

#### **OCTOBER 20**

**Pryor Powwow at MidAmerica** Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional - 16 yrs and up; **Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs** and up Tiny Tots 6 and under.

Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

#### **OCTOBER 26-27**

**Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806** W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-9385.

#### **NOVEMBER 1**

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd.david@jobcorps.org

Bacone College Fall Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

#### **DECEMBER 31**

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999

#### **Inside this issue:**

- Haskell sports programs on probation
- UKB Annual Celebration coming up
- Residents turn out to support Native icon







TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# AMERICAN

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 37

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2012** 

## Hearing on Kevin Washburn to lead BIA held Friday

■ DOI Secretary, Chickasaw leader, Okla. Rep., others give endorsements

**CHICKASAW NATION** News Release

WASHINGTON Chickasaw citizen Kevin

Washburn has received wideranging support for his August 2 nomination by President Barack Obama to lead the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

That support continued Sept. 14 during the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs hearing on Washburn's nomination.

Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby expressed

his "unqualified support" for the nomination of Washburn during the nomination hearing.

Gov. Anoatubby called Washburn a "shining example of a Native American who has made a lifetime commitment to serve Indian people.

Washburn's "Kevin commitment to Indian country is well-documented," said Gov. Anaotubby. "He has written extensively on federal Indian policy, criminal law in Indian Country, Indian gaming law and other relevant topics. Even more significant is the fact that his scholarship has helped lead to significant advances in Federal Indian policy."

Tom Cole, Representative Oklahoma's Fourth Congressional District, said Washburn's skills, experience and knowledge make him a "superb selection" for the position of Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs.

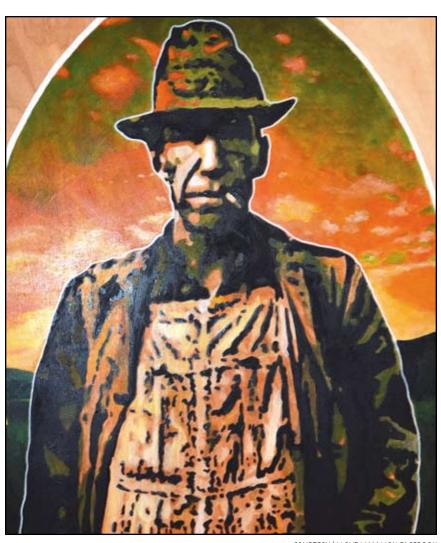
Rep. Cole noted that Washburn understands that tribes exist to improve the lives of their people.

"Kevin doesn't just know

See **HEARING** Continued on Page 4



Kevin Washburn



COURTESY LITOVE LIAM LION FACEBOOK

Overalls and Bright Skies by J. Dylan Cavin was named 'Best in Show' over Labor Day weekend at the 9th annual Choctaw Indian Arts show

## **Choctaw Indian Arts** Show announces winners

**CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA** News Release

TVSHKA HOMMA - During the Labor Day holiday, 40 selected artists took part in the Ninth Annual Choctaw Indian Arts Show held in conjunction with the Labor Day Festival at Tvshka Homma. Each artist's work was judged and juried by a panel of three judges for inclusion in the show. Judges D.G. Smalling, noted Choctaw artist and radio host; Linda Greever, veteran Native American gallerist and appraiser; and Olin Williams, Senior

Heritage Resource Technician for the Choctaw Historic Preservation Division accepted 103 works of art into the show.

Friday, Aug. 31, marked the opening of the annual event with a private reception and awards ceremony for the artists at the Choctaw Capitol Museum. Chief Gregory E. Pyle and Assistant Chief Gary Batton presented awards to recipients in eight categories, as witnessed by a standing-room only crowd. Special recognition was given during the reception to Theresa Morris

See WINNERS Continued on Page 8

## Delaware Tribe considers new management of trust accounts

LENZY KREHBIEL -BURTON Native American Times

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. - The Delaware Tribe is considering changing how its trust fund accounts are managed and

Tribal officials met with citizens twice last week to discuss a proposal that would eliminate the tribe's elected seven-member Trust Board and replace it with a five-member commission that, depending on citizens' feedback, would be either appointed by the Tribal Council or elected by the people.

The current structure was implemented in 1990 via a trust document due to a request from the federal government to withhold the Delawares' accrued trust funds since the tribe was not federally recognized at the time. The tribe lost its federal recognition in 1979, regained it in 1996, lost it again in 2004 and regained it yet again in 2009. Last year, the tribe's members voted to keep the trust funds in a secure, interest-bearing account rather than spend the

money, which helped keep tribal programs afloat during attempts at regaining federal recognition.

got federal "When we recognition in 2009, we could have done anything with this money because it was tribal money," Chief Paula Pechonick said. "Being of sound mind, we didn't and it has been sitting in the bank downtown.

"We've tried to keep the spirit of the trust document intact so you wouldn't worry about your money

See DELAWARE Continued on Page 4

## Pawnee officials announce \$600 per-cap payment out of \$4.4 million settlement

LENZY KREHBIEL -BURTON Native American Times

PAWNEE, Okla. - Pawnee Nation officials have decided how the tribe will spend a \$4.4 million federal settlement.

Officials announced Sept. 10 that \$2 million will go to a one-time per capita payment of about \$600 for all tribal citizens. The payments will start being processed within 30 days and tribal citizens are asked to update their mailing addresses with the Pawnee Nation by 5 p.m. on Sept.

Tribal officials did not answer questions about whether the per capita payments will have any impact on the annual annuity checks mailed out to tribal citizens.

An additional \$2 million will go to tribal programs and services. An oversight committee with three members from the

Pawnee Business Council and three members from the Nasharo Council, or Chiefs' Council, will determine which programs will receive settlement funds.

The Pawnee Nation did not provide a timeline for when programs will be selected to receive settlement funds or what criteria will be used to select recipients but did state in a press release that financial reports on how the settlement money is being spent will be published quarterly in the tribe's newsletter.

The remaining money will be used to pay the Native American Rights Fund for representing the Pawnee Nation in the lawsuit. With about 3,500 enrolled citizens, it is the smallest of the 41 tribes that participated in Nez Perce v. Salazar.

The decision on how to spend the money was made Sept. 8 during a joint meeting of the Pawnee Business Council and Nasharo Council that was held in executive session, a move many tribal citizens denounced.

"Living outside of Pawnee, it is frustrating to try and stay in the know about everything from events to ceremonies to any relevant news or information pertinent to tribal members," said Cristi Richardville, a Pawnee Nation citizen from Tulsa, Okla. "If they (the Pawnee Business Council and Nasharo Council) are going to keep part of the money for services, the top priority needs to be improving communication with us (tribal citizens)."

The Pawnee Nation did not respond to questions about why the joint meeting on Sept. 8 was held in executive session or the legal justification for asking nonenrolled citizens to leave an Aug. 25 town hall meeting to discuss how to spend the settlement

## Chippewa plan to kill ceremonial elk sparks treaty rights fight

■ This is the first time an elk will be harvested in the state of Wisconsin in modern times.

**TODD RICHMOND** Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) -Wisconsin's Chippewa tribes have suddenly announced plans to kill a single elk in the Clam Lake area over the next few days, marking the first time anyone has hunted an elk in the state in decades and sparking a nasty fight over the extent of the tribes' treaty rights.

The Department of Natural Resources has been working since the mid-1990s to reintroduce elk to Wisconsin. The Clam Lake herd is the only one in the state and currently has about 185 animals.

The tribes contend they have the legal right to harvest an elk under treaties they established with the government more

than a century ago. DNR officials, though, maintain the treaties require the tribes reach an agreement with the agency on issuing hunting permits. DNR says the Chippewa have never tried to broker a deal on

"We're not happy with them doing this," DNR attorney Quinn Williams said of the elk hunt. "This just came out of left field. It just doesn't bode well for state-tribal consultation and communication."

Erickson,

spokeswoman for the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, which represents the 11 Chippewa tribes in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, said the DNR has no legal grounds to challenge the hunt and taking a single elk won't hurt the population.

"It's part of the native, natural world and has a part in creating a healthy ecosystem," she said of hunting elk, known as Omashkooz to the tribes. "(The tribes) have been taught if you don't use things, they

may be taken from you."

Elk disappeared from Wisconsin in the 19th century due to hunting and shrinking habitat as settlers turned prairies into farmland. The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point brought the animal back to the state in 1995, setting 25 Michigan elk free near Clam Lake, south of Lake Superior. Over the years, the animals have become a major tourist attraction.

DNR regulations allow hunters to kill 10 elk once

population reaches 200 animals. Five of the 10 elk would be reserved for Chippewa hunters. Treaties signed in the early 1800s between the state's six Chippewa tribes and the government grant the tribes the right to 50 percent of the quota for any animal in the territory.

The DNR estimates it could reach the 200-animal hunt threshold by next year and is

See ELK Continued on Page 3

#### Indian child case appealed to the US Supreme Court

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) - A ruling that sends a Native American girl back to Oklahoma from her adoptive South Carolina family is being appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The state Supreme Court agreed in July that the 2-year-old should be returned to her biological father, a member of the Cherokee tribe. It was the court's first decision weighing state adoption law against the federal Indian Child Welfare Act.

Washington, D.C., attorney Lisa Blatt has joined the legal team representing the adoptive family from the Charleston area.

The state Supreme Court ruled that federal law gave custodial preference to the girl's father.

A state Family Court judge awarded custody of the child to the biological father last year and she was taken back to Oklahoma.

## Haskell sports programs on probation

**HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH** Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) Haskell Indian Nations University has taken "corrective actions" to address concerns that led to its athletic programs being placed on probation this last week through 2014, the Kansas school said in a statement released Sept. 13.

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics placed the school on probation for "violations involving ineligible players," but it released no details. The probation went into effect Monday.

the university said the problems involved only the football and men's basketball programs, and one player from each team was affected.

The school had earlier disclosed prevented other occurrences. internal and federal investigations into claims that two student-athletes had falsified ACT scores dating back

Haskell president James Redman said in the statement that oversight advanced in class ranking or earned and polices have been improved to degrees "as a result of falsified ACT bring the school into compliance scores alleged to have been submitted" with NAIA standards and address or other credits received from hybrid issues raised in a U.S. Department courses from online or off campus. of Education Inspector General's investigation and report.

In the release, which was dated Wednesday but released late Thursday, Redman said departmental reviews were conducted, policies In last Thursday's statement, were tightened and the student database system and ACT reporting requirements were upgraded. He also noted that policies tied to "drop/add deadlines and stop-gap actions" have

"Haskell takes compliance responsibilities serious and believes this was an isolated event," he said.

The school said no students were

Haskell, which is overseen by the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, announced the investigations in May and said they had resulted in "official action on the employees and students involved," as well as the discovery that three other students' transcripts were manipulated. Two employees involved no longer work at Haskell, the school said at the time.

University spokesman Stephen NAIA handbook.

Prue said in a telephone interview that the NAIA's decision to place the school on probation resulted from two of those cases. He declined to provide the students' names.

He also said the school is still determining how many men's basketball and football games will be forfeited. According to the NAIA handbook, the use of ineligible students leads to the forfeiture of "all contests in which the ineligible student participated." Athletes also lose at least one season of eligibility.

Institutions placed on probation must submit a written response detailing the corrective measures they plan to take. Future violations can lead to the suspension of programs, a move that would bar them from postseason play, according to the

## Osage Nation audit reveals \$800K in unaccounted for lease funds

LENZY KREHBIEL -BURTON

Native American Times

PAWHUSKA, Okla. - An Osage Nation Congressional audit has revealed more \$800,000 in tribal funds allocated to a tribal community are unaccounted

Released Sept. 7, the audit, conducted by the Osage Nation's Office of Fiscal and Performance Review, shows that between October 2008 and July 2012, the Pawhuska Indian Village received

\$857,025.93 in lease funds from the Osage Nation's casino in Pawhuska. The casino is located on the southeastern corner of the village's property held in trust.

Payment records show that \$50,732.37 of that money went to cover utility expenses with the City of Pawhuska for village residents and entities, including more than 40 payments for bills accrued by Joe Don Mashunkashey, chairman of the village's governing five-man board.

The bills were paid with the village's two-party checks, but with the second signature requirement notation marked out and only one signature

The remaining \$806,293.56 has not been accounted for based off of the financial records made available for the audit. The Pawhuska Indian Village's governing board declined to participate in the audit, claiming it is only subject to federal law and not those of the Osage Nation in part because it has its own federal identification number.

According to the audit report, federal identification number claimed by the board is not current and does not have any records on file with the Internal Revenue Service. In a letter dated June 21, 2012, the Bureau of Indian Affairs' acting regional director for eastern Oklahoma, Karen Ketcher, wrote that the office does not have any financial records or reports for the Pawhuska Indian Village, prompting a recommendation that either the tribe or the federal government assume oversight over the village board's finances.

"The Osage Nation

Attorney General Office or an appropriate federal entity take control of the current assets and future revenues of the Pawhuska Indian Village Five-Man Board on behalf of the inhabitants of the Pawhuska Indian Village and place it into trust with the treasurer of the Osage Nation," the audit recommends. "The Osage Nation treasurer would then maintain the accounting records of the Pawhuska Village and issue payments upon request, that they are supported by board minutes and signatures of a quorum of

board members."

In response to the audit's findings, Mashunkashey resigned his seat on Sept. 7.

In an interview with the Osage News, Osage Nation Attorney General Jeff Jones said the US Attorney's Office has requested information about the village's finances and bank account for a potential federal subpoena.

A representative from the Oklahoma City office of the FederalBureauofInvestigation could not confirm or deny the involvement of the agency's Tulsa, Okla. regional office.

## Tribal members cash \$10K settlement checks

POLSON, Mont. (AP) -Members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes received \$10,000 checks - their share of a \$1 billion settlement over mismanagement of assets and natural resources held in trust by the federal government for the tribes.

Tribal members lined up outside the tribally owned Eagle Bank in Polson on Wednesday to cash or deposit their checks and talk about what they plan to do with the

"They come out of the bank, and you can see the relief on their faces," Revan Rogers told the Missoulian. "They haven't felt that way in a long time."

Rogers was also gathering signatures on a petition advocating full dispersal of the \$150 million settlement, rather than just over half distributed this week.

"I'm getting a white Impala tomorrow," said Barbara Finley, a certified nursing assistant for the tribe. Part of her job is to drive elderly clients to medical appointments

and physical therapy, but her sister totaled her pickup truck two months ago, meaning she has been relying on a tribal shuttle system to transport her clients.

Facebook page a top-12 list of purchase and investments her friends and family members have planned with their share of the so-called Salazar settlement.

"Cars, housing, furniture, savings, child care," she said. "Someone I knew already moved into a new apartment today. There's been concern it's going to be misspent, but I think we're spending our money wisely."

Randy Milliron said he paid off his trailer.

Members of the tribal council are still discussing what to do with the remaining money. Among the options being considered are elder care, education, economic development, language and culture preservation and land acquisition.

In June, Rogers organized a group called People's Voice,

IRS issues notice on tax treatment

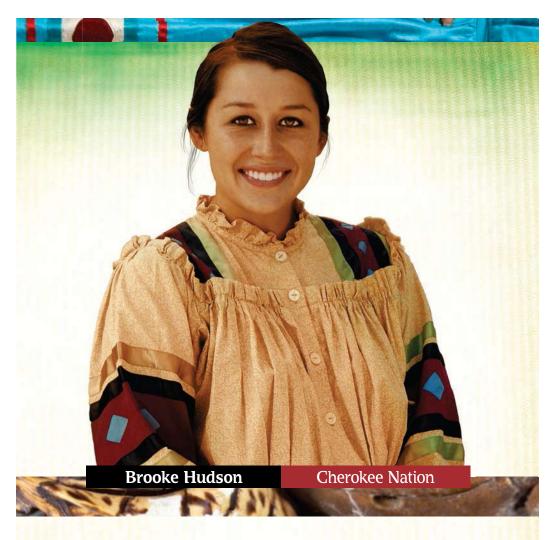
and hopes that with enough signatures tribal members will be allowed to vote on the distribution of the rest of the

"It's overwhelming. The Finley posted on her people want their money," she said. "This is a new beginning for them. It may be as simple as a washer and dryer and a refrigerator. But it's a new beginning."

> Erica Shelby, facilitator of the Ksanka language summer camp in Elmo, said she donated her money to the program, which aims to teach vounger generations how to speak the Kootenai language.

> Shelby initially supported investing half of the settlement money in tribal programs, but changed her mind after the tribal council failed to come up with a specific spending plan that its members could comment on.

"These people desperately need the money," Shelby said. "They are always in desperation. They are always in crisis, and to put that on hold for a little bit, it helps a





## **Quit Commercial Tobacco**

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline OKhelpline.com

of per capita settlement payments "This is very important information for tribal members who receive settlement funds. I hope each one will take just a few moments to read this IRS notice," said acting Principal

Deputy Special Trustee Michele F. Singer.

The complete notice may be accessed on the website of the Department of the Interior's Office of the Special Trustee for American OST Fiduciary Trust Officers (FTOs) are Indian Money accounts. Contact information for FTOs is available at www.doi.gov/ost/fto.

Beneficiaries may also obtain information

Servicehas provided Notice 2012-60 concerning the federal income tax treatment of per capita payments that members of Indian tribes receive from proceeds of certain settlements of tribal trust cases between the United States and those Indian tribes. The notice advises, in part, "per capita payments made from the proceeds of an agreement between the United States and an Indian tribe settling the tribe's claims...are excluded from the gross income of the members of the tribe receiving the per

Guidance applies to proceeds of

settlements of tribal trust cases

**AMERICAN INDIANS** 

News Release

capita payments."

OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE FOR

WASHINGTON - The Internal Revenue

Indians (OST) website at www.doi.gov/ost. available to assist tribal trust beneficiaries regarding funds in tribal trust and Individual

about their Indian trust funds by calling the OST Trust Beneficiary Call Center, toll free, at 1-888-678-6836. The call center is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. to noon, Mountain time.

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day. www.nativetimes.com



This 2007 photo provided by South Dakota Magazine shows Reynolds Prairie in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The owners, of the nearly 2,000 acres which encompass a sacred site known as Pe' Sla, have accepted the Rosebud Sioux's \$9 million bid for the land.

# Tribe's bid accepted for sacred land

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

ROSEBUD, South Dakota (AP) – A Native American tribe said last Monday it has reached a deal to buy land it considers sacred in South Dakota's picturesque Black Hills, ending weeks of worry about possible development on the land.

The owners of nearly 2,000 acres (800 hectares) of pristine grassland prairie have accepted a \$9 million bid by the Rosebud Sioux, tribe President Cyril Scott told The Associated Press. The Rosebud Sioux already has paid \$900,000 as an earnest deposit; the remaining \$8.1 million is due in November.

The land's owners, Leonard and Margaret Reynolds, couldn't

immediately be reached for comment. The couple has declined to talk publicly about the matter since mid-August, when their plans to auction off the land went public and prompted outcry from the Great Sioux Nation.

The land plays a key role in the creation story of the tribes, and members feared that new owners would develop the property, which the tribes call Pe' Sla.

The public auction was cancelled just days before it was to take place. The Reynolds invited private parties to bid on the property, including the Rosebud Sioux. The tribe's bid was accepted in late August, Scott said.

"We have come together as a nation," Scott told the AP. "Rosebud is ready to secure this land for our people."

The tribe plans to conduct an

environmental assessment to make sure the land doesn't contain any hazardous surprises.

"We don't want to find anything out there that would require major cleanup," said Vernon Schmidt, executive director with the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Land Enterprise, which was established to piece together the tribe's lands.

"We're hopeful about this. We're confident we'll be able to close the deal with this," Schmidt said.

An online campaign to help the tribe buy the land raised nearly \$390,000. The campaign ended two weeks ago.

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe is looking to see if it can cover the remaining land cost itself, Schmidt said. If not, the cost could be spread among the roughly 20 tribes that make up the Great Sioux Nation, which was fragmented when Native Americans were pushed to reservations and now spans several states, including Montana, Wyoming, the Dakotas and Minnesota, as well as Canada.

The tribes believe the Sioux people were created from the Black Hills. According to part of their spiritual tradition, Pe' Sla is where the Morning Star fell to Earth, killing seven beings that killed seven women. The Morning Star placed the souls of the women into the night sky as "The Seven Sisters," also known as the Pleiades constellation.

Tribal members hold ceremonies and rituals on the land.

Schmidt said the tribe hopes to eventually get the land into trust status with the federal government.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writer
Dana Attocknie
Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales Kathleen Robertson Lisa Snell

advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM
- News from the crossroads of Indian Country





**Native American** 

hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans!

FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY

E-mail your ad for a quote to

lisa@nativetimes.com

## **ELK**

Continued from Page 1

working on plans to introduce a second herd in Jackson County.

On Thursday, though, GLFIWC abruptly announced it had authorized a ceremonial permit allowing an intertribal hunting party to take a single bull elk between Thursday and Monday.

Erickson declined to say when the hunters would take to the woods or when the tribes would honor the elk.

"These members are considered by the Tribes to be exercising their treatyguaranteed rights," GLIFWC Board of Commissioners Chairman Michael J. Isham Jr. wrote in a letter attached to the permit.

Williams said the DNR has discussed a ceremonial harvest with the Chippewa, but anticipated it would likely take place next year, once an agreement was in place.

Right now, there's no deal, he said, but the DNR won't try to block the hunt in court or cite any tribal elk hunters.

"We'd be in a tough position if we went into court and tried to argue one elk hurt the population," Williams said. "We still take the position this isn't authorized. This is the first time an elk will be harvested in the state of Wisconsin in modern times. It's a big deal. This could have

SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA

**INDIAN SUPPLY** 

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

been handled a little bit better with GLIFWC."

James Bolen, executive director of the Cable Area Chamber of Commerce, which promotes elk watching in the Clam Lake area, said the tribes' unilateral approach won't endear them to non-American Indians in the area. People are protective of the elk, he said.

"There's a lot of sorrow and concern every time there's a new (elk) death," Bolen said. "It would be nice if the tribes could better communicate to nontribal members what this is about. It just kind of was sprung on everyone. 'Oh, by the way, we're going to take an elk."

# Legislation aims to preserve Native languages

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) – Members of New Mexico's congressional delegation are pushing for the extension of a program that works to preserve Native American languages.

U.S. Reps. Marin Heinrich, Ben Ray Lujan and Steve Pearce introduced legislation on Thursday to reauthorize the Esther Martinez Native American Language Act for another five years.

The act provides grants to supportlanguage immersion programs. It's scheduled to expire at the end of the year.

Pearce says Native

Pearce says Native languages are a valuable part of New Mexico's culture and represent an important piece of the American story.

Since 2000, 390 grants worth nearly \$50 million have been awarded through the program.



Stickball · Drawing
· Fancy dancing ·
Beadwork
Traditional language
Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities!

Step up and mentor a Native American child.

Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

All matches are supported by professional staff at local BBBS agencies. BBBS Match Support Specialists regularly consult with volunteers, children, and parents.

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org



918-256-5585 LANGLEY

918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

Equal Housing Lender
Native American Owned
TERO Certified



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

#### NATIVE TIMES

recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

# Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50 12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00 Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items. Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070 New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only. Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## Minority Business Dev. Agency announces \$6.6 million investment in Indian Country

■ Money to help create jobs, support businesses - Alaska, Calif., New Mexico, N. Dakota, Oklahoma to receive federal funds

WASHINGTON -The U.S. Department of Commerce announced last week the winners of a grant competition to spur job creation and economic development in states with large American Indian and Alaska Native populations. Approximately \$6.6 million in Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) funds is being invested with local entities to operate new MBDA Business Centers in Anchorage, Alaska; Fresno, California; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Bismarck, North Dakota; and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

"Today's announcement builds upon the Obama administration's commitment to economic growth and job creation in Indian Country," said Acting U.S. Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank. "The new MBDA Business Centers will provide minority entrepreneurs and businesses with the expertise and tools they need to compete globally and create good paying jobs in

The primary objective of the MBDA Business Centers is to provide strategic business consulting services to minority-owned firms that will result in the creation and retention of jobs for Americans through business growth. This is accomplished by increasing the domestic and global competitiveness of minority-owned firms in accessing contracts, capital and markets.

"Under the leadership of President Obama, MBDA has achieved new heights in serving the minority business community," said MBDA National Director David A. Hinson, "Since 2009, MBDA has facilitated nearly \$12 billion in contracts and capital for minorityowned firms and we have expanded our footprint to new locations by streamlining our administrative operations."

The following entities will receive federal funds over a five-year period to operate an MBDA Business Center:

Alaska: Native American Contractors Association, \$1,275,000

California: Asian, Inc., \$1,500,000

New Mexico: American Indian Chamber of Commerce of New Mexico, \$1,275,000

North Dakota: United Tribes Technical College \$1,275,000

Oklahoma: Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc., \$1,275,000

Anchorage, Alaska; Fresno, California; and Santa Fe, New Mexico, are new geographic locations for MBDA and were selected to serve the high concentration of American Indian and Alaska Native firms in the area. By expanding the MBDA footprint, more minority-owned firms will have access to MBDA and its portfolio of strategic partners in the public and private

The introduction of these five new MBDA Business Centers completes the Agency's recent effort to phaseout its three distinct business center grant programs and replace them

with one consolidated, redesigned MBDA Business Center program, first introduced in 2011. Under the redesigned program, the centers in these locations are expected to address the unique economic challenges and opportunities in Indian Country and Native Alaska while also serving other minority-owned firms in the state and surrounding area. The redesigned MBDA Business Center program also eliminated geographic boundaries so the distinct expertise of these former Native American Business Enterprise Centers can be accessed by minority business owners from anywhere in the

A complete listing of all MBDA Business Centers, their unique capabilities and contact information can be found at www.mbda.gov [1].

#### **About the Minority Business** Development Agency (MBDA)

MBDA, www.mbda.gov [2], an agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce, promotes the growth and global competitiveness of the minority business community, making them better equipped to create jobs, impact local economies, and compete successfully in domestic and global marketplaces. With a nationwide network of 40 business centers and a rich portfolio of strategic partners, MBDA assists minority entrepreneurs and business owners with consulting services, contract and financing opportunities, bonding and certification services, building business-to-business alliances and executive training.



disappearing. Other leaders have withdrawn the money from time to time to support us while we were fighting for our federal recognition - lawyers' fees are expensive - but we've tried to hold to the document and keep going forward."

Several citizens at the Sept. 10 meeting balked at the notion of appointed officials having control over tribal funds.

"I'm really picky about my money and how it's controlled," tribal citizen Christopher Ketchum said. "I think the trust board, trust commission or whoever will be in charge of it should be elected."

An attempt is underway to have the proposed changes on ballot for the tribe's Nov. 3 election. The trust document requires at least 30 days notice that the question will be on the ballot, which places the deadline for a final, publicized version at Oct. 4. However, even if the final draft is ready in time, there is some question as to whether it can legally happen right now.

According to the trust document, the only way it can be amended is either by a two-thirds vote at the annual meeting of the tribe's citizens, a similar majority on a referendum initiated by at least 100 adult voting members of the tribe or the citizens delegating their authority to the Trust Board president. The suggested changes are coming from the Tribal Council.



**Chief Paula Pechonick** 

"The trust document states that such a referendum vote can only be initiated by an initiative petition signed by 100 adult voting members," acting Trust Board chairman Chet Brooks said. "While there are changes that should be made to the trust document and master plan, they cannot be made through this format (proposed by the Tribal Council)."

The tribe's constitution allows for a question to be placed on a ballot upon receipt by the Tribal Council secretary of a petition signed by 100 members of the tribe or the Tribal Council passes a resolution with a two-thirds majority calling for an election. Last amended in 2008, the Delaware Tribe's constitution does not mention the trust board or trust document anywhere in it at this time.

"This is democracy in action," Tribal Council member Nate Young said. "This is what democracy is all about. We want to hear what vou want.

"Whatever decision we make, I want it to be the result of informed input and a decision that the people made."



OMED award winners are back row, left to right: Jay Hannah, Banc First; FSA Technology; InnovationOne, LLC; Robert Lynn White, Ohopaki General Contracting and Mechanical, Inc.; and Mike Henson , Elohi Construction Management. Front row, left to right: Lisa Snell, Native American Times; Charles Harding, H&H Consulting Services, Inc.; Linda Morris, US Army Corp of Engineers - Tulsa District; and Mark Masters, Chloeta Fire, LLC.

## Newspaper garners Media Award

**STAFF REPORTS** 

TULSA, Okla. - The Native American Times (NAT) was among the award recipients honored during Oklahoma Minority Enterprise Development Week last month.

Lisa Snell, the paper's publisher and editor, was recognized with the Media Award for excellence in media development during OMED's annual banquet Aug. 23, a celebration of success of minority entrepreneurs that was coordinated by the Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) of Rural Enterprises, Inc. of Oklahoma.

Snell took ownership of NAT in 2008 after purchasing the paper from former publishers, Liz Gray and Sheldon Gore. Since that time, she has increased circulation by 80 percent and website traffic by more than 200 percent.

The paper, which is now the third largest printed weekly in Oklahoma, has online traffic (www.nativetimes. com) that rose from roughly 1 million hits/month to an average of 3.7 million/

A long time journalist and graphic designer, Snell graduated from the University of Tulsa with a degree in Communications. Her experience includes work in radio, broadcast and print journalism. Before NAT, she was with the Cherokee Nation's tribal newspaper, the Cherokee Phoenix, where she won her first Native American Journalism Award (NAJA) for her work covering the Tar Creek Superfund site near Miami, Okla. in 2004. Snell left the Phoenix after the birth of her first child in 2006 and soon began freelance work with the Native Times and other publications.

The NAT is currently based out of her home office in Tahlequah, Okla.

The Native Times circulation comes third behind the second-ranked Broken Arrow Ledger and the largest weekly, the Oklahoma City Black Chronicle. Snell said that the award was a surprise and she emphasized that the paper is not only Native owned, but employs contractors who are all citizens of federally recognized tribes to write stories, sell ads and deliver papers.

Other NABEC winners include: Ohopaki General Contracting and Mechanical, Inc. of Heavener, Okla; H & H Consulting Services, Inc. of Tulsa, Okla. for Minority Sub-Contractor Firm of the Year; FSA Technology, LLC., in Ada, Okla. for Minority Global Technology Firm of the year; Chloeta Fire, LLC. of Oklahoma City for Minority Service Firm of the Year; Innovation One of Marietta, Okla. for Minority Manufacturer of the Year; Elohi of Oklahoma City for Rising Star Firm of the Year; Linda Morris, U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, Tulsa District for Advocate of the Year and BancFirst of Oklahoma City for the Access to Capital Award.

For more information on the NABEC, visit www.oknabec.com.

# **HEARING**

that. He's seen it and he's lived it through the experience of our tribe, the Chickasaw Nation," said Rep. Cole. "He wants to ensure that all tribes and all Native Americans have the same opportunities and the same chances to excel that have been made possible by our leadership of our tribe, particularly Governor Anoatubby."

Endorsements nomination Washburn's include Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, Senator Tom Udall, the National American Indian Housing Council, the National Congress of American Indians, the United South and Eastern Tribes, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the individual leaders of the leaders of the Five Civilized Tribes, The Albuquerque Journal and the Santa Fe New Mexican.

Gov. Anoatubby ended his testimony by encouraging the Senate to confirm Washburn's nomination.

"His combination knowledge and practical experience make him uniquely qualified to provide the strong leadership necessary to ensure the Bureau of Indian Affairs can be, and continue to be a positive force in helping enhance the quality of life of Indian people across the country," said Gov. Anoatubby. "As governor of the Chickasaw Nation, I wholeheartedly

support his nomination and urge a quick confirmation."

Washburn has served as Dean of the University of New Mexico School of Law since June 2009. Prior to that, he served as the Rosenstiel Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law from 2008 to 2009 and as an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Minnesota Law School from 2002 to 2008.

From 2007 to 2008, he was the Oneida Indian Nation Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School. Previously, he served as General Counsel for the National Indian Gaming Commission from 2000 to 2002, and as an Assistant United States Attorney in Albuquerque, New Mexico, from 1997 to 2000.

Washburn was a trial attorney in the Indian Resources Section of the U.S. Department of Justice from 1994 to 1997. He earned a B.A. from the University of Oklahoma and a J.D. from Yale Law School.

Friday's hearing is the first step in the confirmation process. The Senate Committeeon Indian Affairs will report the nomination to the Senate, which then votes on consent to the nomination. A simple majority vote is required for confirmation.

The nomination hearing can be seen in its entirety on the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs website, http://www. indian.senate.gov/hearings/ hearing.cfm?thisMonth=9&th isYear=2012&thisDay=14

## Senate committee passes amended Akaka bill

HONOLULU (AP) - U.S. began developing a roll of Native Indian Affairs has amended and passed a bill granting federal recognition to Native Hawaiians.

Akaka says the amendment streamlines the bill.

His office said Thursday significant portions of the bill approved by the committee last

Sen. Daniel Akaka's office Hawaiian constituents for the says the Senate Committee on purposes of reorganizing a Native Hawaiian government.

> The bill – known informally as the Akaka bill - would give Native Hawaiians the same rights already extended to many Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

Akaka has been trying for to spring are no longer required. get it passed for a dozen years. That's because the state's Native The senator is retiring when his Hawaiian Roll Commission current term ends in January.

## Skywalk developer asks court to enforce \$28M award

PHOENIX (AP) - The developer of the Grand Canyon Skywalk is asking a federal judge to enforce a more than \$28 million judgment against a northern Arizona tribe.

The American Arbitration Association awarded David Jin the money in a contract dispute with the Hualapai Tribe. His attorneys filed the enforcement a dispute over management fees and an request last week with the U.S. District Court in Arizona.

Jin invested \$30 million to build the Skywalk, a glass bridge that gives visitors a view of the Colorado River from the Hualapai reservation. He and the Hualapai Tribe have been locked in

incomplete visitor center.

The tribe severed Jin's interest in the Skywalk earlier this year and contends the arbitration award isn't enforceable. It did not participate in a final arbitration hearing in July.

## COMMENTARY

## Cobell chatter: Most want monies given out



S.E. RUCKMAN

Far away from the halls of Washington, D.C., the talk swirls. It bubbles like crude oil

from her heavenly perch).

American Idol.

Folks, the regular Indians in their respective jurisdictions, get under \$2,000 (I fully expect have an opinion about this to be in this company). Some settlement. This may be the may get more, depending. I reason why we are sitting on know many who will exceed seeping up out of the soil. In needles with the latest appeal the average, but it's a funny nearly every single gathering brought by a member of the thing, money. I believe that of Indian folks I have attended 12, 925-member Sisseton- money (lucre, cash, bread) in the past year, the dish on Wahpeton Oyate Tribe. is just a spiritual tool in the the settlement of the \$3.4 Kimberly Craven maintains mosaic of our lives. How we million Cobell case abounds. that the settlement is slanted react to it, how we react to a It is a topic that needs no and how it came to bear is lack of it, all are mirrors to our introduction; it is simply disputable. That's as nicely soul. Yes, the green stuff is referred to as "Cobell" (even as I can say it, for right now. indeed an intoxicating elixir.

as the lead plaintiff watches Courage comes in all forms and all envelopes.

amazed; this topic has more the eligible recipients. Quickspark than a season finale of like. By Christmas would be

The average payee is likely to

here pale beside the greater solely on behalf of the safety question Cobell attorney fees Yep, the Cobell chatter is To be honest, not very will of those who are part of of the women and children. seems extraneous. Maybe it vehement and forceful, with many individuals I have the class action settlement. We know this as fact. all the good components of run across are against the It was also for the benefit of a lively argument. I went to original settlement so badly every nameless or faceless whether a recent appeal is on the whole wants to see a meeting of small American that they wish for it to be royalty recipient that the solid enough to merit an the distribution of the Cobell Indian businesses recently and resuscitated indefinitely. Most lawsuit was filed. Eloise about-face on the settlement. settlement. If for no other breathed the word Cobell in want the lawsuit monies to be Cobell, who I interviewed I even read where there is an reason than to establish it passing. That's all it took. I was administrated and given out to on several stories, became intense desire to appeal the as history. That it may be the figurehead for what the settlement up to the Supreme somewhat of a revisionist lawsuit represented. It was the Court. Such is the fervor on version of history should come legal equivalent of establishing this payout and those who say as no big shock to us. By now. a healthy boundary with the nay are fairly strong. federal government—we will not tolerate mistreatment whether going along with the willingly. She said it herself.

aggregate existence. Decisions was tallied.

But other issues at stake in the old days were made

But who can forecast Cobell settlement is a good or The original intent of the badthing? I was not personally lawsuit should be mentally in favor of the pennies-onkneaded over as Indian the-dollar settlement because Country watches a sideshow the fiduciary ravaging of trust of Oklahoma's School of debate over lawyer fees and officials for over a century Journalism and has written ethical epos. The well-being is calculated and heinous. for the Tulsa World and is of the whole is the entire Accepting seems like a betrayal currently a special contributor tenant of tribalism, the of some form to every account to the Native American Times. basic building block of our holder since the first royalty

With that said calling into is must-know knowledge. Now, a judge will decide But I think Indian Country

> S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.

## Claiming Indian heritage does not make it so



**Notes from Indian Country** 

**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

There is a recurring problem Native Americans discussing anger. It's a very touchy issue Natives do pay taxes. and some would even find it that needs to be addressed.

The problem they are not enrolled with their tribal rolls either for proof of tribal enrollment. any particular tribe. Every Indian nation in America Those that have been removed articles accusing senate has definite criteria for tribal

their numbers are included country in this regard. when the tribe plans its annual budget. And for those tribes that of individuals claiming with successful casinos that tribal status in order to make per capita payments secure highly desirable jobs. to tribal members, proof of Ward Churchill, a man who membership is critical.

Certain services allowed for tribal members, services such as health care, membership and yet he was scholarships, and housing. And in order to avail probably should have, gone to themselves of these services legitimate members of a state each individual must show or federally recognized tribe. proof of tribal enrollment.

political or economic reasons. Tribal members can vote, they capita payments. California blood is not an uncommon the Bureau of Indian Affair's members know this without knology.net

The biggest problem is held key job positions at the are University of Colorado, has never been able to prove tribal given jobs that could have, and

Indian educators have There are also jobs available come across this problem that entail priority hiring frequently. A man or woman for tribal members. Tribal is given a key job position at

The hubbub over recent

can run for elective office, and seems to be leading Indian occurrence. My research criteria for tribal membership a doubt, is one's relationship that Warren never used this lack of knowledge about the claim for her own benefit in process. It is the individual any way as did Churchill. She Indian tribes that determine has a smidgen of Cherokee membership, not the BIA. blood and is apparently The Indian Child Welfare Act proud of it. Native Americans was passed by Congress to have all heard non-Natives protect Indian children from claim Cherokee blood. It is being whisked away from not unusual to hear these their homes. Prior to the Act, maybe even some that you do grandmother was a Cherokee church groups, especially the run deep in Indian country. princess. They almost never Mormons, and other adoption claim their ancestor was a agencies without protection Cherokee warrior.

an undocumented individual have had a very difficult enrollment is highly valued a major university based upon may claim Indian heritage. time trying to reclaim their in Indian country that has been in Indian country because it their claim to Indian blood, Maybe they do not meet the heritage because they do not blood but as the saying goes, a bother for many years. I hear establishes the individual's ties but they cannot submit proof criteria demanded by the have adequate proof of birth to his or her Native nation. of that claim. Some Indians tribe, or maybe they just have and family ties. They are the it oftentimes with a lot of And to put a rumor to rest, blame the University for not bothered to find out how lost generation that has fallen having firm guidelines in their one can become enrolled in through the cracks. But, in these days of the hiring of Native Americans. the tribe in which they claim offensive, but it is problem burgeoning success of some For example, if one applies membership. But surely Indian casinos there is also for a job with a federally most people can see that it reason to claim membership involves the problem of disenrollment. recognized Indian tribe where is extremely important to those people claiming to be Some tribes have been accused Indian preference is the rule, all legally enrolled members Native American although of removing members from that individual must submit of tribes that there be a distinction.

There are some people out about this criteria. accuse the tribal leadership of candidate Elizabeth Warren claiming Indian heritage who membership. The tribes have reducing the rolls so that fewer falsely claiming that her say that they did not want to set these limits for a reason. members can draw larger per grandmother had Cherokee be insulted by going through membership, and most tribal be reached at UnitySoDak1@

their Native children were taken by

If one has a legitimate in an Indian nation there is a procedure to prove that claim. Every tribe sets its own criteria and I would advise anyone with a legitimate claim to find

leads me to the conclusion and it just goes to show their to the tribe. Everyone one of us that is enrolled with a tribe can name our family members usually for several generations. And more than that, our family lineage is known by the elders of the tribe. They can name many of your family members, not know about. Family ties

As I said, it really doesn't from what amounted to the matter if Ms. Warren is Indian stealing of Indian children. or not, but it does matter There are many reasons why Many of these stolen children whether her claim of Native American heritage is true or not. Anyone can claim Indian the proof is in the pudding or in the membership application.

> Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1991. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. Giago was the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association and the founder of The surest proof of Indian Country Today. He can

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Send letters to editor@nativetimes.com. Please keep letters to 350 words or less. Sign your name, tribal affiliation and city of residence for verification purposes.

#### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program. Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!

## **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
□ \$65.00 for 52 issues □ \$32.50 for 26 issues
□ \$16.25 for 13 issues □ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

## Wyoming tribes seek Yellowstone bison from Montana

**MATTHEW BROWN** Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) -American Indians in Wyoming have petitioned the state of Montana to give their tribes a group of bison from Yellowstone National Park whose fate has been in limbo since they were relocated to Ted Turner's ranch more than two years ago.

The request comes amid a push by Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to find more places suitable for bison on public and tribal lands across the

Montana Gov. Brian Schweitzer has also sought new habitat for the animals, although that effort has run up against determined opposition from the livestock industry.

Leaders of Wyoming's Northern

Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribes said in a resolution signed this week that bison are an important icon that the tribe can help preserve.

They asked the state to transfer an unspecified number of the approximately 170 bison held on Turner's Green Ranch near Bozeman to the Wind River Reservation in western Wyoming.

The tribes also requested help in their effort from Salazar. His office did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Yellowstone has a burgeoning population of more than 4,200 bison that periodically spill into surrounding areas of Montana. Thousands have been captured and sent to slaughter in the past two decades to avoid spreading the disease brucellosis to livestock.

The bison on Turner's ranch were spared when they were put into a government quarantine program for several years to ensure they were disease-free. They had been slated to go to the Wind River Reservation several years ago but ended up on Turner's ranch when the tribes' proposal fell through.

"Our ultimate goal is to have a free-roaming heard to some extent that exists on the reservation," said Jason Baldes, a member of the Eastern Shoshone who said he's been working with government agencies and conservation groups to move the animals onto the reservation.

"There are a lot of things to work out, such as management, once we get the buffalo on the ground," Baldes added.

Bison once numbered in the tens

of the millions across the West before overhunting in the late 1800s nearly drove them to extinction. Yellowstone has one of the largest remaining wild populations.

Another group of quarantined animals from the park was moved this year to northeast Montana's Fort Peck Indian Reservation. A lawsuit from ranchers, property rights advocates and others blocked plans to move some of the animals onto a second reservation.

Schweitzer, a Democrat who has championed the cause of bison restoration to the consternation of the cattle industry, has sought to get the Green Ranch bison onto the National Bison Range in Moise.

Salazar in May asked the heads of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and other

agencies to "examine the feasibility of the relocation of (Yellowstone) bison to suitable federal or tribal lands."

A representative of a conservation group that has been working with the Wind River tribes said the reservation is the most suitable destination for the animals since some of the groundwork for a relocation already has been accomplished.

But Garrit Voggesser with the National Wildlife Federation said the Green Ranch bison also could be broken up and sent to more than one destination.

"If we just keep taking these steps, ultimately we'll get to the point where we have bison on a much broader landscape," said Voggesser.

## Buffalo Bill performer remembered during ceremony

A history buff pieced together the details of Afraid of Hawk's life and his death - he was buried in an unmarked grave in Connecticut. Now, he's home.

KRISTI EATON **Associated Press** 

MANDERSON, South Dakota (AP) - Descendants of a Native American man who died more than a century ago while touring with a western-themed show gathered together last Sunday to honor his life and celebrate his remains coming home to a South Dakota reservation.

About 75 people gathered at a gymnasium on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation to take part in a traditional Lakota funeral for Albert Afraid of Hawk, who died at the age of 20 at a Connecticut hospital in 1900. A ceremony at a nearby cemetery followed Sunday's service.

"He's going to make his journey today after over 100 years," said Lakota medicine man Rick Two Dogs.

Afraid of Hawk died after a bout of food poisoning while traveling with Buffalo Bill's Wild West show and was buried in an unmarked grave in Connecticut. Family members weren't where he was buried until Connecticut history buff Bob Young uncovered records of the Oglala Sioux member's death and burial. A few years ago, Young pieced together the details and reached out to Afraid of Hawk's family members.

Last month, Daniel Afraid of Hawk, Albert Afraid of Hawk's last living nephew, and other relatives traveled to Connecticut from their homes on the Chevenne River Reservation in South Dakota to witness the disinterment of Albert's remains. On Sunday, Daniel celebrated his uncle's life by singing him a song in Lakota before Two Dogs and others performed a traditional smudging ceremony with herbs to bless Afraid of Hawk.

Other people involved in the repatriation of Albert Afraid of Hawk, including Young and his wife, Mary Jo, spoke at the service about the process of bringing the Lakota man back to his tribe.

Young, who worked at the cemetery at the time of the discovery, said he and his wife have gained a new family.

"We love all of you dearly," Young, who is president of the historical society in Danbury, Connecticut, said to the Afraid of Hawk family. "I'd like to say, Albert, you've become like a grandfather to us."

Following the funeral service, Albert Afraid of Hawk's remains, which were wrapped in a buffalo robe, were driven to a nearby cemetery. With the Badlands in the background, Afraid of Hawk was hoisted on to a wooden scaffold to remain until evening. His remains were then to be buried in the ground along with buffalo and cherry juice.

According to Lakota spiritual belief, the journey to the spirit world takes four days. The Lakotas bury food with people to sustain them during that time. Once someone arrives in the spirit world, the food is shared with family members.

Albert Afraid of Hawk was born in 1879, the third of seven children belonging to Emil Afraid of Hawk and his wife, White Mountain. His brother Richard was among the survivors of the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890. Afraid of Hawk joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West show in 1898 with

childhood friend David Bull Bear from the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

Descendants of Bull Bear also attended the Sept. 9 ceremony.

"I'm proud to see him coming home and to rest in peace. I'm thankful to the people that discovered all this," said Lonnie Bull Bear,

#### Tulsa Metro Area **HANDYMAN**

Painting • Drywall Repair Odd Jobs Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"

ahlequah

tahlequahrecycling.com

918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

ecycling

## WANTED

#### NATIVE AMERICAN *INDIAN GOODS*

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade www.deanspawn.com

#### **DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP**

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## CLASSIFIEDS







## **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Public Affairs**

Job Announcement Number:NIGC-NB-12-MM741696 (EX) SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Friday, September 07, 2012 to Friday, September 21, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: GS-1035-15

POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent **DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC** 

JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for overseeing and coordinating all governmental and public interactions for the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC/Commission) communication programs and activities relating to public, governmental and media

The Director reports directly to and receives broad policy guidance from the Chief of Staff while work is evaluated on the basis of results achieved. This is a senior level position.

The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary. If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758- \$155,500.

For full job description and application information visit https://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/325854800

#### THE AMERICAN INDIAN

#### COLLEGE FUND

Is currently seeking to fill the following position:

#### DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Full job description and application details visit our website at: www.collegefund.org < About Us> or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to:

applications@collegefund.org

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com Department Of The Interior | National Indian Gaming Commission

#### **Director of Compliance, AD-1801-00**

Job Announcement Number: NIGC-NB-12-MM744202 (EX) SALARY RANGE: \$123,758.00 to \$155,500.00 / Per Year OPEN PERIOD: Wednesday, September 12, 2012 to Wednesday, September 26, 2012 SERIES & GRADE: AD-1801-15

POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Excepted Service Permanent **DUTY LOCATIONS: Washington DC** 

#### JOB SUMMARY:

The National Indian Gaming Commission is an independent Federal regulatory agency whose primary mission is to regulate gaming activities on Indian lands for the purpose of shielding Indian tribes from organized crime and other corrupting influences; to ensure that Indian tribes are the primary beneficiaries of gaming revenue; and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both operators and players.

The incumbent is responsible for but not limited to the monitoring of Class II and Class III gaming operations to ensure compliance with the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) regulations and the provisions of tribal gaming ordinances and/or resolutions.

This is a director level position.

The salary range for this position is equivalent to the GS-15 salary.

If hired, the salary range will be \$123,758-\$155,500 per year.

For full job description and application information visit https://www.usajobs.gov/ GetJob/ViewDetails/326127500

#### RFQ/RFP

#### **Engineering Services - Request for Qualifications Proposal**

The Crow Tribal Water Resources Department (CTWRD) of the Crow Tribe requests written qualifications from professional engineering firms for engineering services. General Scope of Work: As described above, CTWRD is requesting written qualifications for professional engineering services with the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2010, which includes, but is not limited to the CIP rehabilitation and improvement, and the MR&I design and construction. All of the projects are in their beginning stages. The Crow Tribe and the CTWRD, through contracts with the Federal government, are responsible for the planning, design, and construction of these projects.

Basis of Selection: The proposals will be evaluated relative to general criteria through a process set by the Crow Tribe. A detailed scope of work will be developed and price will be negotiated with the successful firm. An engineering agreement will be executed with the selected firm.

The CTWRD and the Crow Tribe reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Requests for a full copy of the RFP, including a description of the scope of work and services anticipated, and any other inquiries should be directed to Mr. Alden Big Man at (406) 638-4227 or via email at abigman@crownations.net or aldenbigman@ hotmail.com. Proposals will be accepted until 4:00 pm local time on September 28,

#### 918-696-0407 Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2

CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

**Professional & Affordable Web Design** 



204-376-3428

▶ www.ganica.net

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Ask about special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

## **Iconic meals mark Coquille tribal tradition**

A fire was started in the pit Sept. 7 and burned all throughout the night to ensure the coals were hot enough to give the salmon the alder smoke flavor.

TYLER RICHARDSON
The World

NORTH BEND, Ore. (AP) – Nearly 2,000 pounds of fresh salmon helped feed around 1,800 guests at this year's ninth annual Mill-Luck Salmon Celebration at The Mill Casino-Hotel.

The coals in the bake pit sizzled for hours as a huckleberry reduction sauce dripped from large Chinook salmon and hungry customers waited in long, but quick-moving lines.

The Sept. 8 celebration, which was free to attend and spanned more than two days, gave people hands-on experience with various aspects of Native American culture.

Stations were set up where visitors learned how to basket-weave, make traditional hunting weapons and play different instruments like the Native American flute.

"This has a powwow flavor," said event organizer Vickie Standridge.

"But it is really for guests to come and share the tribal culture and have a fun experience." Canoe races were one of the main attractions as people from various tribes across Oregon and Washington, as well as non-tribal members, raced a mile-long course in West Coaststyle canoes.

Shirod Younkey, from the Miluk and Coquille tribes, shared his passion for canoes with bystanders as he emceed the races.

Younkev said canoes play a vital role in the history of tribes. Not only were they the main form of transportation, but they also taught people how to work together and set aside differences.

"It reminds us of our responsibility to the water and the animals in it," Younkev said of canoes.

"These are the passages of our ancestors. It is another way to affirm ancestral kinship ties."

They also give people a chance to enjoy each other's company.

"It is a fun way to get people on the water, and everyone has a good time doing it," he said.

John McCallum, who made many of the canoes that raced at the event, and who captained a Kalapuya-style canoe, said a lot of pride and time go into to making one.

"It took a few months to make," he said about the canoe he raced. "It is always a great amount of fun."

While many guests learned different aspects of Native American culture, the center of the celebration

was the salmon. Chef Chris Foltz, with help from tribal elders, used a "stake method" to cook the 20- to 30-pound fish.

Each salmon, which came from the Columbia River, was sewn back and forth on an alder stick, with the skin and bones left on and in to ensure it wouldn't crumble under the intense heat. The stakes then were put into the ground around the pit, and the salmon slow roasted for about an hour and a half before being served.

A fire was started in the pit Sept. 7 and burned all throughout the night to ensure the coals were hot enough to give the salmon the alder smoke flavor.

Foltz said the deep heat from the pit and salmon fat that dripped in to the coals gave the salmon a flavor and texture that can be found nowhere else.

"It is the best fish anybody will have," he said. "It is amazing."

Foltz said cooking with the pit was great because of the flavors that have accumulated in it over the years and the texture of the dirt.

"There is so much coal and salmon fat in there," he said. "It's an earth

The night of Sept. 8 was capped with live entertainment, and Standridge said the celebration was again a huge success

"It's just getting bigger and bigger every year," Foltz said.



COURTESY UNITED KEETOOWAH BAND OF CHEROKEE INDIANS

Traditional Cherokee Games are always popular at the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration. The Blowgun competition, Marbles, and stickball are three of these events; featured in the photo is the Cornstalk Shoot, which draws a large group of contestants year after year. There is also a children's category for the youngsters.

# **UKB Celebration: 'One Fire, One Family, Rising Together'**

MARILYN CRAIG United Keetoowah Band Press Release

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – The United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians invites the public to attend the 62nd Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration, on Friday, October 5 and Saturday, October 6, 2012. Most events will be held at the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration Grounds, located at the UKB Complex, just north of West Willis Road at Keetoowah Circle.

A myriad of events will occur during the two day festival, including a gospel singing, the Chief's State of the Nation Address, a kid's fishing derby, a stompdance, Pow Wow, free traditional meal, inflatables for kids, face painting balloon animals, turtle races, make and take crafts, arts and crafts and food vendors, free bingo, volleyball, softball and a parade downtown.

There will also be several traditional games competitions, including a cornstalk shoot, marbles, a blowgun competition, and a stickball game.

The UKB John Hair Cultural Center and Museum will be featuring the Keetoowah History Gallery, which has expanded since last year, as well as "Come and Go" Basic Art Lessons for children and youth. The first session is from 1 p.m. – 2:30 pm. and the second session is from 3 pm to 4:30 p.m.

The museum will also feature a "Vintage Photo Identification" for adults throughout the day. The museum has several photos of Keetoowah from the late 1800s and early 1900s that they need I.D. s on.

A couple of events will be held prior to the Celebration weekend – including the Miss and Miss Keetoowah Pageant,

which was held on September 13, 2012 and the Keetoowah Cherokee Golf Tournament, scheduled for September 28 and 29.

The theme for this year's 62nd Annual Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration is One Fire, One Family, Rising Together.

In the history of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, before the tribe received its federal charter and constitution, the United States Government requested that all ceremonial grounds and communities become as one to form one tribe.

The Keetoowah Society, the Nighthawk Keetoowahs, the Eastern Immigrants, the Western Cherokee, the Medicine Society, the Keetoowah Society Incorporated and the Seven Clans Society, were among the groups that came together.

While there was some overlapping in the membership of those groups, each were in such a struggle to maintain their ethnic and national identity, along with their heritage, they were all working toward federal recognition.

Although some of these groups had applied to be federally recognized, the federal government said they should all come together and be recognized as one tribe. They did this with the corporate charter and constitution as the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma. The charter did leave leeway for these subgroups to continue to have their own organizations.

And so these groups became united in the eyes of the federal government, and in many ways, became not only one tribe, but one family.

In keeping with this request, this year's 62nd Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration theme, "One Fire, One

Family, Rising Together," continues that common purpose.

"Keetoowah forefathers who loved and lived as free people and had never surrendered to anybody: They loved one another for they were just like one family, just as if they had been raised from one family." - Keetoowah Laws, April 25, 1859

"We shall never give up Keetoowah, and will all join hands and fight until we fall to the ground." – Nighthawk Keetoowah Constitution

With the Federal Government putting Land in Trust for the UKB, and recording it in the Federal Register, there is no doubt the Keetoowah Cherokees will continue rising together.

Upon hearing this historical news, Chief George Wickliffe and Assistant Chief Charles Locust, responded, "This is the greatest news for the United Keetoowah Band since it began its unique history. Everyone involved in making this happen will go down in history as helping the Forgotten Cherokees to rise above all adversity and to insure they as a people continue to fight and provide services to its members. This is our story and our relationship to the Burning Phoenix, whose name and story are symbols for the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians

in Oklahoma."

Keetoowah Cherokee ancestors foretold of the day when the tribe would prevail. Like the Phoenix rising out of the ashes, the Keetoowah Cherokee today is stronger than ever before. And as the UKB moves forward with future endeavors and opportunities, the tribe will remain, "One Fire, One Family, Rising

For more information, call 918-456-8698 or 918-431-1818.

# Residents help Native icon pay her rent

MANDY VALENCIA
Mail Tribune

MEDFORD, Ore. (AP) – On Tuesday, Sept. 11, Agnes Baker Pilgrim turned 88. Grandma Aggie, as many know her, is the oldest living descendant of the Takelma people and serves as a Native American spiritual elder and indigenous stateswoman.

She has been written about or videotaped for countless local stories. It's her likeness, along with an eagle and a bear, in "We Are Here," a 20-foot-tall wooden totem-like sculpture that greets visitors in downtown Ashland.

But while she may be widely known in the region, few know that she struggles to pay her rent and bills each month. So friends and acquaintances have banded together to help her. "We started the Agnes Baker Pilgrim Fund," said Alice DiMicele.

"A group of people in Southern Oregon and other places help to pay Grandma's bills and rent every month, but now her bills and rent have gone up in the last few years, and the amount of people who donate has dwindled because the economy is bad."

As September approached, there were no funds in the account, so DiMicele decided to create a "virtual birthday party" for Baker Pilgrim on Facebook as an event, to try to raise money for the elder for her birthday.

"So many people love her and appreciate the work she does, but a lot of people don't realize she doesn't have a way to pay her bills and rent," said DiMicele, "She's going to be 88, she doesn't need to be worried about paying her rent and bills."

The seventh of nine children, Baker Pilgrim was born on Sept. 11, 1924, in Logsdon, on a tribal allotment near the headwaters of Oregon's Siletz River. According to the biography on her website, www.agnesbakerpilgrim.org, she explored a variety of careers in her lifetime before following a more spiritual path in 1970.

"It's ironic that we are raising rent money for someone while we're occupying her land," said Mary Dodd, a supporter of Baker Pilgrim. "Maybe we should be paying rent to her? It was her land to begin with, in a real way."

In her earlier years she worked as a bouncer at a nightclub, a barber in a jail, a scrub nurse at a hospital, raced stock cars and managed a restaurant, all of which no doubt prepared her for her role as mother of three sons and three daughters, having married three times in her life. She is now the real-life grandmother of 18, great-grandmother of 27 and



Agnes Baker Pilgrim (Grandma Aggie)

great-great-grandmother of one.

Baker Pilgrim was not available for comment as she was traveling to Pendleton to give offerings of berries and buffalo meat to prisoners in the state correctional facility there.

"If we can pay her rent for a while, then we can do fundraising to support her projects she wants to do, like the Salmon Ceremony," said DiMicele. "The money that goes into the fund only goes to support her needs like rent and bills, or if she has a health emergency."

After Baker Pilgrim decided to shift her life in the early '70s, she took on the medicine name of her Takelma great-grandmother, "Taowhyee," or Morningstar. From 1974 to 1989 she worked as a manager and counselor at the United Indian Lodge in Crescent City, Calif. There she focused on alcohol-related problems, prevention, intervention and rehabilitation. Baker Pilgrim also dedicated her time to helping children of povertystricken families. In 1985 she graduated from Southern Oregon State College with an degree in psychology and a minor in Native American studies.

"It's not like a charity thing, it's a duty for all of us, not only because of what she teaches but because of what we took," said Dodd. "That's part of the teaching is knowing what we took. It's not something to be defensive about – just wanted to throw that out there as someone with blonde hair and blue eyes."

Donations to the Agnes Baker Pilgrim Fund can made at Rogue Federal Credit Union, or by mail to Agnes Baker Fund, C/O Julie Norman, 596 Helman St., Ashland, or by donating online at www. agnesbakerpilgrim.org.

"I want to send her a list of everyone who donated like a big virtual birthday card," said DiMicele, "Julie and I will make sure she sees everyone's name, but we want her to know that these are beautiful people that support her."

## Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting, Festival set Sept. 28- Oct. 6

"Spirit of a Nation"
Theme for 52nd Annual
Meeting and 24th
Annual Chickasaw
Festival.

CHICKASAW NATION
Media Relations Office

ADA, Okla. – People from across the United States will gather in southern Oklahoma to celebrate the "Spirit of a Nation" during the 2012 Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and Festival, Sept. 28-Oct. 6.

"For generations, Chickasaws in every walk of life have demonstrated a spirit of community, creativity and determination," said Bill Anoatubby, Governor of the Chickasaw Nation. "This year we will join with family and friends for a special celebration of arts and culture honoring the Chickasaw spirit."

This year marks the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Chickasaw Nation and the 24th Annual Chickasaw Festival. Numerous events are planned for the week-long celebration of Chickasaw heritage, culture and tradition.

Activities will take place in Tishomingo, Emet, Kullihoma, Ada and Sulphur, Okla.

The Annual Meeting, which is highlighted by Gov. Anoatubby's "State of the Nation" Address, begins at 9 a.m., Sat., Oct. 6 at Fletcher Auditorium on the campus of Murray State College in Tishomingo.

Immediately following the address, the Festival Parade will begin on Main Street in Tishomingo.

A wide variety of exciting events and activities will be conducted throughout Tishomingo October 6, at the historic Chickasaw Capitol, Pennington Park, Murray State College campus, Johnston County Sports complex and other venues.

These events are the culmination of a weeklong celebration which begins Friday, Sept. 28

For more information, including a schedule of events and vendor applications, call (580) 371-2040 or 1 (800) 593-3356.

for her donation of "Shaui", an original painting on canvas, to the tribe. After the awards presentation and preview of the art show, a new sculpture of former Chief Allen Wright by artist John Gooden was unveiled in front of the museum.

Winners of awards for the 2012 Ninth Annual Choctaw Indian Arts show are as follows:

1st Place: Gwen Coleman Lester "Why the Turtle has Cracks on his Shell"

2nd Place: Nancy Rhoades "Sapokni"

Father's Influence" No Honorable Mention Awarded This Year By the Judges

3rd Place: Kathy Sturch "A

#### **Graphics:**

1st Place: Theresa Morris "Native Mandala"

2nd Place: J, Dylan Cavin "Choctaw Drummer" 3rd Place: Jane Semple Umsted

Team/ Stickball" Honorable Mention: J. Dylan Cavin "Scissortail"

Choctaw

#### Sculpture:

"Dream

1st Place: Kevin Hardin "Limbs at the Bottom of the Waterfall"

2nd Place: Kenneth Hotubbee "Wichita, MT Elk"

3rd Place: Cathy Nyman "Gourd Pottery Inspired by Choctaw River Cane Baskets"

No Honorable Mention Awarded This Year by the Judges

#### Pottery:

1st Place: Evangeline Robinson "Biskinik"

2nd Place: Marsha Hedrick "Teapot" 3rd Place: Edmond Perkins

"Crested Wood Duck" Honorable Mention: Evangeline Robinson "Oka Banakchi/Water

## Wave"

#### Basketry:

1st Place: Susan Locke "Choctaw Charlesworth Winnowing Tray" 2nd Place: Lizabeth B. Mitchell

"Rachel's Wedding Basket" 3rd Place: Susan Locke Charlesworth "Gift From the River"

No Honorable Mention Awarded This Year By the Judges

#### Cultural:

Due to small size of this category the judges did not award a first place or an honorable mention in this division.

2nd Place: John H. White "Uskula/Pipe" 3rd Place: Kay Jackson "Drum

#### Jewelry

Gourd"

1st Place: Cliff Wilson Jr. "Choctaw Medallion"

2nd Place: Bob Proctor "Homaiyi Shutik/ Purple Sky"

3rd Place: Chester R. Cowen "Four Winds of WWI" No Honorable Mention Awarded

Awards Heritage (special recognition for works being specifically based in Choctaw tradition or concept):

This Year by the Judges

Chester R. Cowen "Tied to Formality" (Jewelry) Michael Rose "Tapushik/Basket" (Painting)

Cliff Wilson Jr. "Stickball Player (Jewelry)

Gwen Coleman Lester "News of the Nation" (Graphics) Melanie Yost "Working for the Lord" (Painting)

#### Best of Show:

J. Dylan Cavin "Overalls and Bright Skies" (Painting)

People's Choice (326 votes cast by viewers):

Theresa Morris "Once Warriors" (Painting)

For more information about tribal art showing opportunities please contact Shelley Garner at the Cultural Services Department at 1-800-522-6170, extension 2377 or email sgarner@choctawnation.com. To learn more about Choctaw arts and culture, visit the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Cultural Services Division website at www. choctawnationculture.com.



## Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration 62nd Annual October 5 - 6, 2012

Tahlequah, Oklahoma Schedule of Events

#### Friday, October 5

6:30 pm

11:45 am

8:30 am-5 pm Arts and Crafts, Food Venders Set up Grounds

Pow Wow registration 5-7 pm - Grounds Dinner for Gospel Spm

Singing Wellness Center 6 pm Softball Tournament - Sequoyah H.S. Fields Gospel Singing

· Wellness Center

Pow Wow Grand Entry 7 pm Saturday, October 6

7 am SK Run - begin at NSU/Downtown Kid's Fishing Derby 7 am - Pond

Dignitaries Breakfast 8 am - Ğo Ye Village Softball Tournament 9 am

 Sequoyah H.S. Fields 10 am Parade Downtown Tahlequah ll am-10 pm Arts and Crafts, Food Venders

> Posting of Colors (Honor Guard) - Pavilion State of the Nation Address (Chief) Introduction of Tradition Keepers Introduction of Miss and Jr. Miss

Entertainment Noon Noon-3 pm Pow Wow Registration - Grounds Make & Take Crafts Noon-5 pm

- Shed at Grounds Basic Art Lesson - Museum Vintage Photo Identification

- Museum 12:15 pm Volleyball Tournament 12:15 pm Children's Activities **Cultural Demonstrations** I- 3 pm Shed at Grounds

Marbles Traditional Indian Meal



One Fire + One Family + Rising Together 62nd Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration October 5-6, 2012

1:30 pm Cornstalk Shoot Children's Turtle 2 pm

Races Horseshoe Tournament Blowgun competition 2-3 pm Gourd Dance 3 pm Grand Entry 3 pm-l0pm Pow Wow 3:30 pm

Free Bingo - Pavilion Stickball Cash Giveaway - Pavilion Stomp Dance

Other Activities: Miss Keetoowah Date: Sept 13 Location: Tahlequah Municipal Armory

Golf Tournament Date: Sept 28/29

Location: Cherry Springs Golf Course For more information: 918-458-6708

or 918-431-1818

All events are at the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration Grounds unless otherwise specified.

4 pm

Spm

ll pm

# **EVENTS** •

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance **Abuse and Behavioral Health** Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

#### **Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info:

cherokeeartistsassociation.org

(918) 458-0008 or www.

**SECOND TUESDAY** 

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, THROUGH SEPT 28 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation

or more info email Traci Phillips,

tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian **Health Center to enroll all Native** American and non-Indian Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. The Pawnee Service Unit is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve,

#### 1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724. **EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

#### YOUTH COUNCIL

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & Gallery, Oklahoma City

#### **SEPT. 26 - NOVEMBER** Kiowa Language Class, Fall

semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

#### SEPTEMBER 20-22

Oklahoma Indian Summer Celebration, 300 S.E. Adams Blvd., Bartlesville. Info call Jenifer Pechonick 918-331-0934

#### **SEPTEMBER 21**

Kanza Health System will host a **Health Fair at Johnny Ray McCauley** multipurpose room, 3251 E. River Road, 1 mile east of stop light at Newkirk, OK. Fun Walk at 8:30 a.m., Fair at 9:00 a.m. Lunch at 11:00. The Red Cross will be there for people to donate blood and the Lions will have a van available to do health screenings. Lots of Door Prizes. Information contact: Lana Nelson, 580-362-1039.

#### **SEPTEMBER 21-22**

**Inaugural Salina Powwow at Salina** High School Gymnasium, Salina, Okla. Contact: Doug Simpson Phone: 918-704-3786 Email: salinapowwowclub@yahoo. com or visit http://www.facebook. com/salinapowwowclub

#### **SEPTEMBER 21-22**

**Comanche Nation Fair Softball** Tournament. The deadline for teams to enter the tournament is Sept. 19. There is a \$150 entry fee. First, Second, and Third Place teams will be awarded. Call Donna Wahnee, (580) 492-3371

#### **SEPTEMBER 28**

**Elephant Revival in Tahlequah,** Okla., at 10 p.m. during the Tahlequah Art of Living Music & Arts Festival, Norris Park. For more information visit online at: www. elephantrevival.com

**SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 6 Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting** and Festival. Numerous events are planned for the week-long celebration of Chickasaw heritage,

event info call (580) 371-2040 or 1 (800) 593-3356.

#### **SEPTEMBER 29**

2012 Homestead Event at In A Good Way Farm, 13359 SE 1101 **Avenue (Coon Hunter Rd) Corner Coon Hunter Rd and Pear** Grove Rd, Talihina, OK. GPS 34.721051,-95.145829 Free presentations from 8am-4pm For further information call 918-567-3313 or email teddi@ inagoodway.org

#### **SEPTEMBER 29**

**Annual Keetoowah Cherokee** Celebration, Tahlequah, Okla. Call (918) 431-1818 for more information

#### **OCTOBER 5-6**

Fort Sill Indian School Annual Reunion, 7:00 pm -12:00 Friday & 2:00 pm - 12:00 Saturday at FSIS Gym, Lawton, OK. Contact: Darlene Defoe 828.736.0851

#### OCTOBER 6

**Benefit Gourd Dance 2:00 PM to** 10:00 PM - Supper @ 5:30 PM at Goodrich Memorial UMC, 200 W. Hayes St., Norman, Okla. Info call Linda Forrester (405) 833-1559 or Mary Lou Drywater (405) 361-2393. NOVEMBER 3 All proceeds will be given to the **Womens Resource Center to help** the DV Shelter/Rape Crisis Center.

#### **OCTOBER 20**

Pryor Powwow at MidAmerica Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up;

culture and tradition. Schedule and Men's Traditional - 16 yrs and up; Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

#### **OCTOBER 24-27**

**Pawnee Nation College Presents The First Annual Native Arts** + Media Festival Pawnee, Okla. For details: www. pawneenationcollege.org. Contact: 918-762-3363

#### **OCTOBER 26-27**

**Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806** W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-9385.

#### **NOVEMBER 1**

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd.david@jobcorps.org

TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 38

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2012** 

# SAVE SAVE Hickory Ground HICKOR

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Jimmy Deer, second chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Greenleaf Ceremonial Grounds (left) and Frank Coachman, Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council representative for the Okfuskee District hold signs Tuesday, Sept. 18 outside the federal building in downtown Tulsa.

## Creeks rally outside DOI's Tulsa sacred sites meeting

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. — Signs and comments on an Alabama casino's potential growth consumed most of a Department of Interior listening session on sacred sites Tuesday morning.

The session, the last of seven held across the country, was scheduled in an effort to get feedback for potential policy changes on protecting and preserving sacred sites. Despite the number of tribes headquartered in Oklahoma, the Tulsa location was a late

addition to the list of listening sessions. Similar meetings were held earlier this year in Albuquerque, N.M.; Billings, Mont.; Prior Lake, Minn.; Uncasville, Conn.; and Portland, Ore.

"I'm disappointed that this (the Tulsa meeting) was an addition," former Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council member Cherrah Ridge said. "There are 39 tribes here. Oklahoma should have been one of the first — if not the first — location on the list."

Ridge was one of many Muscogee (Creek) citizens who attended Tuesday's session to voice concerns

about a proposed casino expansion by an Alabama tribe. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has vocally opposed a \$246 million casino expansion near Wetumpka, Ala., by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. The Oklahoma tribe claims the project will desecrate Hickory Ground, the last pre-removal capital of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and home to ceremonial and burial grounds. To date, more than 60 sets of human remains have been unearthed during the expansion

See RALLY Continued on Page 4

## **Opposing C&A governor** files appeal against tribe's access to contract draws

Native American Times

by the Interior Board of Indian Appeals to allow access to selfawarded to an embattled Oklahoma tribe is now under

allowed for Janice Prairie-Chief Boswell's administration to complete draw downs on 11 contracts and one grant been released. authorized to the Cheyenne contracts' terms.

On Sept. 17, Jeremy Oliver, Okla., district court judge.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON attorney for Leslie Wandrie-Harjo confirmed that his client has filed an appeal on the IBIA's EL RENO, Okla. — A decision decision. Wandrie-Harjo, who was initially sworn in as Boswell's lieutenant governor in 2010, also governance contract funds claims to be the tribes' legitimate governor.

While the appeal is pending, a stay on the decision is in Issued Sept. 6, the opinion effect, which means neither side can complete draw downs on the contracts or the grant. A timetable on the appeal has not

The Cheyenne and Arapaho and Arapaho Tribes under the tribes have been embroiled in Indian Self-Determination and a leadership dispute for more Education Assistance Act. It than 18 months, prompting the also agreed with the findings First Bank and Trust in Clinton, of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Okla., to freeze one of the tribe's Great Plains regional office that accounts earlier this year. The there was not any proof that the tribes' holdings with First Bank tribes have failed to meet the and Trust are now under the supervision of a Custer County,

## Senate confirms Washburn to Indian Affairs post



Kevin Washburn

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - The U.S. Senate has confirmed a member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma who is currently the dean of the University of New Mexico Law School to oversee the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Senate approved President Barack Obama's nomination of Kevin Washburn as Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs by unanimous consent

See WASHBURN Continued on Page 2

## Judge: SD prison tobacco ban curbs religion rights

**DIRK LAMMERS** Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - A federal judge ruled Wednesday that the South Dakota prison system's ban on tobacco in religious ceremonies substantially burdens Native American inmates' religious rights.

Chief Judge Karen Schreier ruled that even if state officials had asserted a compelling governmental interest, they did not prove that the complete ban was the least restrictive means available to further that governmental interest.

Schreiersaidinherrulingthatinmates and officials should meet and propose an appropriate, narrowly tailored injunction, which should include revisions to the tobacco policy for inmates practicing the Lakota religion. She cited cases involving prisons in Missouri, Texas and Pennsylvania that allowed their inmates to use tobacco for religious purposes in ceremonies.

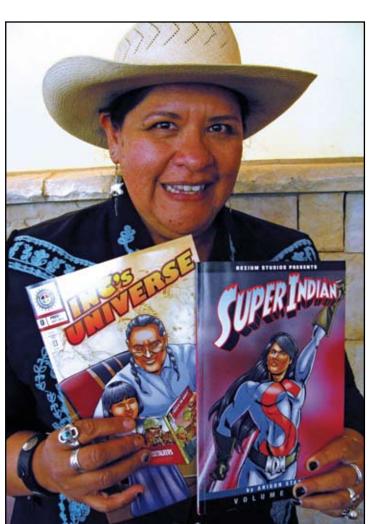
"This widespread allowance of tobacco in prisons lends substantial credence to plaintiffs' position that less restrictive alternatives to a complete ban on the use of tobacco in Lakota religious ceremonies is possible," Schreier wrote.

James Moore, the officials' attorney, said he was reading through the

See **TOBACCO** Continued on Page 2

## Super Starr

## Entertainer launches comic book series



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

 $Arigon\,Starr,\,Los\,Angeles-based\,entertainer,\,singer,\,actor\,and\,artist\,known\,for\,her\,recording$ career and comedy stage plays has been hard at work since 2007 turning a character created for a 10-minute radio play into an ink-on-page reality.

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - In Volume 1 of "Super Indian" comics, our hero saves his reservation from a culture-crushing giant robot named Techoskin. In an even bigger feat, author Arigon Starr has created an exciting new work as entertaining as it is significant.

The Los Angeles-based entertainer, singer, actor and artist known for her recording career and comedy stage plays has been hard at work since 2007 turning a character created for a 10-minute radio play into an ink-onpage reality. Now in its second printing, "Super Indian" comics is a sleek 64page, full-color volume of heroes, crazy antics and personalities based on the contemporary life of Native American reservation life.

"Sometimes it takes a while to get things going. I mean, that thing took forever. I mean, 2007 is a long time ago," Starr said during a recent visit to Tulsa. "You don't want to just rush it out there."

It was worth the wait.

An enrolled member of the Kickapoo tribe and also of Creek, Cherokee and Seneca descent, Starr grew up in a military family. Her father was a U.S. Navy recruiter, and it meant they moved a lot. During the summers, the family visited relatives in Tulsa. That's

when Starr's grandfather took her and her younger sister to buy comic books. When school resumed, she would draw comic book characters in class while listening to lectures.

After finishing high school in San Diego, Calif., she moved to Los Angeles and became a publicist for Showtime television and Viacom Productions. Eventually, she left to work on her own music career and went on to produce several albums, including "Meet the Diva," "Backflip" and "The Red Road." "The Red Road" was an original cast recording of her musical play of the same name about people living on a reservation. In addition to her music, Starr has written plays, such as "The Red Road" and other original pieces on contemporary American Indian life. Her acting has garnered awards from the First Americans in Arts Awards, the Los Angeles Women's Theatre Project and the Wordcraft Circle.

Starr's work is filled with humor, and her latest creation, "Super Indian" follows that line.

The character had its beginnings when the Native Radio Theatre Project and Native Voices at the Autry (a Native American theater program of the Autry National Center in Los Angeles) commissioned a group storytellers of the Wordcraft Circle

See STARR Continued on Page 4

TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 38

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2012** 

# SAVE SAVE Hickory Ground HICKOR

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Jimmy Deer, second chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Greenleaf Ceremonial Grounds (left) and Frank Coachman, Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council representative for the Okfuskee District hold signs Tuesday, Sept. 18 outside the federal building in downtown Tulsa.

## Creeks rally outside DOI's Tulsa sacred sites meeting

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. — Signs and comments on an Alabama casino's potential growth consumed most of a Department of Interior listening session on sacred sites Tuesday morning.

The session, the last of seven held across the country, was scheduled in an effort to get feedback for potential policy changes on protecting and preserving sacred sites. Despite the number of tribes headquartered in Oklahoma, the Tulsa location was a late

addition to the list of listening sessions. Similar meetings were held earlier this year in Albuquerque, N.M.; Billings, Mont.; Prior Lake, Minn.; Uncasville, Conn.; and Portland, Ore.

"I'm disappointed that this (the Tulsa meeting) was an addition," former Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council member Cherrah Ridge said. "There are 39 tribes here. Oklahoma should have been one of the first — if not the first — location on the list."

Ridge was one of many Muscogee (Creek) citizens who attended Tuesday's session to voice concerns

about a proposed casino expansion by an Alabama tribe. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has vocally opposed a \$246 million casino expansion near Wetumpka, Ala., by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. The Oklahoma tribe claims the project will desecrate Hickory Ground, the last pre-removal capital of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and home to ceremonial and burial grounds. To date, more than 60 sets of human remains have been unearthed during the expansion

See RALLY Continued on Page 4

## **Opposing C&A governor** files appeal against tribe's access to contract draws

Native American Times

by the Interior Board of Indian Appeals to allow access to selfawarded to an embattled Oklahoma tribe is now under

allowed for Janice Prairie-Chief Boswell's administration to complete draw downs on 11 contracts and one grant been released. authorized to the Cheyenne

On Sept. 17, Jeremy Oliver, Okla., district court judge.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON attorney for Leslie Wandrie-Harjo confirmed that his client has filed an appeal on the IBIA's EL RENO, Okla. — A decision decision. Wandrie-Harjo, who was initially sworn in as Boswell's lieutenant governor in 2010, also governance contract funds claims to be the tribes' legitimate governor.

While the appeal is pending, a stay on the decision is in Issued Sept. 6, the opinion effect, which means neither side can complete draw downs on the contracts or the grant. A timetable on the appeal has not

The Cheyenne and Arapaho and Arapaho Tribes under the tribes have been embroiled in Indian Self-Determination and a leadership dispute for more Education Assistance Act. It than 18 months, prompting the also agreed with the findings First Bank and Trust in Clinton, of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Okla., to freeze one of the tribe's Great Plains regional office that accounts earlier this year. The there was not any proof that the tribes' holdings with First Bank tribes have failed to meet the and Trust are now under the supervision of a Custer County,

## Senate confirms Washburn to Indian Affairs post



Kevin Washburn

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - The U.S. Senate has confirmed a member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma who is currently the dean of the University of New Mexico Law School to oversee the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Senate approved President Barack Obama's nomination of Kevin Washburn as Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs by unanimous consent

See WASHBURN Continued on Page 2

## Judge: SD prison tobacco ban curbs religion rights

**DIRK LAMMERS** Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - A federal judge ruled Wednesday that the South Dakota prison system's ban on tobacco in religious ceremonies substantially burdens Native American inmates' religious rights.

Chief Judge Karen Schreier ruled that even if state officials had asserted a compelling governmental interest, they did not prove that the complete ban was the least restrictive means available to further that governmental interest.

Schreiersaidinherrulingthatinmates and officials should meet and propose an appropriate, narrowly tailored injunction, which should include revisions to the tobacco policy for inmates practicing the Lakota religion. She cited cases involving prisons in Missouri, Texas and Pennsylvania that allowed their inmates to use tobacco for religious purposes in ceremonies.

"This widespread allowance of tobacco in prisons lends substantial credence to plaintiffs' position that less restrictive alternatives to a complete ban on the use of tobacco in Lakota religious ceremonies is possible," Schreier wrote.

James Moore, the officials' attorney, said he was reading through the

See **TOBACCO** Continued on Page 2

## Super Starr

## Entertainer launches comic book series



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

 $Arigon\,Starr,\,Los\,Angeles-based\,entertainer,\,singer,\,actor\,and\,artist\,known\,for\,her\,recording$ career and comedy stage plays has been hard at work since 2007 turning a character created for a 10-minute radio play into an ink-on-page reality.

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times TULSA, Okla. - In Volume 1 of "Super Indian" comics, our hero saves

his reservation from a culture-crushing giant robot named Techoskin. In an even bigger feat, author Arigon Starr has created an exciting new work as entertaining as it is significant. The Los Angeles-based entertainer,

singer, actor and artist known for her recording career and comedy stage plays has been hard at work since 2007 turning a character created for a 10-minute radio play into an ink-onpage reality. Now in its second printing, "Super Indian" comics is a sleek 64page, full-color volume of heroes, crazy antics and personalities based on the contemporary life of Native American reservation life.

"Sometimes it takes a while to get things going. I mean, that thing took forever. I mean, 2007 is a long time ago," Starr said during a recent visit to Tulsa. "You don't want to just rush it out there."

It was worth the wait.

An enrolled member of the Kickapoo tribe and also of Creek, Cherokee and Seneca descent, Starr grew up in a military family. Her father was a U.S. Navy recruiter, and it meant they moved a lot. During the summers, the family visited relatives in Tulsa. That's

when Starr's grandfather took her and her younger sister to buy comic books. When school resumed, she would draw comic book characters in class while listening to lectures.

After finishing high school in San Diego, Calif., she moved to Los Angeles and became a publicist for Showtime television and Viacom Productions. Eventually, she left to work on her own music career and went on to produce several albums, including "Meet the Diva," "Backflip" and "The Red Road." "The Red Road" was an original cast recording of her musical play of the same name about people living on a reservation. In addition to her music, Starr has written plays, such as "The Red Road" and other original pieces on contemporary American Indian life. Her acting has garnered awards from the First Americans in Arts Awards, the Los Angeles Women's Theatre Project and the Wordcraft Circle.

Starr's work is filled with humor, and her latest creation, "Super Indian"

follows that line. The character had its beginnings when the Native Radio Theatre Project and Native Voices at the Autry (a Native American theater program of the Autry National Center in Los Angeles) commissioned a group storytellers of the Wordcraft Circle

See STARR Continued on Page 4

## NADV helping people escape cycle of abuse

■ Of Native American women murdered, over 75 percent were killed by a family member, an acquaintance, or someone they knew.

**DANA ATTOCKNIE** *Native American Times* 

NORMAN, Okla. The memory of Linda
Wahpeconiah-Forrester's
sister is helping to save the
lives of people hit by domestic
violence

"My sister was murdered by her abuser; her longtime companion," Wahpeconiah-Forrester said. "I've always wanted to do something in her memory, but I really wasn't sure"

After looking throughout the Norman, Moore and Noble area she noticed the only domestic violence shelter was at the Women's Resource Center (WRC) in Norman. She also realized the more she heard stories from friends being in or having lived through harmful situations, they didn't know there's a place to go for help. So, this year she founded a non-profit organization called Natives Against Domestic Violence (NADV). NADV is dedicated to helping people escape the violence and to helping the WRC keep its doors open.

"We need a place for our Indian women to go, if they're brave enough to get out," Wahpeconiah-Forrester said. "Love shouldn't hurt. Love shouldn't kill. There is an opportunity for them to come and be safe with their children. They don't have to leave their children; they don't have to leave anything but their abuser."

NADV gets out into the community to seek donations for the WRC. Donations can be monetary, food or personal items. The biggest fundraiser thus far will be a gourd dance from 2 to 10 p.m. Oct 6 at the Goodrich Memorial UMC, located at 200 W. Hayes Street in Norman.

"I love them," Jo Ann Smith, WRC executive director said of NADV. "How could you not love anybody who understands what your struggle is and wants to help you so much?"

The WRC was established in 1975 and continues to provide a domestic violence shelter and rape crisis center despite budget cuts. Women and children are all welcome to find protection at the shelter, and battered men will also be found a place to stay.

"We're against domestic violence, period. It's not right, no matter who does it. Usually men don't need shelter, but they certainly do need somebody to talk to, know what their rights are and know what's available," Smith said. "There are people out there that really care and we at the WRC, for example, have been doing this for a long, long time and they aren't going to tell us anything that is going to shock us. We've heard it all. We want them to be safe, and we want their children to be safe."

Last year the WRC served 190 women and 137 children. They did have to turn away some people who were from out of their county or from out of state, but they did refer them to other shelters.

Smith said there are 28 other domestic violence programs and sexual assault programs in Oklahoma, including tribal programs. She said the WRC has a good working relationship with the tribes in Oklahoma and they help the WRC all the time.

"I would hate to try and do what we do, without them (tribes). They're so important to us. No one can help Native people, like Native people," Smith said

Wahpeconiah-Forrester said NADV also has a great rapport with the tribes and they want to continue building bridges. She said NADV has a board of seven people, all volunteers, and they have asked people involved with other domestic violence organizations to be on their board in order to help "bridge that gap." Wahpeconiah-Forrester and Mary Lou Drywater lead the NADV board

"I'm just hoping we can all work together to help these people get out of these horrible situations," she said. "If I can help that one get into a shelter and feel safe even just for a night, maybe that's the night she won't get murdered, which is what happened to my sister. Or maybe that night she left with her kids, maybe she won't be beaten up in front of her kids. So we just have to take baby steps, because the reality is they do go back to their abusers sometimes. But if for some reason something happens within them, hey this is it; this is the last time this will happen, and they stay and they get to have a new life without violence."

Smith said 32 years ago the majority of the people who

went to the WRC were ages 16-25, and they usually had two or three children under the age of 5. That statistic has flipped within the last five years. Now they serve more women between the ages of 40-55, and many of them don't have children.

"In the old days, we would have two-thirds children and one-third women. Well, that has changed too. Now we have two-thirds women and many fewer children. That's because the women that are here, are older," Smith said. "As resources for people have dried up, the people who are most likely to get housing and other services are people who have children. So there are things for them, but women who don't have children with them have fewer resources so we're seeing more of them in the shelter. That's what I think

The average time a person stays at the shelter is 15 days; this includes people who have stayed there three days. One lady stayed there for a year while her court trial was ongoing because her abuser was out on bail. Smith said if they made her leave it would've been like signing her death warrant. They have also had people who have gone there repeatedly whenever situation became dangerous. She said women have a tendency to downplay the abuse and just want to forget how horrible it was so they often go back.

"I don't blame them for that, but it only gets worse. It doesn't get better. It never gets better. It will only get worse...," Smith said, adding that even when an abuser thinks he has the violence under control, he is still capable of killing and she doesn't want that to happen. "I don't know if those are words of wisdom, but they are words of compassion. We don't want to hear that anybody has died when there are shelters out here. We'll put people on the floor, we'll put them on sofas; we'll put them on chairs and use ottomans. We'll do anything to keep somebody alive."

Wahpeconiah-Forrester, a cancer survivor, said people see a lot of breast cancer walks for example but domestic violence is such a "hush-hush" topic that people don't want anyone to find out about; that they get beaten in their own homes in front of their own kids or family.

"This really isn't OK ... This is no way to live," Wahpeconiah-Forrester said. "There's such a smoldering sense that nothing's going to happen. Whenever they're beaten down so much they feel there's just no hope, or their abuser has a huge family or even a predominant family within the tribe. There are many reasons why they suffer in silence. We just want to make them aware they don't have to."

The WRC crisis line number is (405) 701-5540. The number is a 24 hour a day, 365 day a year phone number. Smith said if the only way someone can get to them is by calling at 3 o'clock in the morning, and having them send a cab, then they'll do that. "We'll do what we need to do to get you here. We'll work with you," Smith

Computer and nutrition classes are also provided at the WRC, and they are also able to help with personal

care items and food. Their website is www.wrcnorman. com and their Facebook page is http://www.facebook.com/pages/Womens-Resource-Center/160156347337817.

According to the American Indian Health Council, "the frequency of battering in Indian Country is believed to be much higher than the national norm; American Indian women experience the highest rate of violence of any group in the United States; American Indian women stand a high risk of losing their children in instances of physical and sexual abuse; Three-fourths of American Indian women have experienced some type of sexual assault in their lives; Homicide is the third leading cause of death for Native women, and of Native American women murdered, over 75 percent were killed by a family member, an acquaintance, or someone they knew."

For more information about the gourd dance, contact Drywayter at (405) 361-2393 or Wahpeconiah-Forrester at (405) 833-1559. Supper is at 5:30 pm, the public is welcome, and all proceeds will go towards the WRC Domestic Violence Shelter and Rape Crisis Center.

"Love should never hurt. Love doesn't abuse you. Love doesn't leave you with bruises and broken bones. Love does not kill you by instrument or by hand," Wahpeconiah-Forrester said. "You can have a life without violence. Your kids can have a life without seeing you violated or beaten ... please, please get out. There are people that want to help you."

## **TOBACCO**

Continued from Page 1

ruling and was not yet ready to comment.

The inmates' attorney, Pamela Bollweg, called the ruling a victory for the First Amendment and for religious freedoms.

"People who enter the prisons don't leave their religious freedoms at the door, and that's what she ruled," Bollweg said Wednesday night.

In their 2009 federal lawsuit against the South Dakota Department of Corrections, inmates Blaine Brings Plenty and Clayton Creek contended that the policy was discriminatory. The state said ceremonial tobacco inside

the state penitentiary was becoming increasingly abused, and the policy was not overly restrictive because it allowed other botanicals such as red willow bark to be burned.

The Justice Department, in a brief filed in July, said the state's position ran contrary to the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act and U.S. Supreme Court precedent.

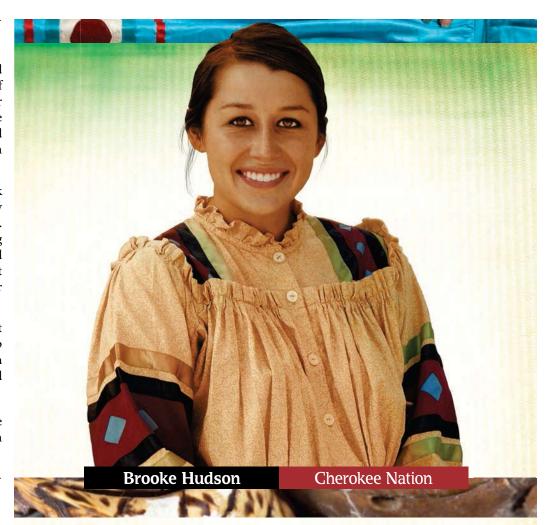
The South Dakota prison system went tobacco-free in 2000 but made an exception for tobacco used in Native American ceremonies. Officials in October 2009 eliminated that exemption, saying tobacco was being sold or bartered and inmates had been caught separating it from their pipe mixtures and prayer ties

Members of prison-based Native American Council of Tribes sued, arguing that for Native American prayer to be effective, it must be embodied in tobacco and offered within a ceremonial framework.

Brings Plenty and Creek in their suit said the policy change violated their U.S. constitutional rights ensuring that no prisoner be penalized or discriminated against for their religious beliefs or practices.

Bollweg said she's confident that the two sides can come up with a policy to address both the prison safety concerns and the inmates' religious rights.

"We know that there are policies out there that can accommodate this," she said.



## WASHBURN

Continued from Page 1

late Friday.

The vote was applauded by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar.

"As we continue to strengthen the integrity of the nation's government-to-government relationship with federally-recognized Indian tribes and empower Native American and Alaska Native communities, Kevin Washburn will be an outstanding addition to our leadership team and a vital asset for President Obama's initiatives in Indian Country," Salazar said in a statement.

Washburn has been UNM law school dean since June 2009. He also worked as a federal prosecutor and has taught at law schools at the University of Arizona and the University of Minnesota.

"Kevin understands the pressing needs of Indian Country, and he brings the experience and enthusiasm needed to meet those challenges, Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., said in a statement Saturday. "The Senate's quick approval of his nomination demonstrates the broad support he has in Washington and

around the country."

After his August nomination, Washburn won praise from the president of the National Congress of American Indians, who also is lieutenant governor of the Chickasaw Nation.

"Law enforcement and trust reform will be two of the most important issues for the BIA in the coming years," Jefferson Keel said. "Kevin's experience as a federal prosecutor will be a great benefit."

Washington worked with the tribal group to develop and pass a federal law aimed at combatting crime on reservations, known as the Tribal Law and Order Act. He is known as an expert in federal American Indian law and policy, with a focus on law enforcement, the group said.

Navajo President Ben Shelly said after the nomination that the tribe is looking forward to Washburn's expertise in advancing issues in Indian Country, such as economic development, infrastructure, renewable energy, and improving public safety and education.

Washburn said during his confirmation hearing this week that he would work to ensure the federal government meets its obligations to American Indians and would support those tribes working toward greater self-governance.



## Quit Commercial Tobacco

Tobacco is an ancient tradition in our culture. It's a sacred ritual passed down from our ancestors. But when commercial tobacco took over, everything changed. It is time to honor what is sacred and quit commercial tobacco.

The Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline can help you quit. When you call, you receive free quit coaching and your choice of free patches or gum. They give you the courage and support to quit commercial tobacco for good.



Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline

1 800 QUIT NOW

784-8669 OKhelpline.com

ADVERTISE YOUR JOBS WITH NATIVE TIMES!

## Man sentenced in pivotal domestic violence case

DAVE KOLPACK Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) - A North Dakota man whose case has been cited by the federal government as the legal standard for prosecuting domestic violence cases on American Indian reservations was sentenced Sept. 17 to more than five years in prison.

Roman Cavanaugh Jr., of Fort Totten, pleaded guilty in July to domestic assault by a habitual offender, a charge that allows prosecutors to use previous convictions in tribal courts to bring a case to federal court. The habitual offender statute has been upheld by two federal appeals courts.

Cavanaugh was convicted of domestic abuse offenses in March 2005, April 2005 and January 2008, all in tribal court. The federal charge involves a July 2008 incident in which Cavanaugh was accused of slamming his common-law wife's head against the dashboard of his car and threatening to kill her.

"Because of this statute, Roman Cavanaugh isn't going to be in a position to abuse his wife and kids for a very long time," U.S. Attorney Timothy Purdon, of North Dakota,

A judge in 2009 threw out the habitual offender charge because Cavanaugh did not have legal representation in tribal court. The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the decision in July 2011, and the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals made the same call that month on a separate domestic violence case.

Brendan Johnson, U.S. Attorney in South Dakota, said the Cavanaugh ruling sent a message to other federal prosecutors that they could bring domestic violence cases to court before it's too late for the victims.

"In the past, we've had to wait until the domestic violence reaches the aggravated assault stage, which means that someone has been seriously, seriously injured," Johnson

Cavanaugh's attorney, Alexander Reichert, has not been able to get the U.S. Supreme Court to address whether prosecutors should be allowed to use previous convictions in tribal courts. He said Monday that he believes high court justices are waiting for more arguments at the appeals court level before taking on

"I think the (appeals) ruling is unfair to Native Americans," Reichert said, noting that Cavanaugh didn't have a lawyer in tribal court.

The tribal court system on the Standing Rock reservation, which straddles the North and South Dakota border, is one of the few that provides public defenders. Cavanaugh's tribal prosecutions took place on the Spirit Lake reservation in northeastern North Dakota.

"Our goal is to have functioning tribal court systems like they have in Standing Rock, where people have public defenders," Purdon said. "In the meantime, until we get to the point where all the tribal courts are functioning at that level, we're going to use every tool in our toolbox to protect Native women."

Federal prosecutors in North Dakota have indicted seven cases under the habitual offender statute since the Cavanaugh ruling. South Dakota has indicted 10 cases, including the conviction of former Standing Rock council member Kerby St. John in June.

U.S. District Judge Ralph Erickson on Monday sentenced Cavanaugh to five years and six months in prison, to be added on to another sentence that Cavanaugh is serving for punching his 11- and 12-year-old sons.

Erickson said in court Monday that the habitual offender statute is meant to address an epidemic of domestic violence in Native American communities and called Cavanaugh's charge "a very serious offense from that standpoint."

Justice Department figures show that an American Indian woman born in the United States has a 1-in-3 chance of being sexually assaulted in her lifetime, compared with a 1-in-5 chance for all women born in the

Cavanaugh told the judge he takes responsibility for his actions and plans to take parenting classes and go through substance abuse treatment in prison.

"I'm beyond sorry for all the things I've done wrong," Cavanaugh said.

Erickson, who cited Cavanaugh's eight previous convictions in state and tribal courts for assault and 17 arrests for public intoxication, said he was not impressed with a plea agreement that called for less than five years in prison.

"I can't impose that type of sentence with a straight face," the judge said.

## South Dakota hospital suing IHS for \$6.5 mil

MARTIN, S.D. (AP) - A South Dakota hospital that nearly closed earlier this year because of financial problems is suing the Indian Health Service, saying the federal agency doesn't pay its bills.

The Bennett County Hospital in Martin is trying to collect more than \$1.65 million in fees for care provided to members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

The Argus Leader newspaper reports that the hospital's demand of \$1.65 million represents the difference between the IHS payments the hospital has received and the \$2.2 million in care provided to Native American patients since 2007.

The IHS did not immediately respond to the lawsuit. The agency has said in the past that it is not responsible for some bills under its guidelines.

### State finds in favor of Mohegans in land dispute

MONTVILLE, Conn. (AP) -Connecticut's Historic Preservation Office says a planned affordable housing complex in Montville would be built on land that has both historical and spiritual significance to the Mohegan Tribe.

The opinion is a victory for the tribe, which has been fighting plans for the 120-unit complex known as The Village.

The office found that the 12-acre property off Route 32 includes the remains of the fort of Sachem Uncas, the tribe's founder.

The state agreed with a previous consultant's report that found the area is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Mayor Ronald McDaniel Jr. tells The Day of New London the developers and the tribe will now meet to discuss a compromise plan that could allow the project to go forward.

## **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers DANA ATTOCKNIE LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES **Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country





### **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned TERO Certified



Native

'Changing the culture of waste." TM

TIMES recycles with

Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

## Spirit Lake rec center posts sex offender photos

**CHUCK HAGA** 

Grand Forks Herald

FORT TOTTEN, N.D. (AP) - Jon Lawrence cradles his 2-year-old daughter, Sophia, as he surveys the 36 photographs in a glass case at the entrance to the Spirit Lake Recreation Center, a gathering place and playground for children of the

The 36 men who look back at Lawrence, who look back at the children as they troop in to play basketball or computer games, are men of the tribe, residents of the reservation. They range in age from 23 to 76, and each has been convicted of a crime, a particularly offensive crime - sexual abuse of a minor, aggravated incest, rape - and required to register as a sex

"Every one of these guys complained that their rights were being violated by having their pictures here," said Lawrence, who works at the center. "Some of them used to

That was strange, he said, as Sophia squirmed in his arms and laughed, the rascally

innocent laugh of a 2-year-

their kids off here, and they're

The health, security and safety of children are at the heart of the ongoing examination of Spirit Lake's child protection system and social services. After assessing the system for several weeks, the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs recently said it would take over social service programs from the tribe.

Questions have been raised about the placing of children in foster care homes where background checks and follow-up home visits weren't done or weren't properly documented. Some tribal members and others, including people whose jobs mandate that they report such things, have alleged that children have been placed in homes where convicted sex offenders live. The FBI, BIA and other authorities may have investigated such situations, but there have been no announced findings

"Some parents just drop

But Spirit Lake is hardly

alone in having residents with histories of crimes against children. Convicted offenders whose convictions here alone," he said. require registration and public notification live in every

> corner of the state. The North Dakota attorney general's office maintains a searchable website with a 223page list of sex offenders, their photos and basic information: last-known address, crimes and risk level, from low to

> > high.

spokeswoman Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem said that Spirit Lake "under federal law has no obligation to tell us about the registration of offenders there, and they have chosen not to."

Title XX of the tribe's Law and Order Code was adopted in April 2010 and closely follows the federal registration and notification act, and Spirit Lake maintains its own sex offender registry on the tribe's

A high-risk offender is one

whom authorities believe is most likely to reoffend.

The best-known example regionally is Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., convicted just months after his release from prison of the 2003 rape and killing of University of North Dakota student Dru Sjodin. He was sentenced to die and is in a federal prison pending the last of his appeals. The high-profile case led to major changes in how North Dakota and Minnesota handle sex offenders, and the national sex offender website is named in remembrance of Sjodin.

There used to be a display case, similar to the one at the Fort Totten Recreation Center, at the tribal headquarters building, known as the Blue Building. It's a high-traffic place, where tribal members may stop daily for mail, visit with friends or consult with tribal officials.

But the sex offender display was removed early this summer at the direction of Chairman Roger Yankton,

who denies accusations that he was acting to protect some of the 36 offenders, including at least two relatives. "We're all related here,"

Yankton said with some exasperation when asked about the missing photos. "Here is where they were," he said, striding to a case

corridor. Only glued stubs of photographs remained. Yankton said he ordered the removal of sex offenders' photos and criminal records because he wants to use that central display space "for more

in the Blue Building's main

activities and achievements. The grim lineup of offender photos "didn't belong here," he said. "And they're still up at the Rec Center."

positive things" about tribal

Some think it creepy, the lineup of convicted sex offenders - many of whom abused children - posted where children stream in to relax or play after school. To others, it's right and proper.

## **Tulsa Area Handy Man** Home Repair, Home Maintenance & Remodeling



painting • drywall repair • carpentry • tile mouldings • doors • lights • fixtures • locks odd jobs • free estimates

I buy houses that just need some TLC...

**Nathan Hicks** 918-857-3983 nathan614@hotmail.com

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50 12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## Judge denies bank closing C&A accounts

■ As per the terms of the bank's motion, if the accounts had been closed, a check for the balance would have been mailed to the address on file with the bank, which is the tribes' complex in Concho, Okla.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

ARAPAHO, Okla. — A request to close out the Cheyenne and Arapaho's accounts with the First Bank and Trust of Clinton, Okla., was denied last Monday morning.

"Granting the bank's request would be tantamount to something I can't legally do: decide which government is the legitimate one," Custer County District Court judge Doug Haught said Sept. 17.

The request to close the account came last month after the bank received conflicting information as to who has signatory authority for the tribes' more than 30 accounts. According to the tribes' account agreement with the bank, the only person with signatory authority is the governor, a position that has been disputed for almost two

As per the terms of the bank's motion, if the accounts had been closed, a check for the balance would have been mailed to the address on file with the bank, which is the tribes' complex in Concho, Okla. Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell's administration is operating out of the complex while the other woman claiming to be governor, Leslie Wandrie-Harjo, and her government, are based out of El Reno, Okla.

Since June 21, the bank accounts have been under the supervision of the Custer County District Court. Officials

from either government attempting to withdraw funds must contact the court and the other government in writing before any removals are allowed. To date, no one has filed a request to access the more than \$6.4 million in frozen funds.

"At this point, we just want to stop the bleeding and extricate ourselves from the situation," said Scott Meacham, attorney for First Bank and Trust. "We have the right to close it (the accounts) but didn't want to violate the court order, depending on the court's definition of disbursement."

In his argument, Meacham addressed Haught's concerns that mailing a check to the address of record would effectively decide who was the legitimate governor of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes.

"They (the check recipient) would only have authority if they can find a bank that will accept the check," Meacham said. "The bearer would have to show proof to that new bank that they are the legitimate authority."

Haught also denied the bank's request to recover attorneys' fees at this time. Although the tribes' bank agreement includes a provision to allow it, Haught cited other pending litigation between the bank and the tribes as justification for deferred action.

According to the Oklahoma Supreme Court Network, the Boswell administration has an appeal pending with the Oklahoma Supreme Court on Haught's June 21 order that placed the tribes' accounts under court supervision.

Excluding the workers at their five western Oklahoma casinos, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes employ about 500 people. More than 12,000 people are enrolled in the constitutionally-bound tribes, including about 5,000 who live within the tribes' nine-county jurisdictional

## Muscogee (Creek) **Nation Social Services Announces Program** Changes

OKMULGEE, Okla. - The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department will be seeing applicants by appointment only beginning October 1.

The department made the change due to an increase in phone calls, clients and applications received.

The client-based program receives hundreds of calls and client walk-ins each day.

appointment-based system does not include the School Clothing Program or Social Security.

Department officials said walk-ins will no longer be seen, but exceptions will be made for citizens seeking burial assistance or those who have been a victim of a natural disaster such as a fire, flood, tornado, earthquake, etc.

Applicants requesting assistance must call and speak to a caseworker to determine potential eligibility.

If eligible, the applicant must make an appointment to see a caseworker. However, faxes will be accepted in certain cases. Applicants on the General Assistance program will need to call in prior to Oct. 1 to set up an appointment.

Beginning Sept. 26, the Social Services Department will be closed the last Wednesday of each month in order to complete casework. This does not include the School Clothing or Social Security programs.

The mission of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Social Services Department is to counsel, advocate, and provide referrals for Native American households to meet certain unmet essential needs. Social Services shall provide necessary assistance to eligible Native American households striving to enhance quality of life while promoting selfsufficiency and financial stability. Along with the new mission, goals have been placed and the department is working towards those goals.

Applicants assistance around the Dustin, Weleetka, Wetumka Holdenville areas may visit the Southern Regional Office for assistance with faxing documents to the Okmulgee

For more information, call the Social Services office at 918-549-2445.

"There's one easy solution to this," Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Eli Grayson said. "A bulldozer. Just bulldoze the casino, the entertainment venue, the parking garage, all of it. Return it (Hickory Ground) to the way it was."

Grayson was among a dozen Muscogee (Creek) citizens who rallied outside the federal building Tuesday morning prior to the listening session. Several stayed outside the building during the session, holding signs condemning the Poarch Band of Creek Indians and calling for the preservation of Hickory Ground.

The Alabama tribe was not represented at Tuesday's listening session but has issued public statements claiming the proposed expansion site does not overlap the sacred site and would not disturb the rest of the property.

Although comments about Hickory Ground dominated the three-hour listening session, representatives from other Oklahoma tribes also attended to voice their concerns about ongoing and potential protection issues facing their sacred sites and burial grounds.

"We've identified grave sites in a nine-state area," said Ethan Thompson with the Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation Department. "More than 3,000 of our ancestors have been dug up that we know of. It takes a lot out of people to rebury their ancestors."

## Skin cancer prevention advocate receives award

**KAREN SHADE** 

Little Miss Cherokee Ambassador was efforts. awarded a special honor for her skin cancer awareness efforts.

the Cherokee Nation Distinguished I'm only 13." Spirit of Life Award at the Cherokee Nation Healthy Nation Action Institute conference last month in Tulsa. Fields, Cherokee Nation media to record a 13, is a skin cancer survivor who made it her ambassador platform to teach other native youth to protect their skin when outdoors.

She was nominated by several people in the health community for the award due to her work with the Cherokee Nation's skin cancer prevention campaign, book donation drive for Rock the Vote campaign to get kids to children undergoing medical treatment remind their parents to vote.

at St. Francis Children's Hospital in Tulsa, youth at cancer survivor summer camps and visits to schools and clinics TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - A former to deliver her message among other

"I have kind of a glad feeling," she Cierra Fields, daughter of Rick and said. "I'm proud of myself that I've been Terri Fields of Fort Gibson, was given able to do all of this stuff even though

> Fields next will collaborate with series of public service announcements for skin cancer awareness to air on local television stations and on the tribe's broadcast at the tribal headquarters complex in Tahlequah and at the nation's regional clinics. She is also helping to organize a local nonpartisan

## **Cherokee Nation approves \$526 million** budget, bumps up Head Start funding

The tribal newspaper's budget was reduced. To offset the cut, the **Cherokee Phoenix** is eliminating free subscriptions.

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. Cherokee Nation Tribal Councilors approved a \$526 million operating budget for fiscal year 2013 at the September Tribal Council meeting, pumping an additional \$400,000 into the tribe's Head Start program. The new fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

"Providing top-notch early childhood education is a major objective of my administration, and I'm very pleased the council saw fit to approve additional funding to help our youngest Cherokee citizens," said Principal Chief Bill John Baker. "The success of our Cherokee children is vital to the future of our nation, so we owe it to them to provide the best opportunities possible."

The program helps prepare

preschoolers who may be from low-income homes for kindergarten, sharing with them the same learning resources their more affluent peers may have access to. Only about 80 percent of Head Start's needs were met each year and many teachers left for higher paying jobs, said Head Start Director Verna Thompson.

"It's great to see the Cherokee Nation really making Head Start a priority once again," Thompson said. "This funding increase will help us better provide for our students and help retain qualified teachers."

To offset the increases to Head Start, the council voted to reduce funding in areas that are already partially self-funded. For example, in an effort to become more selfsufficient, the tribal newspaper will eliminate free subscriptions and begin charging \$10 per year. The Cherokee Phoenix will also appeal to businesses to sponsor news racks for distributing newspapers to their patrons. The November issue of the Cherokee Phoenix will be the first under the new policy. Access to online stories remains free.

Overall, the Cherokee Nation's 2013 budget remained consistent with the 2012 budget. The Cherokee Nation budgets conservatively, but can add funding throughout the year if it becomes available.

In other September business, the council approved a \$103 million capital improvements budget to fund roads projects, completion of the new veteran's center and renovations for tribal health facilities. They also approved a measure to allow armed security at tribal casinos.

Additionally, Farrell Mackey Prater, a genealogist and researcher at the Will Rogers Library and Betty Barker, with the Adair County Historical Society were also approved to the new Cherokee Nation Registration Committee which will meet monthly with Registrar Linda O'Leary about tribal citizenship

The next Tribal Council meeting is slated for 6 p.m. Oct. 15 at the W.W. Keeler Complex in Tahlequah.

## STARR

Continued from Page 1

of Native Writers to create a 10-minute radio play to be taped in front of an audience at the 2006 National Audio Theatre Festival at Missouri State University-West Plains, Mo. In the absence of Native American comic book heroes, she sketched out the character and story of Super Indian and wrote the script. Following the success of that recording and broadcast, a 10-part "Super Indian" series for radio was commissioned for 2007.

Throughout her music and theater work, Starr continued drawing, during "Super Indian's" radio play development, she started to wonder what her character might look like.

Super Indian is a strapping, handsome young man with dark locks flowing in the wind. He wears a blue leotard with

an "S" on his torso and a black belt with the letters "NDN" on the buckle. His sidekicks are the loyal and purple spandex-clad Mega Bear and the brilliant canine scholar Diogi. What truly makes them unique, however, is that these heroes are ultimately ordinary dudes living on the fictitious Leaning Oak Reservation. The bold Super Indian is, in fact named Hubert, a janitor in glasses with braids at the local bingo hall; Mega Bear is General Bear, Hubert's frybread wielding best friend; and Diogi - pronounced deeoh-gee - is a D-O-G for the non-descript rez dog everyone else in the story sees.

When he was little, Hubert went to a birthday party where he ate commodity cheese re-engineered from a lab at the infamous Area 51. Tainted with "rezium," the cheese gave him super strength and abilities. Diogi also ate the cheese, which gave the already clever hound a superior intellect and access to the reservation library.

Together, the three battle villains and shady characters out to wreck or steal the Native culture - tombraiding anthropologists, overzealous hippies, faux Native American flute players. They also contend with attitudes within the tribe that would abandon traditions and ways of living uniquely indigenous for a kind of uncompromising assimilation. As serious as it all sounds, "Super Indian" is a comedy. Where else would you learn that a reservation mullet is also known as a "business in front, party in the back" hair cut?

"You know, some people slam it, but I like that old 'Batman' (TV) series, you know that old Adam West one, because it was funny," Starr said. "I thought that's just a good marriage of all things that I've been doing with the plays and music because there's just this theme of humor running throughout the whole deal. So, I started drawing."

Since she already had the stories and scripts from the radio play series, Starr started drawing out characters. Starr quickly learned she knew nothing about comic book production, so she read books about it and asked comic book creators questions at comic con events. Soon she was drawing, scanning the images onto computer, adding color through a computer program, adding dialogue and text and then throwing it altogether.

"A lot of professionals are willing to give time to help and tell how to ... learn the process," she said.

The first comics appeared as a web comic in April 2011. With the help of editor Janet Miner (Starr's business partner in Wacky Productions), the comic was released frame by

frame at the recommendation of other comic artists. When it started to take off, she returned to the comic cons to show her work to other professionals who were impressed with her technique and storytelling.

The "Super Indian" comic book was first printed in May 2012, published by Wacky Productions. The limited run proved to be more limited than they expected. The first volume is now in its second run, available at www. superindiancomics.com and also on Amazon.com.

The comic puts Starr in good company with other Native comic book artists and creators. Together, they are the newly formed Indigenous Narratives Collective, which includes Roy Boney, Beth Aileen Dillon, Spider Moccasin, Jonathan Nelson, Michael Sheyahshe, Ryan Huna Smith, Theo Tso and Marty Two Bulls.

With so much happening

on the comic front, Starr continues work on theater and radio projects. No matter the medium of expression music, stage or print - Starr is consistent in her art: It's always contemporary and always funny.

"It's hard to not, when you're writing about us, to get overly serious about it," she said, "... but there's a lot of life out there and to remember that there's life and there's light and humor and laughter, because that's how we survived - to take that path rather than, 'Oh we've been done wrong and people have hurt us.' Yeah, that's true, all these things are true, but artistically you can go at it two different ways. I've always been on the side where we laugh a lot. That makes my life a lot better."

Starr is currently at work on material for Volume 2 of "Super Indian." The comic is also available at superindiancomics.com

## COMMENTARY

## Around the Campfire: Misusing culture

DR. DEAN CHAVERS © Copyright 2012

It is amazing to me the numbers of people and the types of people who misuse the word "culture." Anthropologists, who ought to know better, have been misusing it for 125 years. Stop

I first became aware of the misuse when I had a retired couple in one of my classes at Cal State Hayward in 1973. They were both seniors in college, about to be graduated, with degrees in anthropology. He had retired from the military, and both decided to get the degrees they had missed out on when they were young. I thought they were kind of old (they were in their early forties), but today I realize Put me down. You're carrying they were pretty young.

I had designed perhaps the first course ever offered on "The History of Indian Education." In the course, to make sure students understood the concept of culture, I had them to go through a series of exercises to make sure they knew what Indian kids had to go through in European school systems. When we got through, both the husband and the wife told the whole class that they had been through four years of anthropology classes but had never understood what culture was until they took my

All the anthros had talked about culture, but they had

too much. They loaned us an Country. office and helped us in many ways. I still remember them never got spanked by either

living (the "material culture," bounced off my backside. a bad term), philosophy, is geography. Whoa, Nellie. happened. is right and what is wrong.

warriors and fighting, such as Stanford was listening to an the Lakota and the Cheyenne anthropology professor, who do, you won't fit in very well was Japanese, explain how with a society that emphasizes cultural evolution worked. I peacefulness, harmony, and never argued with him. He getting along, such as the was teaching it as the gospel Hopi. This mixing happened at truth. It is one of the most BIA boarding schools such as flawed theories in the social Sherman and Intermountain; sciences. these two tribes are culturally different.

My wife, who is Chicana, her mother or her father. On But the anthros at Hayward the other hand, I got more and elsewhere are still using than my share of whippings. "culture" in a very loose sense. Tree limbs, plow lines, belts, They refer to culture as arts, switches, fists, hands, and religion, ways people make a other assorted things got

Using these bad definitions, language, morals, methods it was easy for European people of child rearing, beliefs, who colonized the Americas to behaviors, values, and mores label Native societies as savage, of a society. To me, this is or uncultured, or backward, or way, way, way too much. The lower on the scale of evolution. National Geographic Society Since Indians were uncultured even refers on its widely- and savage, it was all right to used map of North American kill them, capture them, make Indians to the "Geography slaves out of them, and take of Indian Culture." Geo, their women as servants and geography is not culture—it concubines. All these things

It was also all right to too much. Let's narrow that teach students about the concept by 95% or more. To theory of evolution, and how me, culture is simply the rules indigenous people around of life—the knowledge of what the world were less developed than Europeans. One of the If your society emphasizes things that grated on me at

program, so I can't slam them are found all over Indian are still using his model. The boarding schools, study and here, a lot of Anglo men wish Strauss even had a book called beaten if they spoke anything rules. But for Anglo people, from civilized people.

> landmark works on culture and made the boys wear brogans, its definition. Ruth Benedict's overalls, and work shirts. "Patterns of Culture," one of of culture and how societies support themselves. They were differ on cultural dimensions.

It seems to me that it would be better to have a sharp a broad one leads to bad to bad outcomes. Anthros, unfortunately, got off to a bad start. Governments in the U. S. and Europe hired them to study "primitive" societies in and to report on them. The immersion was total. Only themselves.

timber, coconuts, fish, foods, bury the Indian children who and many other valuables from died there. Indian parents these people for their own use. had their children taken They had entrepreneurs who away from them by force and export to the mother country. and Indians in the U. S.

For Indian people, whose our Native American Studies whipping children. Both types anthropologists worldwide Indian kids go to far-away the possible funny remarks past 40 years.

Both boys and girls also the best, laid out the concept had to work half the day to warm if you live in the Arctic. dishes, make up beds, sweep conclusions, and unfortunately boys had to work in the fields, animals.

the Americas, Asia, and Africa caught and punished. Cultural

French anthro Claude Levi- speak in English only, and get they had the same kinds of "The Savage Mind," as if savage other than English. They cut talking to your mother-in-law people had a different mind off their hair because it was is fine. Comparing the two is savage. They made the girls what cultural differences are There have been some wear long granny dresses and all about. Wearing a sealskin suit has no bearing on what kind of person you are. It is just something to keep you

Imagine the shock of an little farmers and housemaids. Indian kid who has never been The girls had to cook, wash beaten going to a boarding school for the first time and definition of "culture." Having the floors, mop the floors, learning that beatings are all and work in the gardens. The right. The first time he speaks in Comanche or Lakota to drive horses, plant corn and another student the dorm vegetables, cut and bale hay, matron grabs him up and beats and take care of the farm him with a belt until he cannot sit down. This happened tens If they ran away they were of thousands of times.

In short, I partly blame the problem of mistreatment of governments wanted to know a few escaped; many died of Indians on bad sociological how to understand these diseases or mistreatment at theory. How long will it take primitive people to enrich the schools. Some froze to to get our thinking straight death on the way home. The in this country? It seems to be They took gold, uranium, schools had cemeteries to worse now was we face Muslim people all over the world.

Dr. Dean Chavers is director of Catching the Dream, went to the colonies, planted never saw them again. This is formerly Native American tea, coffee, bananas, and other one of the saddest things that Scholarship Fund. Founded in crops, and trained the local happened in the 500 years of 1986, CTD awards scholarships people how to raise them to conflict between white people to high potential Indian college students. It also works to To me, culture is simple; it is improve Indian schools. His Lewis Henry Morgan, the cultures were primitive, knowing what is right and what next book will be called "The first real U. S. anthropologist, savage, and uncivilized, the is wrong. A person who knows American Indian Dropout." If your society emphasizes after studying the Iroquois, only solution was to make right from wrong is cultured, It will be published in early punishing children for proposed a scale of human them something else. For regardless of what culture or 2013. He has written books wrongdoing by beating them, evolution that started at 125 years the official answer society he or she comes from. on Indian leaders, racism in you will have a different savagery, then moved on for the U. S. government was For instance, in some Native Indian country, exemplary used it loosely. The anthros at outlook on life from a society to barbarism, then on to to beat the savage out of the societies, it is wrong to talk to Indian schools, and how to Hayward had sort of adopted that believes in not ever civilization. Unfortunately, Indian kids. They made the a mother-in-law. Leaving off write winning proposals in the

## Native culture and race relations

**DWAIN CAMP** Native Elder

As both a native elder and as a 5 year employee of the Tonkawa Nation, often working with tribal law enforcement within the Ft. Oakland and other local native communities, it is obligatory we respond to the erosion of race relations.

The Chief of Police for the non-tribal law enforcement. Tonkawa Tribe of Oklahoma, John Cooper, with both state and federal certification, is uniquely qualified in the field of tribal law enforcement. When Chief Cooper reports that he and the tribal police dept. repeatedly encounter racist remarks and a lack of cooperation from their counterparts in the nonnative community, notably in the area of jurisdiction and cross-deputization, certainly we as native people are deeply concerned.

After receiving good,

from the Tonkawa city police of race relations with local and Kay County deputies, this authorities. When the law authorities is alarming.

covered in the Ponca City The ignorance of law News, illustrates the need to representatives concerning a reexamine the training for very visible native minority or, cultural sensitivity within in this case, a callous disregard

referenced in the paper, concerning a runner on the indigenous people's international "Peace and Dignity Journey" through rural Kay County. Without provocation, the obviously harmless runner was made to lie down in the dirt and his sacred staff was desecrated. There is much more than disrespect obvious and apparent on the video but,

apparent deterioration of the officer stopped this young relationship between native man's pilgrimage through rural people and tribal law entities Kay County, this insensitivity with both city and county of the local law representative was only a manifestation A recent event, well of a much greater problem. for personal and religious Many have read in the freedom, is of considerable P.C. News, or seen the video more import than even this singularly disrespectful act might indicate.

With 7 native nations in and around Kay County for over 100 years, surely the local law enforcement agencies can be expected to have some knowledge of native culture. Our traditions and religion are equally revered and our sacred objects esteemed as any religion. We ask only that local shocking to Native People as law enforcement be aware of this occurrence was, it is only native customs and honor our cooperative efforts in the past indicative of the deterioration beliefs with equal reverence.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## Tulsa Metro Area **HANDYMAN**

Painting • Drywall Repair Odd Jobs Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"



## WANTED

#### *NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS*

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

> 918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

**Professional & Affordable Web Design** Let us create a web site that never stops giving you BUSINESS 24 204-376-3428 **► www.ganica.net** 

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Ask about special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

## Brothertown Nation celebrates history, future

Although the tribe was recently denied federal recognition, they celebrate the opening of a new community center and the safekeeping of tribal records.

SHARON ROZNIK The Reporter, Fond du Lac

FOND DU LAC, Wis. (AP) - For close to a decade Loretta Metoxen, an Oneida Indian, struggled to gain back the tribal history of the Brothertown Nation.

And her work paid off.

The collection, including dozens of letters written by tribal members who served in the Civil War, were on display Sept. 15 at the grand opening of the Brothertown Indian Nation's new community center in Fond du Lac.

The day was marked with ceremony and celebration and reaction to a recent federal ruling that declines to acknowledge the Brothertown Nation as an Indian tribe under federal law.

"Every day I learn more about the people in my community. One of the great things about my Senate office is how it is becoming a living understanding of each of my Senate districts," said State Senator Jessica King, who attended the event.

Hundreds documents, including original court records, photographs and letters dating back to 1795 had been collected by a man named Otto Heller, a farmer, cheese maker and historian who lived in Stockbridge along the shores of Lake Winnebago.

As Loretta tells the story, when Otto Heller passed away the old farmstead along the lake went to his grandson and when his grandson passed away it was given to the grandson's best friend, a man named Jerry.

One day, Jerry was rummaging through the old house, by then neglected and rundown, and he came across a trunk on the enclosed porch filled with yellowed papers.

"He looked inside and there was the history of the Brothertown tribe," Loretta told The Reporter of Fond du Lac. "And he decided he wanted a million dollars for

She explains that although she is Oneida, and lives on the Oneida reservation serving as the tribal historian, its members are intertwined with the Brothertown and Stockbridge-Muncie nations going back at least 200 years.

"We have shared histories and many of the same relatives," she said.

The Brothertown tribe descends from seven separate tribes that lived in the Northeast. They came to Wisconsin, traveling on foot and by boat, in the early 1800s.

"They always say life is a journey. From New England to New York to Wisconsin and beyond we look forward to our future together as a proud nation," said Richard Schadewald, chairman of the Brothertown Nation. He spoke to the large crowd gathered at the community center to celebrate the milestone event.

Loretta said about four years ago, after having all the items appraised, Jerry finally acquiesced and sold the historical collection for \$75,000 to the Oneida Nation, because Stockbridge Nation did not have the resources for such an acquisition.

Now the records are in safe keeping with the Oneidas and the Stockbridge tribe continues to make payments on the treasured collection that contains the original treaties between the U.S. Government and the "peace Indian Nation Community Center. keepers" of the tribe. There is also a complete list of war veterans that dates from the Revolutionary War to World War II.

"We will be taking good care of it and putting it in a format that is accessible to researchers," Loretta said.

Jill Watson from the University of Wisconsin Foundation presented the Brothertown Nation with

PATRICK FLOOD | THE REPORTER

Dennis Grennier, 8, of Milwaukee, talks with craftsman Wally Blanc of Menominee, Mich., at the grand opening of the Brothertown

the Samson Occom Legacy Award for encouraging Native Americans to pursue careers in medicine. Occom was a Native American Presbyterian preacher who organized Christians among various Mohegan and Pequot bands in New England and eastern Long Island into the Brothertown Indians.

Tribal Council member

Faith Ottery said the government's decision declining to acknowledge the Brothertown Indian Nation as an Indian tribe under federal law allows the tribe to finally move forward.

"This has been a 32-year process. Now our only course is to go through the political process and petition Congress, so that is where we are now,"

The city of Fond du Lac has a long-standing connection with the Brothertown people, Loretta said. They have worked here for generations and served as civic officers in their own counties and at the state level.

"We are all connected. We are here and we are happy,"

## CLASSIFIEDS

















The award-winning Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center in Lawton, Okla. is seeking to fill the following positions:

#### **CULTURAL SPECIALIST P/T**

must have extensive knowledge of Comanche history and culture and basic knowledge of the Comanche language. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are required, as well as the ability to both work independently and in a team

#### **DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS F/T**

M.S./M.A. Degree (preferred) in Anthropology (Cultural or Archaeology), Museum Studies, Art History, Conservation or related field and 24 months of collectionsrelated experience. Requirements may be met by equivalent combination of education and related experience.

#### **MUSEUM REGISTRAR F/T**

Minimum qualifications: B.A. Degree is required, preferably in Anthropology, history

Preferred qualification: M.S./M.A. Degree (preferred) in Anthropology (Cultural or Archaeology), Museum Studies, Art History, Conservation or related field and 24 months of collections-related experience. Requirements may be met by equivalent combination of education and related experience.

Salaries to commensurate with experience

See www.comanchemuseum.com for full job descriptions and requirements.

#### **Application Procedures:**

• Applicants must submit a cover letter and curriculum vitae or resume with three (3) references • Copy of Valid Driver's License • Copy of CDIB (if applicable) • Copy of Certificates and/or Diploma

#### **Send Resume To:**

**Comanche National Museum** Attn: Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi 701 NW Ferris Avenue Lawton, Oklahoma 73507

Email to: ptasi@comanchemuseum.com Phone: (580) 353-0404 Fax: (580) 353-0407 Indian Preference Applies / EEO

Deadline to apply: October 4, 2012

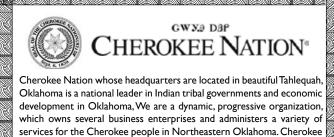
## RFQ/RFP

#### **Engineering Services - Request for Qualifications Proposal**

The Crow Tribal Water Resources Department (CTWRD) of the Crow Tribe requests written qualifications from professional engineering firms for engineering services. General Scope of Work: As described above, CTWRD is requesting written qualifications for professional engineering services with the Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 2010, which includes, but is not limited to the CIP rehabilitation and improvement, and the MR&I design and construction. All of the projects are in their beginning stages. The Crow Tribe and the CTWRD, through contracts with the Federal government, are responsible for the planning, design, and construction of

Basis of Selection: The proposals will be evaluated relative to general criteria through a process set by the Crow Tribe. A detailed scope of work will be developed and price will be negotiated with the successful firm. An engineering agreement will be executed with the selected firm.

The CTWRD and the Crow Tribe reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. Requests for a full copy of the RFP, including a description of the scope of work and services anticipated, and any other inquiries should be directed to Mr. Alden Big Man at (406) 638-4227 or via email at abigman@crownations.net or aldenbigman@ hotmail.com. Proposals will be accepted until 4:00 pm local time on September 28,



#### Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

6674 RFT Inpatient Registered Nurse (8-12 Rotations) - Close 9/25/12 6584 RPT Inpatient Registered Nurse (8-12 Rotations) - Close 9/25/12

WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

7043 RFT Inpatient Registered Nurse (Hours Vary) - Close 9/25/12 7073 RFT Inpatient Registered Nurse

(8-12 Rotations) - Close 9/25/12 7074 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse (8-12 Rotations) - Close 9/25/12 6787 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse

(7:30 am - 4:00 pm/On Call) - Close 9/25/12

6493 RFT Medical Technologist II 5768 RPT Medical Technologist (Salary based on education/exp) - Close 9/28/12

5998 TPT Medical Technologist/PRN (As Needed) - Close 9/28/12 Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

> **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948**

Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, A Statewide Economic Development Corporation is accepting applications for the following position in our Tulsa office:

Business Development Specialist: This position will develop and maintain ongoing business relationships with Native American, tribal and other minority owned companies for technical assistance, contracting and financing opportunities. Scope of job includes market assessments, project management, reporting and tracking of key metrics to increase on-going participation and program growth. Knowledge of 8(a), HUBZone, and other certification programs is required. Our ideal candidate of choice will have a degree in business or related discipline and three (3) years experience in a high performing, goal oriented management or business development environment. Frequent in-state and limited out of state travel.

This position is full-time and salary is commensurate with experience and skills. REI offers an excellent benefits program including paid holidays, vacation and sick leave, health insurance and 403(b) retirement program. Send resume to Business Development Director, REI, P.O. Box 1335, Durant, OK 74702 by September 12, 2012. REI is an equal opportunity employer.

#### Network Administrator - \$60.8K

The Network Administrator consults with division directors and other managers on complex system or program needs to identify parameters, feasibility and works with other systems analysts programmers, technicians, and top-level managers in the design, testing and evaluation of HIT systems. etc. Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Information Technology and 1y work experience in network/system administration, system analysis or defining technical specifications in a LAN/WAN environment or 5y experience. Preference for: advanced education in Information Technology, experience with Electronic Health Records Software, Health Information Technology, Health Information Exchange, Medicaid Systems, Healthcare IT, encrypted data communications, Information Security within Healthcare, and/or supervisory experience.

Reasonable accommodation may be made for individuals with disabilities. To apply visit www.okhca.org/jobs and submit application & questionnaire by the deadline: September 27th

**OK Health Care Authority Attn: Human Resources** 2401 N.W. 23rd St., Suite 1-A Oklahoma City, OK 73107 personnel@okhca.org

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT **COORDINATION SPECIALIST**

The U.S. Attorney's Office is seeking to fill its Law Enforcement Coordination Specialist position. Beginning salary is \$57,408.00 to \$89,450.00 per year depending on qualifications. See vacancy announcement 12-WDOK-752640-DE at www.usajobs.gov. Applications must be submitted online. See "How to Apply" section of announcement for specific information. Questions may be directed to Lisa Engelke, Human Resources Specialist, (405) 553-8777. Closing date is October

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

## THE AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

Is currently seeking to fill the following position:

#### **DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

Full job description and application details visit our website at: www.collegefund.org <About Us> or email letter of interest w/salary requirements, writing sample and resume to: applications@collegefund.org

## --- Native American Owned Business? ---

Let the Native American Community know!

The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Northern Oklahoma. Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838

## 4 NAJA members awarded NCAIED's '40 Native Americans under 40'

Christina Good Voice is a contributing writer to the Native Times. Congrats Christina!

TULSA, Okla. - The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) selected the recipients of the national 'Native American 40 Under 40' recognition awards. This award recognizes 40 emerging American Indian leaders between the ages of 18 to 39 who have demonstrated leadership, initiative and dedication to Indian Country.

The Native American Journalists Association has four members honored in this year's class including Media Communications Faculty Member at Haskell Indian Nations University and NAJA President Rhonda LeValdo-Gayton, Mvskoke Media Manager Christina Good Voice, Myskoke Media Multimedia Supervisor Jason Salsman and Editor of the Osage News Shannon Shaw-Duty.

The 'Native American 40 Under 40' Awards will be presented at the 37th Annual Indian Progress in Business Awards Gala (INPRO), Nov. 14-15 at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Tulsa, Okla.

The Native American 40 Under 40 award winners

Courtney Beihn, Arrowhead Realty, LLC., Arrowhead Construction, Inc., Toh-nobe LLC. Toyahni Beihn, Arrowhead Realty, LLC., Arrowhead Construction, Inc., Toh-nobe LLC. Jay Calhoun, Cherokee Nation Businesses Kitcki Carroll, United South & Eastern Tribes, Inc. Leonika Charging, Fredericks Peebles & Morgan,

Stacey Ecoffey, Principal Advisor for Tribal Affairs, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Kristin Gentry, American Cancer Society, University of New Mexico

Justin Giles, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Museum & Cultural Center

Christina Good Voice, Communications Manager, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Brian Gunn, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP.

Morgan Hunt Warriax, The University of North Carolina - Pembroke

Jessica Imotichey, Senior Policy Analyst,

Chickasaw Nation

Teresa Jackson, Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services

Dennis Johnson, Ho-Chunk, Inc.

Michael Kasper, Mno-Bmadsen

Dawn Kimberlin, NANA Management Services Travis Komahcheet, Intertribal Visions Unlimited,

Stanford Lake, Hogan Structure Group, LLC. Rhonda LeValdo, Haskell Indian Nations University

Andrea Mann, Oklahoma City Public Schools Mark Masters, Chloeta Fire, LLC.

Vernon Miller, Omaha Nation Public Schools Autumn Monteau, New Mexico Indian Affairs Department

Paxton Myers, National Indian Gaming Commission

Rebecca Naragon, U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Indian Energy & Economic Development

Jenifer Pechonick, Consultant

Robert Quaempts, Wenaha Group, Inc.

Josie Raphaelito, Center for Native American

Jason Salsman, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gewas Schindler, Iroquois Nationals Lacrosse Team

Shannon Shaw-Duty, Osage Nation John Shotton, Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians Samuel R. Strong, Red Lake Ojibewe Nation Jamerson R. Tafoya, Santo Domingo Tribe Blake Trueblood, Trueblood Law Group, P.A. Jancita Warrington, Prairie Band Potawatomie Nation

Robert Weaver, RWI Benefits

Karrie Wichtman, Rosette, LLP.

Geneva Wiki, Wild Rivers Community

Kyle Williams, Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

## Keetoowah Cherokee 62nd, Celebration Annual

October 5 - 6, 2012 Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 5

8:30 am-5 pm Arts and Crafts, Food Venders Set up - Grounds

5-7 pm Pow Wow registration - Grounds Spm Dinner for Gospel Singing

· Wellness Center Softball Tournament 6 pm - Sequoyah H.S. Fields

6:30 pm Gospel Singing Wellness Center Pow Wow Grand Entry 7 pm

Saturday, October 6 SK Run - begin at 7 am NSU/Downtown

7 am Kid's Fishing Derby - Pond Dignitaries Breakfast

8 am - Ğo Ye Village 9 am Softball Tournament - Sequoyah H.S. Fields

Parade 10 am - Downtown Tahleguah Arts and Crafts, Food ll am-10 pm Venders

11:45 am Posting of Colors (Honor Guard) - Pavilion State of the Nation Address (Chief) Introduction of Tradition Keepers Introduction of Miss

and Jr. Miss Entertainment Noon Noon-3 pm Pow Wow Registration - Grounds

Noon-5 pm Make & Take Crafts - Shed at Grounds Basic Art Lesson - Museum Vintage Photo Identification

- Museum Volleyball Tournament 12:1S pm 12:15 pm Children's Activities **Cultural Demonstrations** I- 3 pm - Shed at Grounds

l pm

Marbles Traditional Indian Meal - Pavilion

One Fire + One Family + Rising Together 62nd Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration October 5-6, 2012 1:30 pm Cornstalk Shoot Children's Turtle 2 pm Races Horseshoe Tournament Blowgun competition 2-3 pm

Gourd Dance 3 pm Grand Entry 3 pm-l0pm Pow Wow Free Bingo - Pavilion 3:30 pm 4 pm Stickball Spm Cash Giveaway - Pavilion ll pm

Stomp Dance

Other Activities: Miss Keetoowah Date: Sept 13 Location: Tahlequah Municipal Armory

Golf Tournament Date: Sept 28/29

Location: Cherry Spring's Golf Course For more information: 918-458-6708

or 918-431-1818

All events are at the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration Grounds unless otherwise specified.

## Chickasaw Nation sets youth storytelling workshop

Applications are now being accepted for the Chickasaw Youth Storytelling Workshop, set for Nov. 19-21 and 26-30. Designed to provide an environment where students can learn how to

express themselves through the oral tradition of storytelling, the workshop is open to Chickasaw students ages 10-13. The sessions will take place in the black box theatre at the Chickasaw Nation

Division of Arts and Humanities building, 201 N. Broadway, Ada. For more information, contact Lorie Robins at Lorie.Robins@ Chickasaw.net or (580) 272-5520.

## **EVENTS** •

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, Oklahoma City 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian **Health Center to enroll all Native** American and non-Indian Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Veterans will be able to get questions answered about their benefits without traveling to Tulsa, Muskogee or Oklahoma City. The Pawnee Service Unit is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve,

1201 Heritage Circle, in Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058, for more information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street,

#### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH SEPT 28** The Potter & The Painter: Works by Lisa Rutherford and Jim Van Deman at Red Earth Museum & **Gallery, Oklahoma City** 

**SEPT. 26 - NOVEMBER** Kiowa Language Class, Fall semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

**SEPTEMBER 27-AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

#### SEPTEMBER 28

Elephant Revival in Tahlequah, Okla., at 10 p.m. during the Tahlequah Art of Living Music & Arts Festival, Norris Park. For more information visit online at: www. elephantrevival.com

#### **SEPTEMBER 28**

Fin & Feather Fall Festival, HWY 10-A, seven miles north of Gore, Okla. Free admission, sensational food and "fintastic" food. 918-487-5148 or www.finandfeatherresort.com

**SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 6 Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting** and Festival. Numerous events are planned for the week-long celebration of Chickasaw heritage, culture and tradition. Schedule and event info call (580) 371-2040 or 1 (800) 593-3356.

#### **SEPTEMBER 29**

2012 Homestead Event at In A Good Way Farm, 13359 SE 1101 **Avenue (Coon Hunter Rd) Corner Coon Hunter Rd and Pear** 

Grove Rd, Talihina, OK. GPS 34.721051,-95.145829 Free presentations from 8am-4pm For further information call 918-567-3313 or email teddi@ inagoodway.org

**OCTOBER 5-6 Annual Keetoowah Cherokee** Celebration, Tahlequah, Okla. Call (918) 431-1818 for more information

**OCTOBER 5-6 Fort Sill Indian School Annual** Reunion, 7:00 pm -12:00 Friday & 2:00 pm - 12:00 Saturday at FSIS Gym, Lawton, OK. Contact: Darlene

#### **OCTOBER 6**

Defoe 828.736.0851

Benefit Gourd Dance 2:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Supper @ 5:30 PM at Goodrich Memorial UMC, 200 W. Hayes St., Norman, Okla. Info call Linda Forrester (405) 833-1559 or Mary Lou Drywater (405) 361-2393. All proceeds will be given to the **Womens Resource Center to help** the DV Shelter/Rape Crisis Center.

#### **OCTOBER 6**

**Kiowa Indian Council Meeting,** 10am at Red Buffalo Hall, Kiowa Tribal Complex, Carnegie, Okla.

#### **OCTOBER 20**

**Pryor Powwow at MidAmerica** Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional - 16 yrs and up; **Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs** and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand

Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

#### **OCTOBER 24-27**

**Pawnee Nation College Presents The First Annual Native Arts** + Media Festival Pawnee. Okla. For details: www. pawneenationcollege.org. Contact: 918-762-3363

**OCTOBER 26-27 Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806** W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-

#### **NOVEMBER 1**

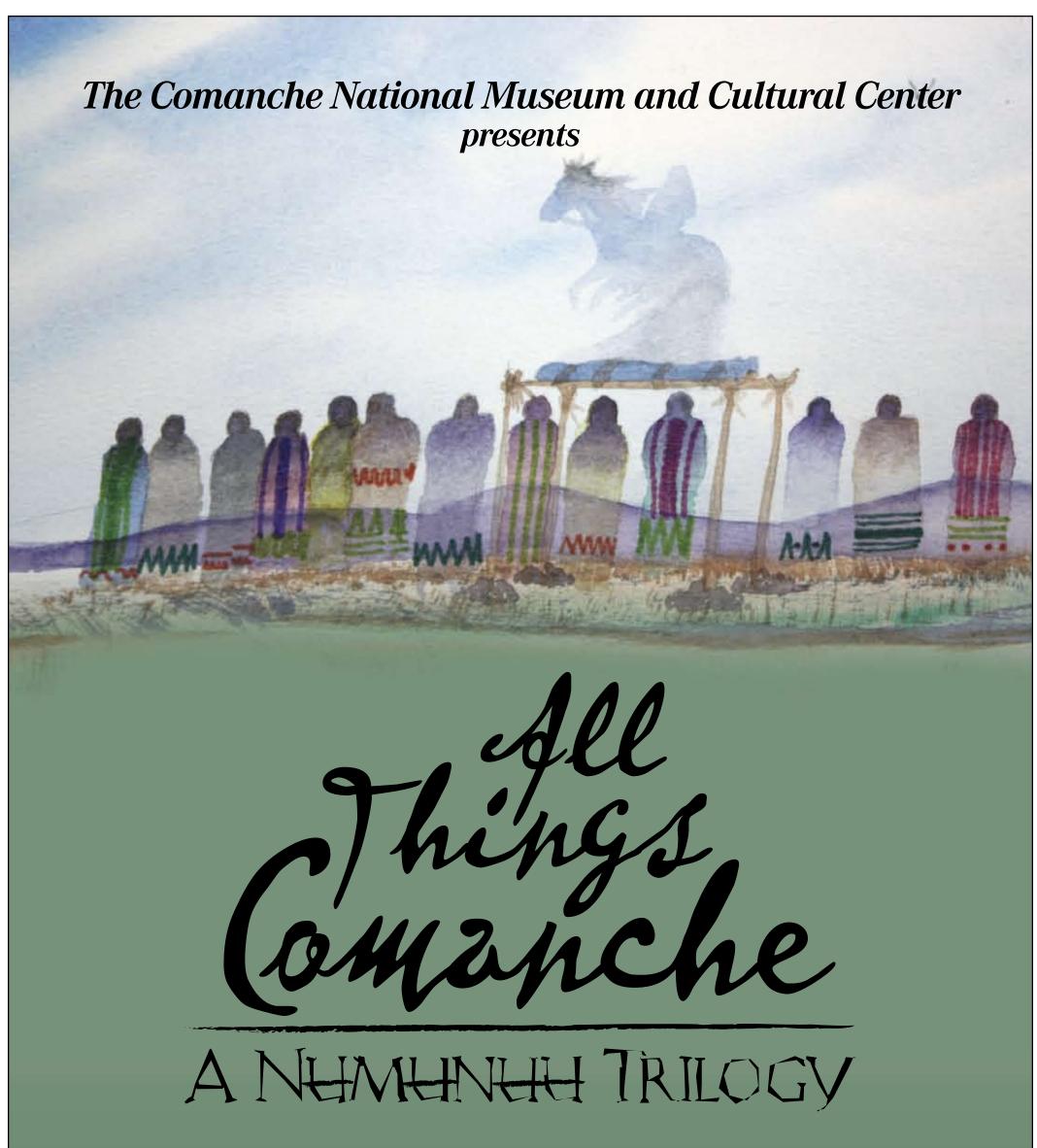
9385.

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd.david@jobcorps.org

Bacone College Fall Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu



A three-part exhibition celebrating the vibrant history and culture of the great Comanche Nation

## Exhibit Dates: September 27, 2012 - August 31, 2013

Special hours during the 2012 Comanche Nation Fair Saturday, September 29th, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sunday, September 30th, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.



Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

701 NW Ferris Avenue • Lawton, OK 73507 580-353-0404 • comanchemuseum.com



Free Admission • Group Tours Welcome!

TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 39

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**OCTOBER 5, 2012** 

## President nominates Osage citizen next Special Trustee

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama nominated Vincent Logan late last Friday to be the next Special Trustee for American Indians.

A citizen of the Osage Nation, Logan is the owner of The Nations Group, LLC, which works with tribes on asset management, investment strategies and financial education. His professional background also includes stints with Merrill Lynch and the Department of Justice's anti-trust division.

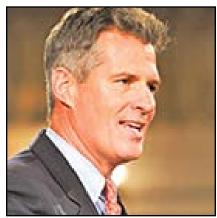
"Vincent Logan has been a part of the fabric of Indian Country for many years as an investment professional, mentor for Native American attorneys and founding member of the Native American Bar Association of Washington, DC," Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar said in a statement. "His asset management expertise, legal experience and extensive network of professional relationships in Indian Country will well serve the Office of Special Trustee as we work to build a stronger and more responsive trust asset management system for the nation's First Americans."



Vincent Logan

The position, which has been vacant since January 2009, works to improve the accountability and management of the \$3.7 billion held in trust by the federal government for tribes and Individual Indian Money accounts. The position requires confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

A graduate of Oklahoma State University and the University of Oklahoma College of Law, Logan was appointed to the board of governors for the Oklahoma State University Foundation in 2010. He currently lives in Norman, Okla.



Sen. Scott Brown



Elizabeth Warrer

## 'Tomahawk chop' pops up in Mass. politics

JAY LINDSAY Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) – The manager of the Atlanta Braves sees it as a harmless way to fire up his team. A spokesman for the Navajo Nation's president says it's a display of such profound ignorance, it's hard to be offended.

But for rivals in a tight U.S. Senate race in Massachusetts, the "tomahawk chop" is the latest flashpoint in a campaign weighted with questions about which candidate is more credible.

This week, the Democrat-leaning Blue Mass Group posted video online showing staffers from Republican U.S. Sen. Scott Brown's campaign performing the chop, along with war whoops and chants, while standing among supporters of challenger Elizabeth Warren.

Warren has made unverified claims of

See **POLITICS** Continued on Page 4

# Judge hears arguments in Wyoming bald eagle case

BEN NEARY
Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) – A federal judge heard arguments Sept. 28 in a dispute between two tribes that share a reservation in Wyoming: One says their religious beliefs demand that they kill eagles for their annual Sun Dance while the tribe says their religious beliefs demand the birds be protected.

"You're trying to reconcile something which can't be reconciled, aren't you?" said Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne. He said he will issue a ruling later.

The Northern Arapaho Tribe sued the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service last year over its failure to issue a permit allowing it to kill eagles. The Eastern Shoshone Tribe intervened in the lawsuit saying it has an undivided interest in all the eagles on the Wind River Indian Reservation and wants them alive.

The federal agency this spring issued the Northern Arapaho Tribe the nation's first permit allowing bald eagles to be killed for religious purposes.

However, while the federal permit specified the Northern Arapaho could kill up to two eagles a year, it said they must



The Northern Arapaho Tribe sued the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for a permit to kill bald eagles for religious purposes. The Eastern Shoshone Tribe wants eagles kept alive.

be killed off the reservation. The state of Wyoming, meanwhile, prohibits anyone from killing eagles off the reservation.

Andy Baldwin, lawyer for the Northern Arapaho, said tribal members' religious beliefs require them to kill eagles for the Sun Dance. He said they need "clean eagles," and that it's unacceptable to use eagle carcasses or body parts available from a federal repository, which collects birds killed by power lines or other

Kimberly Varilek, attorney general for the Eastern Shoshone

See **EAGLE** Continued on Page 3

## Untaxed cigarettes behind federal raid on Seneca Nation warehouse

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBANY, NY – Federal agents conducted a raid related to cigarettes on a warehouse on a Seneca Nation reservation in western New York last Wednesday, a witness said.

John Kane, a radio broadcaster on the Cattaraugus reservation, said agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives went through Wolf's Run Trading's building and took owner Will Parry, a tobacco wholesaler, into custody. He said they initially handcuffed several employees but later released them.

The raid, near the center of the

reservation, 50 miles south of Buffalo, started late Wednesday morning and was about cigarettes, Kane said.

Parry was in custody Wednesday evening and couldn't be reached for comment. An ATF spokesman had no immediate comment.

The U.S. attorney in Kansas City, Mo., has filed a civil forfeiture complaint for untaxed cigarettes targeting distributors there and identifying 20 people involved including Parry and the owners of three tobacco businesses on the Tonawanda Seneca reservation, 25 miles northeast of Buffalo.

The complaint said that Parry owns a smoke shop on the

reservation and that he's not a licensed wholesaler authorized to bring cigarettes into New York.

The ATF in 2009 started an investigation into the illegal sales of contraband cigarettes in the Kansas City area, using undercover agents to sell cigarettes that they tracked, according to the complaint. The ATF noted most states, including New York, require a stamp on cigarettes bought by retailers for resale to the public.

Tribes have challenged in court New York's cigarette taxes as an interference with their sovereign rights.

## Linguists' quest to preserve languages in danger

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) – A Utah linguist says dozens of native languages across the Americas could disappear within a few generations with the downsizing of a prominent university program.

The University of Utah recently announced it was closing the Center for American Indian Languages because of shrinking resources and the departure of its founder, Lyle Campbell. The College of Humanities instead will concentrate language-preservation efforts on Utah's tribal tongues.

The narrower mission undermines the university's academic credibility, said Jeff Pynes, a doctoral candidate who was doing research at the native-language

center. The class of 2006 Berkeley graduate was drawn to the University of Utah by its reputation for language preservation.

As part of his work, Pynes has made dozens of extended visits with the Tolupan and other indigenous people of Central America, recording their speech and stories in an effort to document their words, syntax and grammar.

Ives Goddard, a senior linguist with the Smithsonian Institution who served on the Utah center's advisory board, said the academic discipline is "not just about rescuing some cute little language."

Rather, "It's learning about human intellectual capacity in general," he told The Salt Lake Tribune. "The goal is to

See **QUEST** Continued on Page 6



PAUL FRAUGHTON | SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

Jeff Pynes, a doctoral candidate doing research with the University of Utah's Center for American Indian Languages, stands in front of the center's

## Agencies boosting access to farm programs in Indian Country

USDA News Release

WASHINGTON - Officials from the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) have signed two memorandums of understanding (MOU) designed to foster improved access to USDA and BIA programs by tribes and tribal members. The memorandums apply to programs administered by the Farm Service Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rural Development at USDA, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior (DOI). The MOUs will further improve the important government-to-government relationships and also the services offered between USDA, BIA and the tribal governments and the communities they serve.

"This agreement between USDA and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will help us increase efficiency, reduce redundancy and improve communications and services between our agencies and the tribes," said Under Secretary for Rural Development Dallas Tonsager. "These improvements will help to spur economic development, strengthen the communities and improve the lives of the people of Indian country."

"We look forward to working closely with USDA to serve Country. American Indian farmers are a vital part of

Tribal economies and the nation's agricultural industry. Agriculture is the backbone of the nation," BIA Director Mike Black said. "With these MOUs in place, we will be able to work with USDA and its programs as partners in helping American Indian farmers maintain their farms, strengthen the local tribal economies, and bring their produce to market for the benefit of all Americans, and the world."

"This partnership shows the important role tribal lands play in conservation stewardship in America," NRCS Chief Dave White said. "Landowners across the U.S., including those on tribal lands, contribute to cleaner water and air, healthier soil and better homes for wildlife. This memorandum is one effort of many in which NRCS, BIA and Indian landowners and land users can join together to nurture a better landscape."

"The Farm Service Agency is eager to implement this agreement," said FSA Administrator Juan M. Garcia. "We respect and honor the centuries of stewardship that the Indian tribes participating in our conservation and farm programs have shown for the land we all share. We are pleased to solidify our partnership with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to conserve the soil, care for our water and air, and help the tribe's maximize their agricultural production."

The MOUs set up a framework consultation, training, coordination, and the provision of technical assistance which will increase the amount of Indian land enrolled under USDA conservation and farm loan programs and improve service delivery on those lands. Farming and animal management, grazing, ranching and related food and agricultural operations will be supported through improved interdepartmental coordination. The MOUs, which are in place for five years, also support establishment of Native rural businesses, renewable energy development, and job creation. Additionally, the BIA will work with Rural Development to increase homeownership, home repair, and rehabilitation opportunities, and improve energy efficiency of homes on Indian lands through improved coordination of program delivery. Finally, the MOUs will complement the USDA's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) work with BIA to implement and administer the Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA) provision of the 2008 Farm Bill to increase affordability and availability of

Indian lands. The MOUs also help further the objectives of the Keepseagle settlement agreement, which resolved a lawsuit regarding past discrimination by USDA against

RUS-supported infrastructure on

Native American farmers and ranchers concerning its farm loan

Since taking office, President Obama's Administration has taken historic steps to improve the lives of rural Americans, put people back to work and build thriving economies in rural communities. From proposing the American Jobs Act to establishing the firstever White House Rural Council the President is committed to a smarter use of existing Federal resources to foster sustainable economic prosperity and ensure the government is a strong partner businesses, entrepreneurs and working families in rural communities. The Rural Council is working to break down silos of information and to find areas for better collaboration and improved in administering flexibility government programs and to work closer with local tribal and nontribal governments, non-profits and private companies to leverage federal support to enhance the services offered to rural beneficiaries. The MOUs are also an important step in implementing the administration's Administrative Flexibility Initiative in Indian Country, that has as its goal to provide greater efficiency and more effective program delivery to Indian Country across the federal government.

## **Judge grants stay** in Okla. water suit

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY - A federal judge has granted another stay in a water rights suit involving two Oklahoma tribes.

Sept. 26, US District Judge Lee West allowed a joint motion from the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations for a third 60-day stay in a lawsuit filed last year against the Oklahoma Water Rights Board and the Oklahoma City Water Utility Trust.

Last week's decision prevents any action from being taken on the suit until

Citing the 1830 Treaty of Dancing Rabbit Creek, the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations are seeking a permanent injunction preventing a proposed water transfer from Sardis Lake to Oklahoma City unless the transaction is either negotiated with the tribes or courtordered. The injunction would also be extended to proposed transfers to Texas and any future transfers outside of the tribe's jurisdiction. Sardis Lake is a federal reservoir in Pushmataha and Latimer counties in southeastern Oklahoma. It is within the Choctaw Nation's jurisdiction.

In addition to Sardis Lake, the Kiamichi Basin, Clear Boggy Basin and Atoka Lake are also specifically listed in the lawsuit. Oklahoma City has been receiving water from those locations for several years without the tribes' approval.

Oklahoma City receives about half of its water supply from lakes and reservoirs within the Chickasaw and Choctaw Nations.

PlanB One-Step

### Sanford, USD unite to study **Native American** health issues

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - Sanford Research and the University of South Dakota are embarking on a \$13.5 million, five-year study examining Native American health issues.

The first \$1.5 million in funding comes from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to create a collaborative research center headquartered in Sioux Falls.

In each of the remaining years, \$3 million is expected to be allocated for research.

U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson of South Dakota calls the planned research a "major development" for Indian Country. He says the area's reservations face unique health challenges and that such investments will improve Native Americans' lives.

## Plan B still not easily available through IHS

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY - Despite

pressure from above and below, proponents for universal overthe-counter access to Plan B, an emergency contraceptive, at Indian Health Services' facilities are not yet seeing any substantive changes.

A September survey of 63 IHS pharmacies in the Oklahoma City, Albuquerque, Aberdeen, S.D., and Bemidiji, Minn., service areas by the Native American Women's Health Education Resource Center showed that almost half carried Plan B, but did not have it available over-thecounter, despite the Food and Drug Administration eliminating the prescription requirement in 2006 for women younger than 18.

Among the pharmacies surveyed, only four had a version of the emergency contraception available as a true over the counter medication, not requiring a doctor's appointment or prescription. Forty-three percent did not carry any form of emergency

that one out of every three Native American women will be raped in her lifetime.

Earlier this year, the center published a report on the availability of Plan B at IHS facilities that gained international attention and launched an online petition through change. org that has received more than 110,000 signatures.

"I've heard women ask for information about emergency contraceptives so they can talk to their daughters about what to do when they are sexually assaulted, not if they are sexually assaulted," said Charon Asetoyer, founder and executive director of the NAWHRC wrote.

Citing the rates of sexual assault, teen pregnancy and health insurance coverage in Indian Country, the National Congress of American Indians passed a resolution at its mid-year conference in June, calling on IHS to provide over-the-counter access to Plan B for women who are 17 years old or older at all of its service units.

NCAI) about the resolution," Cherokee Nation citizen Pamela Kingfisher said. "I'm not sure if that would have been the case five years ago. All the male leaders who stood up in support were just appalled at the statistics and repeated the need for action."

The National Organization for Women also passed a similar resolution of support earlier this

Kingfisher said her group is working with IHS officials to make Plan B available, but the progress has

"We keep hearing 'It's coming, it's coming, it's rolled out,' and then we talk to pharmacists," Kingfisher said. "Communication between the service units and headquarters is simply broken."

In an effort to maintain pressure at the grassroots, the center hosted a roundtable discussion Sept. 26 in Oklahoma City with women from the Native communities. In addition forward progress, the group plotted out the September survey results on an Oklahoma map, with different clinic service areas shaded different colors, depending on the Plan B access available. One of the four survey respondents that provided over-the-counter access - the clinic in Pawhuska, Okla. - is in the Oklahoma City service area.

"IHS is our primary health care provider and they need to step up and take care of women," Kingfisher said. "The statistics are simply appalling."

Similar discussions will be held in South Dakota and New Mexico





JAMES WOODCOCK | THE BILLINGS GAZETTE

Micah Roundstone smells a sage bundle while Linwood Tall Bull, a retired Northern Cheyenne ethnobotanist, teaches students about medicinal purposes of plants at Washington Elementary last week.

## Children learn about plants' ties to tribe

**ZACH BENOIT** *The Billings Gazette* 

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) – Linwood Tall Bull looked across Washington Elementary's courtyard on a recent Monday afternoon at the several dozen children seated in front of him and told them that, from the right perspective, they're a lot like the plants around them.

"Every plant has a story," he said. "Every plant is unique. There are no two plants that are alike, just like you."

A retired Northern Cheyenne ethnobotanist, Tall Bull studies the connections between people and plants, specifically in relation to his tribe. He spoke to students about those connections with the Northern Cheyenne, including how they've been used for medical, spiritual.

religious and nutritional purposes over thousands of years.

As classes came in and out of the open-air courtyard for the day, Tall Bull told them about how American Indians used plants in everyday life – specific plants were used as remedies for everything from cuts to coughs; how they've been used as spiritual protection; and how people

"Hold your hand up against a tree and if you hold it there long enough, it'll start to tingle," he said. "That's the tree taking your pain away."

have a deep connection with

He asked the kids if they've ever been mad at their parents and ran into the backyard, climbed a tree, and said you're never coming down until dinner?

nner:
"You always run to the tree

Did you ever notice when you climb back down, you're never angry? Contact with trees takes the pain and hurt away," he said.

The kids, for the most part, sat enthralled by Tall Bull's presentation, which included plenty of real samples of items such as dried roots, sage and patties made of dried and crushed berries.

Myrcle Ortiz, 7, said she'll remember most how water ties everything together.

"He gave the plants water, just like we need water to grow," she said.

But she also took home a chance encounter with a family member she'd never met. After hearing Tall Bull's last name, she asked if he knew her dad, who has the same last name, and it turned out the two are first cousins.

vo are first cousins. "I learned that he's been in my family, and I didn't know that," she said. "I'm going to tell my dad that I met his cousin!"

Draven Scray, 8, said he liked learning about how the Northern Cheyenne would use local plants for remedies and cures.

"I don't know a lot of stuff like that," he said. "Like how they can make tea with the berries for when you're sick. It was all pretty new to me."

Principal Karen Ziegler said the presentation was part of an overall effort to educate kids on American Indian cultures and traditions. It's especially helpful since many of her students at Washington have native ancestry, but might not know much about it.

"The kids have been just fascinated," she said. "A lot of them just aren't exposed to the culture as much, so it's good.

And I think there's a nature deficit in kids, just not being outside enough."

During a short break between speaking with classes, Tall Bull talked about ethnobotany and its ability to share and shed light on the stories of different people, passed down over thousands of years.

Teaching the kids about his tribe's use of local plants, and its beliefs in how they work, is a way to pass on lessons to youngsters that have been handed down for generations.

"I want them to start seeing beauty," Tall Bull said. "I want them to use their five senses and discover what's around them. I'm trying to teach them to respect plants and each other and take some pride."

## NATIVE American Times

Pullisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM
- News from the crossroads of Indian Country





## **EAGLE**

Continued from Page 1

Tribe and a member of the tribe, countered that her tribe has an interest in every eagle and every other animal on the reservation. "The Shoshone Tribe has a relationship where we honor and protect the eagle," she said. "We don't kill it."

Varilek said her tribe has made unsuccessful overtures to the Northern Arapaho to discuss the issue. "They've been shunned," she said.

Baldwin also said it's not acceptable for the federal agency to pass responsibility to the state government by leaving it up to the Northern Arapaho to seek permission from the State of Wyoming to take a bird off the reservation.

"Fish and Wildlife has essentially endorsed the religious objections of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe as more weighty than the free exercise (of religion) rights of the plaintiffs," Baldwin said.

Johnson noted that the law prohibiting taking eagles has been on the books for years. He asked Baldwin what the Northern Arapaho Tribe has done in the past to get eagles.

"I think outside of any authority, eagles have been taken on occasion," Baldwin

The federal government in recent years prosecuted Winslow Friday, a young Northern Arapaho man, who killed an eagle on the reservation without a permit. Friday ultimately was sentenced to pay a

fine in tribal court.

Coby Howell, lawyer for the federal government, emphasized that the Northern Arapaho Tribe did receive an eagle permit, even though it restricts where the birds could be killed.

Howell said the Fish and Wildlife Service had to address a unique circumstance in crafting the nation's first permit to kill bald eagles for religious purposes while accommodating Eastern

Shoshone opposition to killing the birds.

Howell said the federal agency would be willing to amend the permit to include allowing the Northern Arapaho to take eagles in other states and would work with the tribe if it wanted to ask the state of Wyoming for a state permit valid off the reservation.

Sell

Trade Autos

WewokaStPawn.com



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND

918-257-8869 www.okstatebank.com

Equal Housing Lender
Native American Owned

TERO Certified

American Indian Owned & Operated

Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



"Changing the culture of waste." TA

TIMES
recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles.We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK "Where every day is Indian Day"

## Native American mascots challenged in Washington

DONNA GORDON BLANKINSHIP Associated Press

SEATTLE (AP) – The state Board of Education is making another attempt at encouraging Washington schools to replace their Native American mascots.

In the past decade, about 10 schools have given up their Indian mascots. But another 50, including tribal schools, are holding fast to their nicknames as warriors, braves, redskins and red devils.

The state board passed a resolution last Wednesday urging districts to stop using Native American mascots, but as board spokesman Aaron Wyatt acknowledges, it does not have the authority to mandate this change.

There are no consequences for schools that do not voluntarily choose a new mascot, Wyatt said Friday.

Oregon's state Board of Education voted in May to ban Native American mascots, nicknames and logos. Schools in that state have five years to comply. Eight Oregon high schools are affected.

Washington's resolution, which is similar to resolution passed by the board in 1993, was inspired by research by the American Psychological Association citing the adverse effects of Native American mascots on students.

The resolution also mentions the widening achievement gap between Native American and other students and the call by a number of national organizations and tribes for this change.

"We are in the business of educating students," Board member Bernal Baca said in a statement. "We need to remove any barrier that will impede student success."

Marcus Morgan, superintendent of the Reardan-Edwall School District near Spokane, said the issued hadn't been raised during his tenure with the school district but was open to the idea of discussing All of Reardan's sports teams are the Indians and about a quarter of the district population are Native American or Alaskan Native students.

"I think it's maybe time to ask the questions," Morgan said Friday.

He said he would probably make some calls to tribal leaders as well as the school board and other community leaders to see if this is an issue the community wants to tackle.

Reardan schools have a long tradition of Native American students, as well as having enthusiastic sports fans, Morgan said. He doesn't think the Indian mascot has been seen as derogatory, but he added that the issue deserved more research.

Other Washington communities have had acrimonious battles over retiring a Native American mascot, including some districts close to Reardan. The Colville Indians asked the Colville High School Indians to find a new name in 1997, but they're still the Indians today.

Ten schools have changed their names in the past decade, including Eatonville Middle School, which went from the Warriors to the Eagles; Eisenhower Middle School in Everett, which went from the Warriors to the Patriots and Issaquah High School, which changed from the Indians to the Eagles.

About 10 tribal schools or those on Washington reservations also have Native American mascots, but the majority of schools in the state with Indian mascots are part of their community's long-standing history.

Contact Donna Blankinship through Twitter at https://twitter. com/dgblankinship

State Board of Education
Resolution: http://www.sbe.
wa.gov/documents/2012.09.26%20
Native%20American%20
Mascots%20Resolution.pdf

# NCAA agreement allows some UND Sioux logos to stay

A state law requiring the school to keep the moniker was repealed eight months after it took effect in 2011, after the NCAA refused to budge on sanctions.

DAVE KOLPACK
Associated Press

FARGO, N.D. (AP) – Thousands of logos depicting an American Indian warrior will remain inside the University of North Dakota's hockey and basketball arenas under a reworked agreement announced Wednesday by the NCAA and the state's attorney general.

The agreement comes in a decades-old controversy that has included lawsuits, legislation, NCAA threats and a statewide vote about whether the school's Fighting Sioux nickname and Indian-head logo were insensitive to local tribes.

The state Board of Higher Education had ordered the school this summer to drop the nickname and moniker to abide by a 2007 agreement with the NCAA. But that plan called for all Sioux logos to be removed from the two arenas, which have thousands of the logos – including on brass medallions on chairs and a 10-foot sketch in the hockey arena's granite floor.

The new plan allows that imagery to stay, though six signs that say "Home of the Fighting Sioux" must be removed so the school will be in NCAA compliance and able to host post-season sporting events at its Grand Forks campus, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem said. The logo also won't be replaced when it wears out in carpeting.

"I am very pleased that the NCAA was willing to show flexibility in its policy," Stenehjem said, adding that the overwhelming statewide vote against retaining the nickname and the expense of removing the logos were key factors in the negotiations.

University President Robert Kelley also praised the agreement, calling it "a good resolution."

agreement

The

the applies to hockey arena, the Ralph Engelstad Arena, and the attached Betty **Engelstad Sioux** Center, where basketball, volleyball soccer are played. It also allows the school to create a commemorative wall within the athletic complex depicting the history of the Sioux Nation and its contributions to the state.

"The agreement by Ralph Engelstad Arena to reduce the nickname and Native American mascot imagery, and to place the imagery in an historic context, is consistent with the NCAA policy for the University of North Dakota to host NCAA championship events at that site," the NCAA said in a statement.

Arena manager Jody Hodgson said he needed to discuss the new plan with his board of directors, saying they were encouraged but "we're still kind of soaking it in and considering what the implications are."

The hockey arena is named after alumnus and former goaltender Ralph Engelstad, a property developer and casino owner who donated \$100 million to finance the 400,000-square-foot arena. Before his death in 2002, he'd told state higher education board he would withdraw his support if the nickname were changed. The arena opened in October 2001, and the Betty Engelstad Sioux Center, named for his wife, opened in 2004.

The debate over the Fighting Sioux nickname heated up in 2005, when the NCAA listed 19 schools with American Indian nicknames, logos and mascots it deemed to be

The debate over the Fighting Sioux nickname heated up in 2005, when the NCAA listed 19 schools with American Indian nicknames, logos and mascots it deemed to be "hostile and abusive."

"hostile and abusive."

The NCAA allowed some schools to keep such nicknames provided they received tribal support. But in the University of North Dakota's case, the Spirit Lake Sioux tribe endorsed using the nickname and logo, but The Standing Rock Sioux's tribal council didn't. The university sued the NCAA, which eventually led to the settlement agreement.

A state law requiring the school to keep the moniker was repealed eight months after it took effect in 2011, after the NCAA refused to budge on sanctions. Then ardent nickname supporters gathered enough signatures to put the issue on the June 2012 ballot, but two-thirds of voters said the nickname should go.

The Legislature has determined that a new nickname cannot be chosen for three years.

"We are pleased to bring this matter to closure," said Ham Shirvani, who recently took over as chancellor of the North Dakota university system.

The chairman of the Standing Rock tribal council didn't return an after-hours phone message seeking comment Wednesday.

## POI ITICS

Continued from Page 1

American Indian ancestry, and Brown has used that to question her trustworthiness and whether the Harvard professor used her claim for gain in the hyper-diversity-conscious academic world.

But after the video surfaced, Brown was on the defensive, and the chop was in the spotlight.

Warren said she was appalled, and the principal chief of Cherokee Nation called it "offensive and downright racist." Others had more tempered reactions. Erny Zah, spokesman for the president's office of the Navajo Nation, said, "The ignorance is just so blatantly obvious, it's not really worth getting upset about."

Even so, he added, it's a clear mockery of Indian culture.

"Whether they're trying to make fun of a political candidate ... or they're rooting for their sports team, it's based in ignorance," Zah said.

The tomahawk chop is a rhythmic up-and-down motion made in time

with a "war chant." Florida State University takes credit for inventing the cheer, though it doesn't call it the tomahawk chop, which is a term associated with the Braves.

Back in the mid-1980s, the Seminole football boosters asked a student spirit group, then called the Scalphunters, to create a cheer to compete with the University of Florida's two-armed "Gator chomp," said Florida State alum Tom Desjardin.

Desjardin, a Scalphunter, said that, for lack of a better idea, they debuted the chop at a 1984 pep rally he was leading. Florida State boosters say the famous chant was added later, on a suggestion from a student from Natick High School in Massachusetts, where the chant was used to support the school's Redmen, a nickname since changed to the Red Hawks.

The chop really took off in a game at Auburn in 1985, when the Seminole band rolled out an intimidating drum beat and trumpet music to accompany it, said Desjardin, now a historian for the state of Maine.

Desjardin said the chop's

violent imagery wasn't lost on the Scalphunters, but it wasn't what drove its creation. A main consideration was the fact it was a shoulder-up motion that could be seen in a crowd, he said.

Desjardin added there's a deep respect at Florida State for the Seminole tribe, which the school consults closely on all uses of tribal imagery and which in 2005 granted the school permission to use its

"If the tribe had ever said, 'We don't like that (the chop), you would have never seen it again," Desjardin said

Instead, the chop spread to Atlanta. That city's Seminole Booster Club claims credit for starting it all when some members used it at a Braves game to catch the attention of outfielder Deion Sanders, an FSU alum who began playing for Atlanta in 1991

When the Braves made the World Series that year against Minnesota, American Indian groups protested in Minneapolis and Atlanta, saying the cheer perpetuated racist stereotypes of Native Americans as war-obsessed savages. Some called out Braves owner Ted Turner and his wife at the time, Jane Fonda, for doing the chon

But former President Jimmy Carter defended it, saying it was a way to note that the team was emulating the courage of American Indians.

The cheer outlasted the furor, and in the two decades since has popped up in other places, to little controversy.

"I find it as encouraging to the Braves or the Seminoles," said Braves manager Fredi Gonzalez, who also managed in Miami. "Even on the other side. I was never offended by that"

"It's (the fans') way of making the stadium loud and making it hard on the opposition," said Braves reserve Eric Hinske. "It gets us jacked up."

The Brown-Warren dustup has some people reconsidering the chop, but reactions to it will vary radically among American Indians, said Steven Denson, a member of Chickasaw Nation. He noted there are more than 500 tribes in the United States

that speak their own language, and members are bound to view things differently.

For instance, "tomahawk" isn't a Chickasaw word, so Denson wasn't bothered when he watched Brown's people doing the chop. But their mock chants and war whoops got to him. Authentic American Indian chants are often complex and freighted with tribal history, and Brown's people didn't respect that, he said.

"When I read about it, I thought, 'Ah, politics.' When I watched it, I started to get a little angry," said Denson, director of diversity at Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business. Whether Warren has Indian blood or doesn't, he said, "you respect the culture."

"I think there's a lot of ignorance and a lot of stupidity, when it comes to Indian country," Denson said.

AP Sports Writer Charles Odum in Atlanta contributed to this report.

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

 $Native\ American\ Contractor$ 

## CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 **1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960** 



Tulsa Area Handy Man Home Repair, Home Maintenance & Remodeling



painting • drywall repair • carpentry • tile mouldings • doors • lights • fixtures • locks odd jobs • free estimates

I buy houses that just need some TLC...

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983 nathan614@hotmail.com

## COMMENTARY

## Notes from Indian Country: Mascots, Ignorance & Racism



TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Twenty years ago I was on the Oprah Winfrey Show with Michael Haney and Suzanne Harjo to talk about the use of Native Americans as mascots for America's fun and games.

It was the first time in television history that a major talk show allowed Native Americans to openly discuss why we do not appreciate our use as mascots for sports teams.

I believe that tape is still available through Harpo Productions if anyone wants to see what happened on that show. In the ensuing years no other major network has found the topic interesting enough to pursue. After all, the mascot issue affects only a very small and politically weak segment of the U.S. population and there are those dissenters even among the Indian people who defend this nefarious practice.

Twenty years is a very long time and memories fade. Michael Haney, Seminole, has since made that long journey to the Spirit World. Michael was larger than life. Everyone took notice when he entered a room and his booming laughter made everyone stop, listen and smile. He was large in stature, but even larger in his undying battle against the use of Indians as mascots. He could never grasp the concept that the American people could not see this blatant conduct as racism.

Harjo and several others challenged the legality of the logo of the Washington professional football team,

but after several years a judge ruled against them and the one case that might have hit a professional team ownership in the pocketbook, a target that would cause irreparable harm, is gone and probably gone forever.

Twenty five years ago when Native Americans like Haney, Harjo, Charlene Teters, Vernon Bellecourt, Bill Means, Floyd Westerman and I wrote about and spoke out against using Indians as mascots, we were thoroughly and soundly vilified. I was told by a caller on a radio show I did for a Los Angeles station, "What in the hell are you complaining about? We kicked your Indian butts from the east coast to the west coast so why don't you whiners go back to where ever it is you came from."

How does one argue against such redneck stupidity? And speaking of "red" what exactly is a "redskin." When I talked about the Washington professional football team that uses this name as its motto and logo, I started using the "R" word, because I find it disturbingly racist. What is a "redskin?" It is the pigmentation of the skin of an ethnic minority. Americans might use "brownskin" for example when talking about Mexicans or Pakistanis. For years they used "black" to describe people of African descent. Even the Spanish word "Negro" literally meant "black."

When the white Americans were running roughshod over Indian country they chose many colorful names for the indigenous inhabitants. They called the indigenous people redskins, red niggers, prairie niggers, savages, and worse. The name redskin was never intended to be a word to honor Native Americans. It was a word intended to insult and to put the Indian people in their place. The word made a clear distinction between the master race, the white people, and the inferior people, the redskins.

Florida State University has taken this perverse

practice to another level in this modern day. The student body and faculty there have taken the honored name of the Seminole people and cut it in half. On their sweat shirts and banners they have renamed the Seminoles, "The Noles." Should that new name be taken as an honor, as some Seminole people claim, or as an insult, which most Native Americans would claim?

It was only after Americans decided that the indigenous people were the "Vanishing Americans," that colleges and high schools began to use names like warriors, braves, Indians and redskins as mascots. Since Native Americans would soon disappear from the face of this earth, the names given to sporting teams were meant to honor a vanishing people. We fooled them and survived.

Pekin High School in Illinois used "Chinks" as their mascot, but when it was pointed out by Asian Americans that the name was racist, they dropped it.

Michael Haney, Floyd Westerman and Vernon Bellecourt, all great Native Americans, went to their graves with no victory in sight for their years of fighting the use of Indians as mascots. Charlene Teters, Suzanne Harjo and I often grow weary carrying on their fight because we have found that it is much more difficult to fight ignorance than racism. In a way, ignorance and racism are one in the same, but until white and black Americans walk one mile in our moccasins, they will never see the difference.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born, raised and educated on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. He was the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association and the founder and publisher of Indian Country Today, the Lakota Times, and the Dakota/Lakota Journal. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard in the Class of 1991. He can be reached at najournalist@msn.com

## Elder named 'Student of the Year' shares wisdom

Garry Crowe, a member of the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, is currently living at the Federal Medical Prison Camp in Butner Carolina. He was named G.E.D. Student of the year and was asked to speak at the G.E.D. graduation ceremony. This is a copy of his graduation speech.

Good Day My Relatives:

I would like to start by gratefully acknowledging Ms. Cook-Chavis for encouraging me to take one more test to complete my G.E.D. Also, I would like to thank her for selecting me as G.E.D. Student of the Year. At first, I was reluctant to accept this honor. However, after going back to my housing unit, I thought and prayed about it and realized that it was an honor for me as well as an opportunity for me to pass on to the youth of my tribe the important information that I will be talking about today. With the honor of being named the Student of the Year comes with it the responsibility of making this graduation speech.

WANTED

NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S** 

**DRIVE-THRU** 

**PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

Thank you again, Ms. Chavis, for both opportunities.

I am a member of the Great Sioux Nation, which is made up of seven tribes who live along the banks of the Missouri River in central South Dakota. I am 71-years old, and Elder of the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe. The Tribe's name was taken from my great-great grandfather, Alfred Crow. One of the greatest honors and responsibilities of a Sioux Elder in our culture is the passing-on of our wisdom to our children and encouraging our youth to be the very best they can be. As a Sioux Elder, I now know how very important it is to get a high school diploma and/or a G.E.D. diploma.

Like so many other elderly members of the Great Sioux Nation, I am an example of the generation that quit school in order to support my family. Thousands of other members of the various tribes did the same thing. It seemed like the right thing to do at the time. Back in the 1940's and 1950's an eighth grade education was sufficient, as long as you could

read and write. Later in the 1950's and 1960's it became painfully obvious that a high school diploma was required to get and hold a decent job. With this necessary increase in educational requirements, the G.E.D. program was instigated to help us all catch up on the necessary understanding to continue to support our families.

Now, with the way science and information technology has affected our lives, it is not unrealistic to grasp the idea that in the years ahead a member of my tribe will need anywhere from two to four years of post- high school (college or technical college) education just to earn what I earned without a high school education in the 1940's and 1950's. As your tribal Elder, hear the words from my lips. Do not expect to earn a decent living for your current or future family without a high school diploma and at least two years of post-high school education. There simply will be no future for you without this very valuable

As your tribal elder also hear this and please, please learn from what I am about to say to you. There is no future for you in either using and especially abusing alcohol and/or drugs in your life. I was finally able to break the cycle of alcohol abuse in my life in the early 1990's. It was not only a struggle of monumental proportion, the alcohol abuse cost me thousands of dollars and several wonderful relationships before I realized that it had to stop. Within a few years thereafter I started to use and abuse marijuana. By the mid-2000's I was selling small amounts of marijuana which resulted in a federal conviction for selling this substance. For some reason it almost seemed as though I had the right to use and sell marijuana. I didn't. This type of thinking was a terrible mistake and a personal weakness.

By 2008 I had been caught a second time selling marijuana (two (2) ounces of marijuana and a second conviction) and I was sentenced to five-years in a Federal Penal Institution. I am sorry for my

past. However, as your Elder, I must try and guide you past the failings of my life. Stay in school. Get both a high school diploma and some form of higher degree from either a college or technical college. Please, please, please, stay away from both alcohol and drugs. Both of these substances will lead you to more pain than you should have to bear.

So I say to you, as an Elder, I am getting my G.E.D. today to help set a positive example for other member of my tribe. As your Elder, a job which will continue until the last day of my life, I beg you to do better than I did. Stay in school. Stay away from alcohol and drugs. Finally, I pray that you will know that the kingdom of your God is within yourself and all around you. You have the right to be happy, healthy, and successful in your life. Make it happen for yourself.

Thank you.

Garry Crowe, Elder, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe Prison Reg. No. 11659-073

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465.

To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!
E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

## **HAY for SALE**

www.streetmanfarms.com
918-313-8309
hay@streetmanfarms.com

## CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net



## True American Indian

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:	
Address:	
City:	_ State: Zip:
Phone:	

□ \$65.00 for 52 issues□ \$16.25 for 13 issues□ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

## Some families optimistic about life at Spirit Lake

Community members say there is much more to Spirit Lake than stories of failure and portraits of despair.

**CHUCK HAGA** Grand Forks Herald

DEVILS LAKE, N.D. (AP) - Paul Matheny's sons are talkers like their father, the affable general manager of the Spirit Lake Resort and Casino.

Ask Paul Jr., 15, a question about life on the Spirit Lake Reservation and settle in for a discourse delivered with confidence and intensity. Make eye contact with Victor, 7, and it's as if you've handed the boy a microphone. He is what Regis Philbin must have been like as a child.

Paul Sr.'s daughters, Edna, 13, and Estreya, 8, are quieter. One imagines them saying, "Well, someone in this family has to be."

But they all seem happy, welladjusted and playful, with many friends on and off the reservation and an optimistic outlook on life. They are comfortable with their parents.

They are not afraid. And, Paul Sr. insists, they are not alone in that.

Lost in all the recent warnings and negative reports coming out of Spirit Lake, Matheny says, is another reality: Not every family there is dysfunctional, not every child at perilous risk.

"We are a strong family," he said, as his wife, Gricelda, and the children gathered around him in their Devils Lake home. "And there are a lot of people out there who are like us."

After a long stretch of public turmoil at Spirit Lake, the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs has decided to reassert direct authority over the tribe's social services, including foster care and child protection. The tribe ran those programs with BIA funding since 2001. The BIA will take over Monday.

"You hear about it when you go to a meeting in Minneapolis," Matheny said. "Someone says, 'You're from Spirit Lake? Is it really that bad there?'

"No, it isn't."

He doesn't dismiss all criticism of the child protection system or deny the nagging social problems: alcoholism, teen suicide, drugs, poor housing, unemployment and, fueling it all, a grinding poverty.

But there is much more to Spirit Lake, he says, than stories of failure and portraits of despair.

"I was raised out there," he said. "My father and mother were always there for me. I remember growing up and wanting to leave. I left, but I came back, and now I don't want to ever leave.

"I love the place."

Matheny, 43, is relatively prosperous, of course, as manager of the casino, which employs 423 people, more than three-quarters of whom are tribal members. A dozen or so are members of other tribes.

His start in the Indian gaming business was not so promising.

Matheny was born in San Diego, where his mother, an enrolled member of the Spirit Lake tribe, had relocated. His father is from Alabama and not Indian.

The family returned to Spirit Lake in the late 1970s. After graduating from high school, Paul Sr. "went to work in the tribal casino - before the casinos were legal."

He was working craps tables, "making more in tips one night a week" than many adults took home in a full week, when the casino was raided by authorities.

"I was handcuffed, finger-printed and told I was going to jail for the rest of my life," he said, smiling about it

It was a temporary setback. In that primitive operation, Matheny said he learned about slots and gaming tables and casino security. In 1997, he was offered a casino job in the Dominican Republic, and soon he was managing the place.

Next came consulting jobs with First Nations casinos in Canada. In 2000, Spirit Lake asked him to evaluate the gaming floor at its casino. It had opened four years earlier but wasn't making the money the tribe had anticipated. He offered suggestions, and the tribe offered him a job.

While there has always been dispute within the tribe over how to use gaming revenues, "It's been a very good thing for the tribe," Matheny said. "In my generation, it took us

from most people having nothing... to a better life for many, including newer vehicles, insurance, paying the light bill."

In the Dominican Republic, Matheny had met and married Gricelda, and in 1999 he brought her to Spirit Lake. Since 2005, they have lived in a house in Devils Lake.

"Available tribal housing is basically Devils Lake now," he said. "It's really hard to buy anything out there," because of a long-standing housing shortage and rules governing the purchase of Indian trust land.

Gricelda had worked as a blackjack dealer at the casino. She now works in housekeeping at a Devils Lake motel. Paul Jr., attends Devils Lake High School, while the younger children attend elementary and middle schools near their home.

While racism and racist behavior have not disappeared, things are changing in Devils Lake, too, Matheny

"When I was growing up, Indian and white here was like black and white in the old South," he said, and he tells of seeing a sign on a downtown store wall: "No Indians or dogs allowed."

"But in the tribe and in town, we don't see it now," he said.

This is his home, he says, surveying the solidly middle-class neighborhood from his yard, filling with children even as he speaks.

"Everyone on this block is my friend," he said.

The home is often overrun by a rainbow of neighborhood kids, especially as Halloween approaches. Each year for the past six years, Matheny has built a "Nightmare on Third Street" display that consumes much of the sprawling yard. It has become a local favorite.

Paul Jr., his son by a previous relationship, helps with the haunted house. He also spends time on the reservation, as do the younger kids.

"In the winter, our grandmother takes us out and we play with our sleds on the ice," Estreya said.

"It's a lot of fun if you have an imagination," Paul Jr. said of the reservation, a place of hills and fields, woods and lakes but few of the more typical diversions and gathering places for young people, such as movie theaters, malls and cafes. "We play in

the woods and by the water," he said. "I have quite a few friends there, and we like to go four-wheeling. I built a boat with my grandpa.

"I grew up there until I was 7 or 8 years old. It teaches you a lot of lessons - how to hunt and fish, how to fend for yourself in the wild. You can't depend on video games all the

"I think it's a safe place, too. I've never been scared. There are negatives, but there are positives and negatives everywhere. I plan to live there after college, maybe opening my own auto body shop."

His father is strict and not overwhelmingly so, he said. He sets standards and expects the children to meet them. When he spends time with his mother, who holds joint custody, he gains appreciation for her German heritage.

"He's a great kid," said Kris Wishinsky, Paul Jr.'s mother, who lives in Gardner, N.D. "He's had his hiccups, like we've all had. But he loves his dad and he loves his mom."

She and Matheny "were young" when they were together, she said, and while they had their disagreements and went their separate ways, she speaks well of him as a father. "He's a good dad, a good provider," she said. "He's there for his kids."

A former case worker herself in the tribe's beleaguered social services department, she also shares Matheny's concern that the drumbeat of negative news coming out of Spirit Lake may leave an unduly bleak image, within as well as without.

"I encountered a lot of great families who were able to overcome many obstacles," she said.

"What's been happening is heartbreaking to me. But I have a couple girls (from former client families) who are going to college now, girls who never thought that was something they could do. I would hate to see the progress that people have made - I would hate for that to seem as if it never happened."

**QUEST** 

find the universal hard-wire blueprint for language everyone is born with."

About 40 percent of the world's 7,000 languages are considered endangered. More than half of them will go extinct within a century, experts say.

Experts said there were 280 languages spoken in what became the United States when Europeans began colonizing North America in the 17th century. English, Spanish, French and Portuguese are replacing the languages spoken by many of the Americas' indigenous groups.

Only 151 remain and just 20 are being picked up by children, Campbell's team determined.

The University of Utah's effort has been credited to the late Wick Miller, who started recording Shoshone speakers decades ago and created an archive.

Arriving at the school in 2004, Campbell sought to shape the Center for American Indian Languages into a leading defender of language diversity. He launched an annual international conference, built a partnership with the Smithsonian and secured more than \$3 million in federal grants.

However, the center has largely been left to languish with few graduate students showing an interest in languages.

"I was working so hard, my health was suffering," said Campbell. At age 68, he left in 2010 for Hawaii. Two weeks later, Pynes

arrived to discover the scholar he hoped to have as a mentor was already gone.

Campbell had trouble gaining faculty support for building up the language center, Humanities Dean Robert Newman said.

"The fact that he wasn't persuasive to the majority is something that sometimes happens in faculty governance," Newan said.

## LASSIFIEDS





























# COMANCHE NATIONAL MUSEUM

The award-winning Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center in Lawton, Okla. is seeking to fill the following positions:

## **CULTURAL SPECIALIST P/T**

must have extensive knowledge of Comanche history and culture and basic knowledge of the Comanche language. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are required, as well as the ability to both work independently and in a team

#### **DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS F/T**

M.S./M.A. Degree (preferred) in Anthropology (Cultural or Archaeology), Museum Studies, Art History, Conservation or related field and 24 months of collectionsrelated experience. Requirements may be met by equivalent combination of education and related experience.

#### **MUSEUM REGISTRAR F/T**

Minimum qualifications: B.A. Degree is required, preferably in Anthropology, history or related field.

Preferred qualification: M.S./M.A. Degree (preferred) in Anthropology (Cultural or Archaeology), Museum Studies, Art History, Conservation or related field and 24 months of collections-related experience. Requirements may be met by equivalent combination of education and related experience.

Salaries to commensurate with experience

See www.comanchemuseum.com for full job descriptions and requirements.

#### **Application Procedures:**

• Applicants must submit a cover letter and curriculum vitae or resume with three (3) references • Copy of Valid Driver's License • Copy of CDIB (if applicable) • Copy of Certificates and/or Diploma

#### **Send Resume To:**

**Comanche National Museum** Attn: Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi 701 NW Ferris Avenue Lawton, Oklahoma 73507

Email to: ptasi@comanchemuseum.com Phone: (580) 353-0404 Fax: (580) 353-0407 Indian Preference Applies / EEO

Deadline to apply: October 4, 2012

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

## Ready to Step Up Your Career?

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, one of 12 regional Banks in the Federal Reserve System, counts on exceptional talents and skills to fulfill the important work of the nation's central bank. We value the unique experience and perspective each individual brings to the job. We believe diversity adds value and unlimited possibilities.



### It's Time to Step Up Your Career

Find your place today at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

www.dallasfed.org/careers

An Equal Opportunity Employer



#### Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted

throughout the week-

**Community Relations** 

**Coordinator (Child Health)** Up to \$46.8K + State benefits package BS/BA or higher, and 1 yr. of exp. working with diverse stakeholders and dev't of collaborative networks, strong group facilitation, strategic planning and communications skill, or an equiv. combination of 5 yrs. educ. and exp. working with . Preference for: SoonerCare exp.; community outreach exp; health related exp; Spanish speaking and writing fluency; exp. analyzing data; group meeting facilitation; Word, Excel, PowerPoint, SAS, SPSS exp.; and/or advanced education. Download appl. & questionnaire from website. Deadline:

**OK Health Care Authority Attn: Human Resources** 2401 N.W. 23rd, Ste. 1A OKC, OK 73107 personnel@okhca.org www.okhca.org

#### **Director, Health Services**

Maintains working knowledge of grants & regulations governing Tribal Health programs. Manages staff & provides direction working within regulation confines, meets program objectives & strives to give maximum service to Tribal members. Oversees long/short term planning & expansion of Tribal Health Services programs. Performs budget preparations & provides fiscal oversight of Tribal Health programs. Represents Otoe-Missouria Tribe in meetings & funding negotiations with pertinent Federal funding agencies. Provides reports to management on activities and progress of each program.

Bachelors Degree in Public Health, or related field and with at least three years experience with Tribal governments and Federal programs. Five years supervisory experience with knowledge of/experience in working with Indian Health Services and Tribal Programs. Demonstrated experience in grant and proposal writing and knowledge of/experience in working with Medicare/Medicaid and third party

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified Otoe-Missouria Tribal Members and other qualified Native American preference will be observed. All appointments are subject to drug screening and background checks.

Please submit employment application to Human Resources, 8151 Hwy 177, Red Rock, OK. 74651 by 4:30 p.m., October 10, 2012 or email to hr@omtribe.org. An application form can be found at www.omtribe.org (Human Resources\Forms). Resumes are accepted but will not substitute for application.

**Public Information Specialist** needed at OHCA 41.8K + state benefits. Requires a Bachelor's degree in Communications, Journalism, Marketing, Public Relations, Public Health or equivalent, or an equivalent combination of 4 yrs. education and experience. EOE Deadline October 9th. Visit www.okhca.org/jobs

Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, A Statewide Economic Development Corporation is accepting applications for the following position in our Tulsa office:

#### **Business Development Specialist**

This position will develop and maintain ongoing business relationships with Native American, tribal and other minority owned companies for technical assistance, contracting and financing opportunities. Scope of job includes market assessments, project management, reporting and tracking of key metrics to increase on-going participation and program growth. Knowledge of 8(a), HUBZone, and other certification programs is required. Our ideal candidate of choice will have a degree in business or related discipline and three (3) years experience in a high performing, goal oriented management or business development environment. Frequent in-state and limited out of state

This position is full-time and salary is commensurate with experience and skills. REI offers an excellent benefits program including paid holidays, vacation and sick leave, health insurance and 403(b) retirement program. Send resume to Business Development Director, REI, P.O. Box 1335, Durant, OK 74702 by October 5, 2012. REI is an equal opportunity

## **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com



Osage Casino – Skiatook is located at 6455 West Rogers Boulevard in Skiatook. The 33-room, three-story hotel will include 31 standard rooms and two suites, fitness center, swimming pool, breakfast dining area, meeting room and convention space.

## **New Skiatook Osage Casino to feature** expanded gaming, full-service hotel

SKIATOOK, Okla. - Osage Casinos will build a new casino in Skiatook, including the addition of a 33-room full-service hotel and conference center. The project is scheduled to break ground in the fall of 2012.

"We are thrilled about the amenities this casino will be able to offer our guests," Osage Casino CEO Neil Cornelius said. "With this new construction partnership between Marnell Companies and Osage Manhattan Builders, we are sure that Osage Casino - Skiatook will continue to bring the finest in gaming, entertainment and hospitality to the Skiatook community."

At completion, Osage Casino - Skiatook will offer 78,000 square feet of gaming space, a restaurant, sports bar and hotel accommodations. The project will include 300 games and six

Meguah

tahlequahrecycling.com

918-316-5856

'Changing the culture of waste.

ecycling

table games and is scheduled to be completed Fall 2013.

The 33-room, three-story hotel will include 31 standard rooms and two suites, fitness center, swimming pool, breakfast dining area, meeting room and convention space. The hotel lobby will include a grab-andgo counter and small bar with direct access to the casino floor and restaurants.

The restaurant in the new casino will feature a casual dining experience that will seat up to 60 patrons.

"The dining options and amenities included in the renovation will allow us to offer a wide variety of fine options for our guest, Osage Casino - Skiatook General Manager Edward Gray said. "Whether people are looking for a nice sitdown meal or are just wanting to have a drink and watch the games, we will be able to provide a fun, yet comfortable environment for our guests."

The casino will also include a sports bar venue which allows guests to view multiple HD televisions from every seat in the house. In addition to playing all major sporting events throughout the year, the sports bar will be a premier spot for music and live entertainment.

The project also includes a newly designed convenience store that will accommodate both seasonal and lake traffic.

"This establishment will offer great opportunity for economic growth in the Skiatook area" Cornelius said. "We hope that this casino will attract other businesses to build nearby soon."

## **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to: **lisa@nativetimes.com** 

## Keetoowah Cherokee 62nd Celebration Annual October 5 - 6, 2012

Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 5

8:30 am-5 pm Arts and Crafts, Food Venders Set up

- Grounds Pow Wow registration 5-7 pm - Grounds Dinner for Gospel

S pm Singing - Wellness Center Softball Tournament 6 pm

- Sequoyah H.S. Fields 6:30 pm Gospel Singing - Wellness Center 7 pm Pow Wow Grand Entry

Saturday, October 6 SK Run - begin at 7 am NSU/Downtown

Kid's Fishing Derby 7 am - Pond

8 am Dignitaries Breakfast - Go Ye Village Softball Tournament 9 am - Sequoyah H.S. Fields

Parade 10 am - Downtown Tahleguah ll am-10 pm Arts and Crafts, Food Venders

11:45 am

Posting of Colors (Honor Guard) - Pavilion State of the Nation Address (Chief) Introduction of Tradition Keepers Introduction of Miss and Jr. Miss

Entertainment Noon Noon-3 pm Pow Wow Registration - Grounds

Noon-5 pm Make & Take Crafts - Shed at Grounds Basic Art Lesson - Museum Vintage Photo Identification

- Museum Volleyball Tournament 12:1S pm 12:15 pm 1- 3 pm Children's Activities **Cultural Demonstrations** - Shed at Grounds l pm

Marbles Traditional Indian Meal - Pavilion

One Fire + One Family + Rising Together 62nd Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration October 5-6, 2012 1:30 pm Cornstalk Shoot Children's Turtle 2 pm Races Horseshoe Tournament Blowgun competition 2-3 pm

Gourd Dance 3 pm Grand Entry 3 pm-l0pm Pow Wow Free Bingo - Pavilion 3:30 pm 4 pm Stickball Spm Cash Giveaway - Pavilion ll pm Stomp Dance

Other Activities: Miss Keetoowah Date: Sept 13 Location: Tahlequah Municipal Armory

Golf Tournament Date: Sept 28/29 Location: Cherry Springs Golf Course For more information:

918-458-6708 or 918-431-1818

All events are at the Keetoowah Cherokee Celebration Grounds unless otherwise specified.



## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY **American Indian Chamber of** Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee **Indian Health Center to enroll all** Native American and non-Indian Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Service Unit is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. THROUGH NOVEMBER Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** 

Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

### YOUTH COUNCIL

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH OCTOBER 6 Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting** and Festival. Numerous events are planned for the week-long celebration of Chickasaw heritage, culture and tradition. Schedule and event info call (580) 371-2040 or 1 (800) 593-3356.

Kiowa Language Class, Fall semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant

Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

**THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www.

#### **OCTOBER 5-6**

**Annual Keetoowah Cherokee** Celebration, Tahlequah, Okla. Call (918) 431-1818 for more information

comanchemuseum.com

#### **OCTOBER 5-6 Fort Sill Indian School Annual**

Reunion, 7:00 pm -12:00 Friday & 2:00 pm - 12:00 Saturday at FSIS Gym, Lawton, OK. Contact: Darlene Defoe 828.736.0851

#### **OCTOBER 6**

Benefit Gourd Dance 2:00 PM to 10:00 PM - Supper @ 5:30 PM at Goodrich Memorial UMC, 200 W. Hayes St., Norman, Okla. Info call Linda Forrester (405) 833-1559 or Mary Lou Drywater (405) 361-2393. All proceeds will be given to the **Womens Resource Center to help** the DV Shelter/Rape Crisis Center.

#### **OCTOBER 6**

**Kiowa Indian Council Meeting,** 10am at Red Buffalo Hall, Kiowa Tribal Complex, Carnegie, Okla. The event will be streamed live at www.kiowatribe.org beginning slightly before 10am. To view, go to Media, then click on Video.

#### **OCTOBER 13**

**Osage Nation Counseling Center Domestic Violence Program Benefit Dance at Wakon Iron** Building •2 p.m. - Gourd Dancing •5 p.m. - Chili Supper •6 p.m. -Gourd Dancing. Remember to wear purple!

#### OCTOBER 20

**Pryor Powwow at MidAmerica** Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional - 16 yrs and up; **Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs** and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

#### **OCTOBER 20**

Chickasaw Cultural Center Fall Fest, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Chickasaw **Cultural Center, 867 Charles Cooper** Memorial Road in Sulphur, Okla.

#### **OCTOBER 24-27 Pawnee Nation College Presents**

**The First Annual Native Arts** + Media Festival Pawnee, Okla. For details: www. pawneenationcollege.org. Contact: 918-762-3363

#### **OCTOBER 26-27**

**Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806** W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-

#### **NOVEMBER 1**

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd. david@jobcorps.org

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

Bacone College Fall Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

Fall Arts and Crafts Festival at The Museum of the Red River, Idabel, Okla. from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at The Mary H. Herron Community Conference Center. The event is free and open to the public. First 100 attendees will receive gift bags. For more information or directions call the Museum at (580) 286-3616.

#### **NOVEMBER 17**

**OKC Public Schools Native American Student Services** Powwow at Douglass High School, 988 Martin Luther King Ave, OKC. Info call 405-587-0359.

## Actor Johnny Depp honored guest at Comanche Nation Fair

**DANA ATTOCKNIE** *Native American Times* 

LAWTON, Okla. – Anticipation and excitement is exploding throughout the Comanche Nation headquarters near Lawton, Okla. People are snuggled as close to the road as possible waiting for the 21st annual Comanche Nation Fair parade to begin. No one seems to care about the rain. The only forecast they're interested in is when honorary tribal member Johnny Depp is coming.

"The road was lined with hoodies and umbrellas," Regina Brannock, Comanche Nation tribal member, said. "It's sprinkling/drizzling, but no one's spirits or enthusiasm are dampened."

Most Comanche members learned of Depp's visit to the fair late this summer, and Saturday Sept. 29, 2012 couldn't have come sooner.

"Three SUV's came driving by and a rear passenger window was open with an arm out waving – Johnny Depp. No warning, no announcement, just a drive by," Brannock said. "Since we've been waiting so long, they decided to give us a tease to appease us."

Depp cruised through the parade in a black convertible with one arm around Comanche tribal member LaDonna Harris and the other arm waving to the hundreds of people who came to welcome him to Comanche country. Harris adopted Depp on May 16 as an honorary member of the tribe at her home in Albuquerque, N.M. Depp is on location in New Mexico filming his role as Tonto in the upcoming "Lone Ranger" film due out next year.

Parade watchers yelled out "Johnny," and lulu's could be heard from the ladies as Depp served as grand marshal of the parade. He made it a point to speak to the Comanche children after the parade and answer their questions, as well as pose for pictures and sign a few autographs.

"I thought it was really neat. It was just like a really cool thing to go to," Sha Ingram, 15, said. "I think the funniest part was when he quoted something from 'Pirates of the Caribbean' and he did it in his little Jack Sparrow voice."

Ingram waited in line 45 minutes to see Depp. Only children 18 years and younger were allowed in the gym to hear Depp speak. Younger children could be accompanied by one parent. Ingram took the first "Pirates of the Caribbean" movie with her for Depp to sign, but she

didn't get that opportunity. She said she wanted to ask him for advice on becoming an actor.

As soon as Depp entered the gym, there was a roar usually heard at the beginning of a rock concert. Yelling, screaming and whistling came more at times from the parents. All the children were seated on the floor, much like a school assembly, and they all raised their hands to ask Depp questions

Depp said his favorite role thus far was Edward Scissorhands, and he enjoyed playing in "Pirates of the Caribbean" because he could go to work and act as goofy as he wanted to. He told the kids they can achieve anything they want with hard work because, "you have warrior spirit in you." One teenage girl asked Depp why he was so sexy, while another attendee asked Depp to autograph his stomach so he could have his name tattooed that afternoon. One little girl asked Depp if he would return to the Comanche Fair next year. He said, "yeah of course."

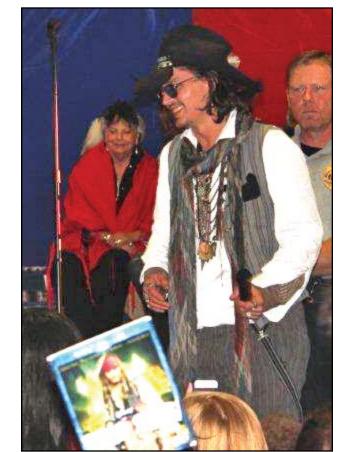
Also speaking was actor Gil Birmingham, who played Billy Black in "The Twilight Series." Birmingham is portraying Red Knee in the upcoming "Lone Ranger" film. "Comanche Boy" George Tahdooahnippah and football player Antonio Perkins were also at the fair.

Depp made time to shake hands, take pictures and lift up little kids to take pictures after he spoke. He also went on a tour of the area and visited the tribe's SIA program where he had lunch. SIA is the tribe's Ethno-Ornithological initiative dedicated preserving Eagles. Depp was then taken to Fort Sill's Commanding General's home for a welcoming ceremony. Comanche Nation Chairman Wallace Coffey told Depp the history of the Comanche people and they visited the gravesites of Comanche Chiefs Ten Bears and Quanah

At Depp's side throughout his visit was his Comanche mom LaDonna Harris, who is the president of Americans for Indian Opportunity.

"LaDonna was with us the whole time. He didn't go anywhere without LaDonna. He loves LaDonna," Asa Attocknie, tribal member, said. "He's very thoughtful. He was shocked the chairman gave him a proclamation making him an honorary Comanche. He didn't expect that at all. He was very humble."

After his private tour of the



SHA INGRAM I COURTESY

Actor Johnny Depp speaks to children and signs autographs Sept. 29 during the Comanche Nation Fair in Lawton, Okla.

area, gifts were exchanged with Depp.

"He was very respectful of the chairman and everybody around him. He's a good guy ... He took time to see the kids; give the kids a handshake, I thought that was thoughtful of him." Attocknie said even though the day of Depp's visit was "paparazzi style," Depp remained humble about the parade turnout and continually thanked everyone. He said Depp really wanted to visit the Comanches and was honored he was invited.

# Dancing queens: Women making a comeback in the fancy dance arena

■ In the 1950s, young women who had stepped delicately as Southern cloth, buckskin or shawl dancers were suddenly bobbing their heads and hopping low to the ground around the arena floor in feathers and bustles to songs that had once been war dance songs.

KAREN SHADE
Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. – Elizabeth "John-John" Lane is the first person to admit that fancy feather dancing (or just fancy dancing) is a men's powwow event. That didn't stop her, however, from putting on the voluminous bustles and regalia that are its trademarks.

People used to stare when they saw her dressed out and in the arena with other fancy dancers, most of whom were men, she said. When she won a powwow contest, they really talked.

"When a woman beats somebody it's a big thing," Lane said. "I did know a woman who did not care for me dancing. Another person had to get up and tell her, 'You're not going to say nothing.' I'm sure there are some people who didn't like it."

But it mattered little to Lane (Osage/Sac and Fox/Pawnee) and the other girls and women who competed as fancy dancers in regalia either borrowed from a male friend or relative or a hand-me-down from an older brother or cousin.

At one time, there were dozens who became well-known on the circuit.

Jim Anquoe Sr., Kiowa, once listed the names of all the dancers he and others could remember. They came up with 72 women fancy dancers who were actively competing between 1938 to 1960. There were Cheyenne, Arapahoe, Otoe, Pawnee, Muscogee, Caddo, Comanche and Kiowa among them.

"I believe that from 1952 or '53 to 1959, women's fancy feather was at its highest popularity. After that, it slowly started to disappear," said Anquoe, current chairman of Tulsa Indian Club, which hosts the annual Tulsa Powwow.

In the 1950s, young women who had stepped delicately as Southern cloth, buckskin or shawl dancers were suddenly bobbing their heads and hopping low to the ground around the arena floor in feathers and bustles to songs that had once been war dance songs. Lane, who emerged on the scene as a teenager, said it was

that made her take it up.

"I just liked it. I enjoyed it," she said. "It just gave me a good feeling to express some good things inside me."

around the arena floor in feathers and bustles to songs that had once been war dance songs. Lane, who emerged on the scene as a teenager, said it was the feeling of the fancy feather dance

Anquoe wrote a short article for the Tulsa Powwow Club about women fancy dancers. In his research, he discovered a photo of a young Ida Laura Jones of Oklahoma

City dressed in a boy's fancy feather regalia. As a child, she was called "Babykins."

One of the luckiest things I did was (to) find a picture of her in her outfit in 1938," he said.

Anguoe believes his cousin may

Anquoe believes his cousin may have been the first female fancy feather dancer at age 2.

"Her dad is my dad's brother. When he would sing, she was always dancing around," Anquoe said. "A year later she was moving pretty good, so he fixed her a little fancy dance outfit. She started to dance when he would dress her out. If you see the picture of her I 1938, she looked like a little boy with long thick braids."

thick braids."

As she grew up, Jones and other girls started to dance with the boys and men. He especially took notice during the 1946 American Indian Exposition in Oklahoma, which is still held in Anadarko, where he saw a Muscogee woman dancer in white aprons, white cape, white feather neck bustle and white feathers in a

Names like Georgette "GeeGee" Palmer, Okemah Randle and Pamela Chibitty come to mind to those who remember like Anquoe. So does the name John-John Lane, a Fairfax girl considered one of the best of the women fancy feather dancers.

"When I was young, my aunt and uncle lived in Ocala, Fla., and they worked at a theme park. We danced there for the tourists," Lane said.

It was during one of these summer stays in Florida when she was 12 that Lane, already a cloth dancer, started fancy dancing like her uncle.

"My uncle, he belonged to a brave scout troupe. He taught me and my cousin how to hoop dance. I just like it and continued on, and when I got back (to Fairfax), I just continued on dancing."

Back home, she began competing with her age division in fancy dancing and won or placed high frequently. She actually places better than when she competed as a cloth dancer.

Lane's best competitive years lasted from her time in the junior division up until the mid 1970s, when she had her daughters. In 1980, she gave up fancy dancing.

Female fancy feather dancers had become so popular that a few powwows created a fancy dance category for women, Anquoe said. But much like Lane, many dancers left that arena to focus on raising children and supporting their families

While you may still see girls and women dressed as fancy dancers today, often it is for switch dances in which men and women exchange regalia for fun. Yet, some powwows have kept women's and girls' fancy dancing on the schedule as dance contest specials in honor or in memoriam of someone.

At the 60th Tulsa Powwow this summer, three girls took the arena floor for such a special and quickly won the audience. Charish Toehay, Kiowa and Osage, took first place.

The 19-year-old Oklahoma City Community College student from Anadarko learned to dance in Southern buckskin style from her grandmother, Delores "Dee-Dee" Goodeagle. When she saw powwows were beginning to hold specials for female fancy feather dancing, she borrowed regalia and began to

"I'm a Southern buckskin dancer, and we dance like (we're) walking gracefully. I think it shocked my parents and all that because I like being in different categories. I love also dancing fancy shawl, as well," she said. "It kind of did shock my dad when I first started dancing in the women's fancy feather."

Her dad, Jeffery Toehay of Anadarko, is former fancy feather dance champ himself. He helped her to get all the movements and form down, from keeping the rockers on her head moving to maintaining her

"It's just fun to get in and hop it," Charish Toehay said, with other girls and women in fancy feather dancing. "We all know each other. We all just love to have fun, and we love to talk about it, laugh, giggle and watch videos of (dances). ... We all love hopping it."

For Lane, who put on her bustles last summer again for the first time in decades, the feeling of fancy dancing is unlike any other.

"Whenever our drummers sing these songs, and they make you feel good inside, that's when your best dance comes out of you," Lane said. "... I guess the only way I can ever explain it, is it was from my heart."



COURTESY

Charish Toehay, Kiowa and Osage, took first place at this summer's Tulsa Powwow girls' fancy dancing

TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 40

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

OCTOBER 12, 2012

## Couple appeals ICW custody case to US Supreme Court

■ The petition says different states have interpreted the law differently.

**BRUCE SMITH**Associated Press

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) – A South Carolina couple has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to weigh in on a ruling sending their Native American adoptive daughter back to her biological father in Oklahoma under the federal Indian Child Welfare Act.

An attorney for Matt and Melanie Capobianco, in a 142-page petition filed with the high court Oct. 1, said the justices should accept the case to settle uncertainty over how the 1978 act should be interpreted.

"State courts have wrestled openly for decades over the meaning and the operation" of the act, attorney Lisa Blatt

See **CUSTODY** Continued on Page 2

## Tribe ponders options in alcohol lawsuit

**GRANT SCHULTE**Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) – The Oglala Sioux Tribe in South Dakota, whose federal lawsuit against four Nebraska beer sellers and some of the nation's biggest breweries was dismissed this week, may refile the lawsuit in state court, the tribe's attorney said.

Tom White, an Omaha-based attorney for the tribe, said he'll urge the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation's council to continue with its lawsuit against the alcohol manufacturers and distributors, and four retailers in Whiteclay, Neb.

The town of about a dozen residents on the dry reservation's border sold the equivalent of 4.3 million 12-ounce cans of beer last year.

The tribe contends that the Whiteclay businesses have been profiting from rampantalcoholismontheimpoverished reservation, where alcohol is banned. In its lawsuit, the tribe was seeking \$500 million in damages to cover the cost of health care, social services and child rehabilitation programs.

The beer companies said none of the tribe's claims were allowed under federal law, and they argued that they can't

See LAWSUIT Continued on Page 3

## BIA likely to run tribe's programs for years

FORT TOTTEN, N.D. (AP) – The federal Bureau of Indian Affairs is likely to manage social service programs for the Spirit Lake tribe in North Dakota for years.

The BIA assumed control of the tribe's social service programs this month after criticism that the tribe has failed to protect vulnerable children. BIA regional director Bruce Loudermilk tells Forum Communications that it likely will take at least a couple of years

to strengthen the programs.

Loudermilk says it's up to the tribe to decide whether it wants at some point to seek to regain control of the programs. He says the tribe would have to through a process that includes submitting a formal request.

Loudermilk says the transition to federal control has gone well, though it will take time "to get this all running amounts."



STERLING COSPER I COURTESY MUSCOGEE NATION NEW

Randi Nicole Narcomey-Watson and Joe Williams register voters during National Voters Registration Day, Sept. 25, at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound Building in Okmulgee, Okla.

# Groups mobilize to register Native voters

S.E. RUCKMAN

Native Times Special Contributor

OKMULGEE, Okla. – Voting advocates are reaching across Indian Country where they have never stretched before. Since early 2012, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) voting advocacy campaign, Native Vote 2012 and the new campaign, "Every Native Vote Counts," has unleashed an army of voting advocates on the march to turn out the largest number of Indian voters in history.

In every region of Indian Country, organizers are knocking on doors, setting up chairs for rallies, driving elders to registration sites or explaining the issues to those who may not be politically savvy. They are also transporting elders by the vanload in the rural portions of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to

registration sites. Transportation to the polls on Election Day is also in their plans, said Muscogee (Creek) Nation councilor and voting advocate, Cherrah Ridge.

"Our biggest push is to get people to vote, not just to register," she said. "That's where it really counts."

Everywhere is suddenly the place to be to sign up new voters. Audra Antone of the Gila River Indian Community in Arizona has recounted her must-vote speech at basketball games, powwows and state fairs. Any gathering is fair game and she has her pitch pretty well memorized, she said.

"I talk to anyone, anywhere," Antone said. "A lot of Indians don't understand the issues because we go by our own sovereignty."

So, Antone painstakingly explains looming changes in Arizona's education and health care where Natives may be forced

to compromise if their voices are not heard, she said. Every day until the Oct. 9 voter registration cutoff in Arizona, it's an extra order of outreach and hold the apathy, she said.

"We (Indians) are invisible in some of these issues. Voting is the easiest thing we can do make our voices heard in Indian Country," Antone said.

Meanwhile, in South Dakota, Alfred Walking Bull and eight other volunteers are attempting to cover the Rosebud Sioux Reservation and its proximity to register Indians to vote. With their reservation near Todd County, South Dakota, their obstacles unexpectedly grew. Overall voting there has declined by some 1,000 voters since the last election, he said.

"We do a lot of rural outreach,"

See **VOTERS** Continued on Page 8



KRISTI EATON | ASSOCIATED PRES

In this May 10, 2012, photo Oglala Sioux Vice President Tom Poor Bear, right center with red bandana, is interviewed by Al Jazeera English reporters outside the tribal headquarters on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. The reservation, home to the Oglala Sioux Tribe, has been getting lots of media attention lately. But some tribal members both on and off the reservation think the stories are exploitative, with too little emphasis on the people who are working every day to try to make a difference

# Residents find media coverage exploitative

■ The statistics on Pine Ridge make for powerful, heart-wrenching stories but there is too little emphasis on the people working to make a difference.

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

PINE RIDGE, S.D. (AP) – The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota has for years attracted journalists and activists eager to tell the stories and share the plight of the Oglala Sioux Tribe.

The allure for journalists, community activists and gawkers is simple: The Connecticut-sized reservation is home to some of the poorest counties in America, one in four children born on the reservation suffers from fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol

spectrum disorder, and the average life expectancy for tribal members is estimated between 45 and 52 years – the shortest in North America except for Haiti.

The statistics on Pine Ridge make for powerful, heartwrenching stories, but some Oglala Sioux tribal members both on and off the reservation think it's exploitative, with too little emphasis on the people who are working every day to try to make a difference.

"For more than 30 years I have greeted reporters from around the world who came to Pine Ridge to do the ultimate story on 'Indians' and I cringe when I see some of the articles after they have been published," said Tim Giago, a tribal member and longtime journalist who has founded several Native American newspapers.

A \$500 million lawsuit the tribe filed in February against several beer makers and beer stores in

**See COVERAGE** *Continued on Page 5* 

## Pawnee govt. mum on final settlement details

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

PAWNEE, Okla. - A month after announcing a basic spending plan, Pawnee Nation officials still are not disclosing any additional information about how the tribe will spend a \$4.4 million federal settlement.

On Sept. 8, members of the tribe's Business Council and Nasharo Council, or Chief's Council, met in executive session and voted on how to spend the tribe's portion of the settlement from the Nez Perce v. Salazar class action lawsuit. The smallest and only Oklahoma-based tribe among the 40 participants, the councils voted to allocate \$2 million for a one-time per capita payment to tribal citizens, \$2 million for programs and the remaining money to pay the legal fees accrued by the Native American Rights Fund for representing the tribe.

According to the Pawnee Nation's website, checks to each of the tribe's 3,500 enrolled citizens were mailed out Oct. 4. Each citizen will receive about \$600.

In the press release announcing the per capita payment, tribal officials said that a six-member Settlement Oversight Committee would be formed to make the final decision on which programs and services will receive the \$2 million. Three committee members are supposed to come from the Pawnee Business Council and the other three members will be selected from the Nasharo Council, which is comprised of two chiefs from each of the tribe's four bands. As of Friday, the tribe has not published the names of any committee members or a timeline for their decisions.

The Pawnee Nation communications office did not respond to e-mail and phone call requests for details.

## Ottawa Tribe gets \$120,000 EPA grant

MIAMI, Okla. (AP) - The Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma has been awarded a \$120,000 grant for its program to control water pollution.

The grant to the Miamibased tribe from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was announced Wednesday.

The funds will be used to assess surface water quality on tribal lands, compile data

which may show changes over time and determine if a more thorough watershed management program needed.

The data will determine whether water quality standards are being met, note any changes in the quality or condition of the tribe's water and provide for planning to improve the health of stream ecosystems.

## Peoria Tribe receives EPA grant

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) -The Peoria Tribe of Oklahoma has been awarded more than \$112,000 in a federal grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

\$112,099 grant announced Thursday is to provide continued support for the tribe's water pollution control program.

The funds will be used to take water samples to assess surface water quality on tribal lands, compile data which may

show changes over time and determine if a more thorough management watershed program is needed.

Sampling data will determine whether water quality standards are being met, note any changes in the quality or condition of the tribe's water and provide planning tools to improve the function and health of stream ecosystems.

The tribe is based in Miami in northeastern Oklahoma.

#### Man indicted for selling fake Indian jewelry

ALBUOUEROUE, N.M. (AP) - A California man has been indicted for selling fake Indian jewelry in New Mexico.

U.S. Attorney Ken Gonzales in Albuquerque says 59-yearold Andrew Gene Alvarez of Wofford Heights, Calif., has been indicted on a charge of falsely representing that the jewelry he was selling was made by American Indians.

Alvarez pleaded not guilty in an initial court appearance.

According to the indictment Alvarez, was selling the nonauthentic jewelry at the May Native Treasures Show at the Santa Fe Community Convention Center, violation of the federal Indian Arts and Crafts Act. He faces up to five years of in prison and a \$250,000 fine.



Volunteers work on establishing a plasticulture garden during In A Good Way Farm's homesteading event Sept. 29 in Talihina, Okla.

## Native run farm program aimed at reintegrating former inmates

S.E. RUCKMAN

Native Times Special Contributor

TALIHINA, Okla. - At the In a Good Way farm, they can teach you how to be a farmer but they can't teach you how to want to be one. That is something the potential client has to bring along, said Teddi Irwin, executive director of a new non-profit that specializes in reintegrating ex-convicts into society by farming.

"If they don't want to work, they have to go somewhere else," she said. "It's going to take a special kind of person to be able to stay here."

In a Good Way farm introduced its homestead to the nearby community with an open house event Sept. 29. The open house featured demonstrations of environmentally friendly projects like hoop house building; rainwater harvesting; mulching; gardening; bee-keeping; Alpaca rearing; solar energy and other activities. All of the demonstrations are skills that the program plans to teach to program attendees.

The daylong ceremonies were interwoven with various aspects of the Choctaw culture (food, crafts, and arts) because the reintegration program has a Native emphasis. Irwin, a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, has a son who was incarcerated several years ago and she is hoping to draw released inmates to the 501(c) 3 farm where they hope to instill farming as a vocation.

A former Texas resident, Irwin said that as her son's release date neared, she asked him what he wanted to do to get his life back on track. Although he was a structural engineer, he said he enjoyed gardening time on various work details while in prison. She thought it over before settling on the idea of a work farm as a non-profit. Her son told her

that many prospective parolees don't have anything to fall back on when they are released.

"These guys have done things they shouldn't have done," she said. But at In a Good Way Farm, they can make restitution and earn a small wage while learning how to become proficient as a farmer at the on-site residential reintegration program.

Irwin bought the 160-acres of land located within the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma jurisdiction and began research on how to operate a nonprofit. The ball had started rolling. Over several months after purchasing the land, the group developed a farm-based curriculum for members of federally recognized tribes.

Since most released prisoners don't have a college degree and may not have a reliable support system to help them readjust to life outside of prison, here on the acreage, they can hone their skills at becoming self-sufficient in farming, officials said.

The facility accepts Oklahoma Department of Corrections referrals and currently has room for four residents. They plan to expand their room and board capacities depending on the success of the program. In A Good Way farm operates on private donations with no tribal funds or grants at present.

The farm reintegration project has healthy potential. According to the OK DOC statistics, about 2,446 of the state's 26,000 inmates are American Indian. Of that number some 1,743 Indians are on the state's probation program and 142 are on parole.

As far as reintegration programs go, In A Good Way Farm could fill a niche for released Indian prisoners, said DOC officials. But it will take a coordinated effort between the non-profit and the released inmates, said Scott Martinson, DOC clinical services coordinator. At present, the department has too many released offenders to track them by tribal affiliation and lead them to a tribal specific program, like In A Good

"You can lead a horse to water but there is that component of them taking the initiative," Martinson said. "Some of them are not able to."

If an ex-offender finds the Talihina farm program doable, those who stick with the program will learn intensive Farming 101, Irwin said. The site has no TV or internet and limited phone service. Random urinary analyses (UAs) will be run to make sure participants are adhering to program and probation/parole guidelines. Those who don't follow IAGW farm rules will be released, Irwin said.

The theory is to give released prisoners a chance to reinvent themselves as agriculturists. By introducing a new vocation into their lives, the chances of choosing a non-productive lifestyle hopefully recedes. Participants will have individualized training goals with scores and classes as a means to measure the program's success.

"They have to accomplish what they want to accomplish," the executive director said. "It may sound like it's a jail, but it's not. They may even think it as at some point, but it's not."

The facility has begun accepting applications and will begin farming in January 2013.

For more information visit http:// www.inagoodway.org/ or read their blog http://inagoodwayfarm.blogspot. com or find them on facebook at http:// www.facebook.com/pages/In-A-Good-Way-Farm/310068572337305. may also email Teddi Irwin at teddi@ inagoodway.org

## **CUSTODY**

wrote.

Blatt wrote the questions the court needs to consider are whether a non-custodial parent can invoke the act to block an adoption initiated by a non-Indian parent under state law. The other issue, she wrote, is whether the act's definition of parent includes an unwed biological father who does not have legal status as a parent under state law.

Different states interpreted the law differently, the petition said.

"These acknowledged divisions - involving over half of the country - lead to intolerable uncertainty in an area of law where certainty is needed most: adoption and custody proceedings that involve children," Blatt wrote.

The Indian Child Welfare

Act was passed because of the high number of Indian children that at the time were being removed from their homes by public and private agencies. The act gives the child's tribe and family the right to have a say in decisions affecting the child.

In July, a split South Carolina Supreme Court cited the act in upholding the return of the Capobiancos' daughter to her father, a member of the Cherokee Tribe. It was the first time South Carolina adoption law was weighed against the federal act.

In the 3-2 decision, the justices said the act confers custodial preference to the child's father.

The child, who turned 3 last month, was adopted by the Capobiancos, who live on James Island just outside Charleston. They attended the girl's birth and cared for her thereafter.

The girl's biological father

later sought custody, which he was granted by a South Carolina family court late last year. He arrived in Charleston last New Year's Eve with his parents and took the girl back to Oklahoma. The adoptive parents appealed the family court decision to the state Supreme Court.

In the petition to U.S. Supreme Court, Blatt said the issues go beyond the South Carolina case.

Confusion over the act "spawns litigation that permanently and tragically disrupts established family units" and undermines states' ability to deal with domestic relations issues, she wrote.

"Only this court can resolve two outstanding issues central to the applicability and administration of a federal statute that impacts thousands of custody cases and countless individuals affected by those proceedings," she wrote.

## WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

#### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

#### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment - Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details. \*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details. (918) 631-1000

arvest.com





#### **Cherokee Nation road** crews discover grave sites

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. (AP) - Officials with the Cherokee Nation say dozens of grave sites were discovered by crews preparing for a road project near Oklahoma Highway 100.

Cherokee Nation Roads Department Director Michael Lynn says crews were working in eastern Cherokee County when they discovered two unmarked stones. Lynn tells the Tahlequah Daily Press that the stones were not disturbed and no dirt has been turned on the project.

Lynn says crews used ground-penetrating radar last week and identified 61 potential grave sites in the same area. He says officials don't yet know whether they are Cherokee, community or animal burial sites.

Lynn says an archaeologist is coordinating with the tribe. He says the Cherokee Nation will continue its work on the Tenkiller School Road Project but that the area won't be disturbed.

#### **USC Lancaster opens Native** American studies center

LANCASTER, S.C. (AP) - The University of South Carolina Lancaster is set to open a new center dedicated to Native American studies, research and artifacts.

Thursday's scheduled celebration opens with a dedication beginning at 2 p.m. It includes remarks by USC President Harris Pastides, USC Lancaster Dean John Catalano and center director Stephen Criswell.

The center is home to the world's largest collection of Catawba Indian pottery and 200,000 artifacts that range from the Ice Age to the present. The program is the only Native American studies academic program in the state.

## **Excavation of Creek Indian** town planned at Ga. park

S. HEATHER DUNCAN The Telegraph, Macon

MACON, Ga. (AP) - A local archaeologist is planning the first major excavation of Creek Indian towns along the Ocmulgee River since digs at the Ocmulgee National Monument mounds during the Depression. The first of three excavations is slated for a popular park within the Macon city limits.

Macon native Stephen Hammack, who was long employed as an archaeologist at Robins Air Force Base, was accepted this summer into a doctoral program at Oxford University in England, where he plans to research Creek towns along the Ocmulgee between 1680 and 1716. He said he hopes to start next summer in Amerson River Park, formerly Amerson Water Works Park. NewTown Macon, which owns the park, has already signed off on the project.

"We're very excited about it," NewTown CEO Mike Ford said. "We're just hoping the findings will be significant."

Europeans recorded Creek town names but not their exact locations. In most cases the town name referred to the band of people who lived there, so the town moved when the people did, Hammack said. He believes the River Park town might have been one called

"So far, it looks like a huge Creek site," said John McBride of Macon, vice president of the Ocmulgee Archaeological Society. "Just having a Creek town that's really gone undetected for this many years in Macon is a big

Some smaller digs been done during the past several decades at Town Creek when the Macon Water Authority's reservoir and water treatment plant were built and at Brown's Mount.

Hammack said he has not yet received land owner approval for the two other town sites he'd like to excavate. But he said he has spoken with the owner of a site in Butts County that might have been the location of Coweta Town, one of the most important Creek towns.

Although he has not yet approached Macon officials about the idea, Hammack said he also would like to conduct a dig in Central City Park. Hammack believes either Hitchiti or Ochese was the name of the town that was probably located in the area of the oval race track, where joggers still find Creek pottery. Old newspaper articles show that when different features were built at the park, Indian remains were found along with beads, plates and other artifacts. (One skeleton was put on display in a saloon.)

Hammack's research aims to learn more about the layout and size of Creek towns and their trade with each other and with Europeans. He hopes to determine for sure which town was at each site, what cultural group of Creeks lived there and what dialect they spoke.

Some of this information could be revealed by artifacts in the ground, but some may be gleaned from records across the ocean. Ironically, many records from early Colonial America are most likely in England, Hammack said, and he hopes to find some that have never been examined by American historians. Hammack left for Oxford last week.

Ford noted that Hammack's research will increase Macon's exposure in England among people who have probably never heard of the city.

Hammack will be combing the British Archives and the archives of the Association for the Propagation of the Gospel, an Anglican missionary organization that operated widely in Colonial America.

No Creek tribes remain based in Georgia because they were forcibly moved west in the 1800s, mostly to Oklahoma and Alabama. Hammack said he plans to communicate with the modern Creek tribal towns and the Muscogee Creek Nation about his work, and he would like them to be involved.

He also foresees a role for some trained volunteers such as members of the Ocmulgee Archaeological Society. Hammack was secretary of that group for years. Along with other volunteers, members helped collect artifacts from the surface of the ground in the "great meadow" of River Park after a NewTown employee mistakenly harrowed the area several years ago, disturbing the archaeological site.

That incident is one of several that helped Hammack decide to pursue the research.

He and several volunteers took groundpenetrating radar to the park in July to look for underground disturbances that would help target the best areas to dig. The excavation is likely to include only 5 percent of the meadow, Hammack said.

McBride helped with both the surface collection and the radar checks. The surface collection at River Park found more than 2,000 "points" (such as arrowheads) and pieces of pottery, and perhaps and as many as 6,000, McBride said. He is still cataloguing the pieces and grouping them by type. The earliest seem to date to about 1200 A.D., he said.

McBride said he hopes the excavation will locate post holes that indicate where buildings were, which would help researchers estimate the town's population.

Many town sites had been populated off and on for thousands of years. So artifacts must be dated by analyzing their style and patterns and determining the age of surrounding materials such as charcoal, McBride said.

"I will try to draft professional colleagues, because this will be big," Hammack said. Hammack said he also hopes to create opportunities for community members to observe the

The excavations likely will cost \$30,000 to \$50,000, which Hammack hopes to fund through grants that are available to doctoral students.

NewTown owns any artifacts found at the park but currently has no plan for storing or displaying them, Ford said. Hammack and the Ocmulgee Archaeological Society are holding items found during the surface collections.

NewTown wants to eventually build a visitors center for the park that could display some of the artifacts, but that idea has not yet been funded, Ford said.

"If we were to have a big find, we would have to plan what to do with that," he said. "We will go with whatever Stephen (Hammack) suggests."

## **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

WESLEY MAHAN

KAREN SHADE Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL

advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN  $M_{\text{ICHAEL}} \; M_{\text{ARRIS}}$ KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

> > Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country





discriminate in who they sell to or control tribe members who choose to buy alcohol.

A federal judge in Nebraska threw out the case this week, ruling that his court didn't have jurisdiction to address the allegations.

"The federal court was very careful not to toss out any of the causes of action, even though that's the defendants really wanted," White said. "That's really encouraging to us."

Tribal councilman James "Toby" Big Boy said members knew the lawsuit was a longshot when they approved it last spring. He

to proceed, but he plans to introduce a November ballot proposal to allow alcohol on the reservation. The proposal requires council approval to appear on the ballot.

"It's time," said Big Boy, chairman of the tribe's law and order committee. "It's time to go ahead and bring this forward. Let the people decide. The feedback I've gotten from a large number of communities is they're ready,

White said the tribe filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court of Nebraska because the claim raised a federal issue, and most cases involving sovereign Indian country are handled at that level.

The lawsuit alleges that the beer makers, distributors and

said they will discuss how retailers worked together to government services. sell alcohol in amounts far greater than what could be legally consumed in the area, and knew that customers would smuggle it onto the reservation.

> Federal law bans alcohol sales in Indian country unless the tribal government allows it. The tribe also accused the state of Nebraska of failing to enforce its own alcohol laws.

> Opponents of the ban say lifting it would ease the workload on tribal police, who make thousands of alcoholpossession arrests each year, and generate revenue for the tribe. Big Boy said his proposal would allow the tribe to tax alcohol sales on the reservation and funnel the money into law enforcement, youth programs and other

council tribal considered ending alcohol ban in 2004 and 2006, but the proposal was killed both times. The reservation legalized alcohol for two months in 1970, before the council restored the ban.

The lawsuit named the owners of four Whiteclay beer stores - the Arrowhead Inn, D&S Pioneer Service, the Jumping Eagle Inn, and State Line Liquor – as defendants. It also targeted MillerCoors **Pabst** LLC, Brewing Company, Anheuser-Busch, Dietrich Distributing Co. Inc., Arrowhead Distributing Inc., Coors Distributing of West Nebraska Inc. and High Plains Budweiser. The companies have declined to comment.



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned

TERO Certified

ahleguah ecycling tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

Native

inc.

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA **INDIAN SUPPLY**

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

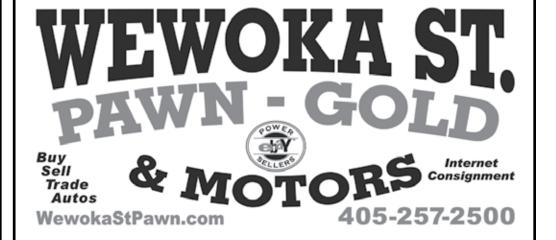
Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

American Indian Owned & Operated Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK

"Where every day is Indian Day"

## FACT CHECK: A look at political claims that take shortcuts with the facts or don't tell the full story

**CALVIN WOODWARD** Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -President Barack Obama and Republican rival Mitt Romney spun one-sided stories in their first presidential debate, not necessarily bogus, but not the whole truth.

They made some flat-out flubs, too. The rise in health insurance premiums has not been the slowest in 50 years, as Obama stated. Far from it. And there are not 23 million unemployed, as Romney asserted.

Here's a look at some of their claims and how they stack up with the facts:

OBAMA: "I've proposed a specific \$4 trillion deficit reduction plan. ... The way we do it is \$2.50 for every cut, we ask for \$1 in additional revenue."

THE FACTS: In promising \$4 trillion, Obama is already banking more than \$2 trillion from legislation enacted along with Republicans last year that cut agency operating budgets and capped them for 10 years. He also claims more than \$800 billion in war savings that would occur anyway. And he uses creative bookkeeping to hide spending on Medicare reimbursements to doctors. Take those "cuts" away and Obama's \$2.50/\$1 ratio of spending cuts to tax increases shifts significantly more in the direction of tax increases.

Obama's February budget offered proposals that would cut deficits over the coming decade by \$2 trillion instead of \$4 trillion. Of that deficit reduction, tax increases accounted for \$1.6 trillion. He promises relatively small spending cuts of \$597 billion from big federal benefit like Medicare programs and Medicaid. He also proposed higher spending on infrastructure projects

ROMNEY: Obama's health care plan "puts in place an unelected board that's going to tell people ultimately what kind of treatments they can have. I don't like that idea."

THE FACTS: Romney is referring to the Independent Payment Advisory Board, a panel of experts that would have the power to force Medicare cuts if costs rise beyond certain levels and Congress fails to act. But Obama's health care law explicitly prohibits the board from rationing care, shifting costs to retirees, restricting benefits or raising the Medicare eligibility age. So the board doesn't have the power to dictate to doctors what treatments they can prescribe.

Romney seems to be resurrecting the assertion that Obama's law would lead to rationing, made famous by former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's widely debunked allegation that it would create "death panels."

The board has yet to be named, and its members would ultimately have to be confirmed by the Senate. Health care inflation has been modest in the last few years, so cuts would be unlikely for most of the rest of this decade.

OBAMA: "Over the last two years, health care premiums have gone up – it's true – but they've gone up slower than any time in the last 50 years. So we're already beginning to see progress. In the meantime, folks out there with insurance, you're already getting a rebate."

THE FACTS: Not so, concerning premiums. Obama is mixing overall health care



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL | ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Oct. 3, 2012 photo, Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama shake hands after the first presidential debate at the University of Denver, in

spending, which has been growing at historically low levels, and health insurance premiums, which continued to rise faster than wages and overall economic growth. Premiums for jobbased family coverage have risen by nearly \$2,400 since 2009 when Obama took office, according to the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation. In 2011, premiums jumped by 9 percent. This year's 4 percent increase was more manageable, but the price tag for family coverage stands at \$15,745, with employees paying more than \$4,300 of

When it comes to insurance rebates under Obama's health care law, less than 10 percent of people with private health insurance are benefiting.

More than 160 million Americans under 65 have private insurance through their jobs and by buying their own policies. According to the administration, about 13 million people will benefit from rebates. And nearly twothirds of that number will only be entitled to a share of it, since they are covered under job-based plans where their employer pays most of the premium and will get most of the rebate.

ROMNEY on the failure of Obama's economic policy: "And the proof of that is 23 million people out of work. The proof of that is 1 out of 6 people in poverty. The proof of that is we've gone from 32 million on food stamps to 47 million on food stamps. The proof of that is that 50 percent of college graduates this year can't find work."

THE FACTS: The number of unemployed is 12.5 million, not 23 million. Romney was also counting 8 million people who are working part time but would like a full-time job and 2.6 million who have stopped looking for work, either because they are discouraged or because they are going back to school or for other reasons.

He got the figure closer to right earlier in the debate, leaving out only the parttimers when he said the U.S. has "23 million people out of work or stopped looking for work." But he was wrong in asserting that Obama came into office "facing 23 million

people out of work." At the start of Obama's presidency, 12 million were out of work.

His claim that half of college graduates can't find work now also was problematic. A Northeastern University analysis for The Associated Press found that a onefourth of recent graduates were probably unemployed and another quarter were underemployed, which means working in jobs that didn't make full use of their skills or experience.

OBAMA: It's important "that we take some of the money that we're saving as we wind down two wars to rebuild America."

THE FACTS: This oftrepeated claim is based on a fiscal fiction. The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were paid for mostly with borrowed money, so stopping them doesn't create a new pool of available cash that can be used for something else, like rebuilding America. It just slows down the government's borrowing.

ROMNEY: "At the same time, gasoline prices have doubled under the president. Electric rates are up."

THE FACTS: He's right that the average price has doubled, and a little more, since Obama was sworn in. But presidents have almost no influence on gasoline prices, and certainly not in the near term. Gasoline prices are set on financial exchanges around the world and are based on a host of factors, most importantly the price of crude oil used to make gasoline, the amount of finished gasoline ready to be shipped and the capacity of refiners to make enough to meet market demand.

Retail electricity prices have risen since Obama took office - barely. They've grown by an average of less than 1 percent per year, less than the rate of inflation and slower than the historical growth in electricity prices. The unexpectedly modest rise in electricity prices is because of the plummeting cost of natural gas, which is used to generate electricity.

OBAMA: "Gov. Romney's central economic plan calls for a \$5 trillion tax cut - on top of the extension of the Bush tax cuts, that's another trillion dollars - and \$2 trillion in additional military spending that the military hasn't asked for. That's \$8 trillion. How we pay for that, reduce the deficit, and make the investments that we need to make, without dumping those costs onto middle-class Americans, I think is one of the central questions of this campaign."

THE FACTS: Obama's claim that Romney wants to cut taxes by \$5 trillion doesn't add up. Presumably, Obama was talking about the effect of Romney's tax plan over 10 years, which is common in Washington. But Obama's math doesn't take into account Romney's entire plan.

Romney proposes to reduce income tax rates by 20 percent and eliminate the estate tax and the alternative minimum tax. The Tax Policy Center, a Washington research group, says that would reduce federal tax revenues by \$465 billion in 2015, which would add up to about \$5 trillion over 10

However, Romney says he wants to pay for the tax cuts by reducing or eliminating tax credits, deductions and exemptions. The goal is a simpler tax code that raises the same amount of money as the current system but does it in a more efficient manner.

The knock on Romney's plan, which Obama accurately cited, is that Romney has refused to say which tax breaks he would eliminate to pay for the lower rates.

ROMNEY: "What would I cut from spending? Well, first of all, I will eliminate all programs by this test, if they pass it: Is the program so critical it's worth borrowing money from China to pay for

THE FACTS: China continues to be portrayed by Romney and many other Republicans as the poster child for runaway federal deficits. It's true that China is the largest foreign holder of U.S. debt, but it only represents about an 8 percent stake. And China has recently been decreasing its holdings, according to the Treasury Department. Some two-thirds of the \$16 trillion national debt is owed to the federal government, with the largest single stake the Federal

Reserve, as well as American investors and the Social Security Trust Fund.

OBAMA: "Independent studies looking at this said the only way to meet Gov. Romney's pledge of not ... adding to the deficit is by middle-class burdening families. The average middleclass family with children would pay about \$2,000

THE FACTS: That's just one scenario. Obama's claim relies on a study by the Tax Policy Center, a Washington research group. The study, however, is more nuanced than Obama indicated.

The study concludes it would be impossible for Romney to meet all of his stated goals without shifting some of the tax burden from people who make more than \$200,000 to people who make less.

In one scenario, the study says, Romney's proposal could result in a \$2,000 tax increase for families who make less than \$200,000 and have children.

Romney says his plan wouldn't raise taxes on anyone, and his campaign points to several studies by conservative think tanks that dispute the Tax Policy Center's findings. Most of the conservative studies argue that Romney's tax plan would stimulate economic growth, generating additional tax revenue without shifting any of the tax burden to the middle class. Congress, however, doesn't use those kinds of projections when it estimates the effect of tax legislation.

ROMNEY: "Right now, the CBO says up to 20 million people will lose their insurance as Obamacare goes into effect next year."

THE FACTS: Romney is making selective use of the Congressional Budget Office's March findings on how employers might adjust to the new health law. The neutral Washington scorekeeper actually gave Congress four scenarios - ranging from a net increase in employer-provided coverage for 3 million people to the decrease of 20 million that Romney cited.

Here's why: The law offers tax incentives for companies with more than 50 workers that provide coverage and penalties for those that don't. The analysis says it's difficult to say how companies will behave, with some making a purely economic calculation and others concluding that continuing coverage may be essential to pleasing workers in a competitive environment. "As a result, any projections of those effects are clearly quite uncertain," the study's authors concluded.

ROMNEY on cutting the deficit: "Obamacare's on my list. ... I'm going to stop the subsidy to PBS. ... I'll make government more efficient."

THE FACTS: Romney has promised to balance the budget in eight years to 10 years, but he hasn't offered a complete plan. Instead, he's promised a set of principles, some of which - like increasing Pentagon spending and restoring more than \$700 billion in cuts that Democrats made in Medicare over the coming decade - work against his goal. He also has said he will not consider tax increases.

He pledges to shrink the government to 20 percent of the size of the economy, as opposed to more than 23 percent of gross domestic product now, by the end of his first term. The Romney campaign estimates that would require cuts of \$500 billion from the 2016 budget alone. He also has pledged to cut tax rates by 20 percent, paying for them by eliminating tax breaks for the wealthiest and through economic growth.

To fulfill his promise, then, Romney would require cuts to other programs so deep - under one calculation requiring cutting many areas of the domestic budget by one-third within four years - that they could never get through Congress. Cuts to domestic agencies would have to be particularly deep.

But he's offered only a few modest examples of government programs he'd be willing to squeeze, like subsidies to PBS and Amtrak. He does want to repeal Obama's big health care law, but that law is actually forecast to reduce the deficit.

ROMNEY: "Simpson-Bowles, the president should have grabbed that."

OBAMA: "That's what we've done, made some adjustments to it, and we're putting it before Congress right now, a \$4 trillion plan."

THE FACTS: At first, the president did largely ignore the recommendations made by his deficit commission headed by Democrat Erskine Bowles and Republican Alan Simpson. He later incorporated some of the proposals, largely the less controversial ones. He did not endorse some of the politically troublesome recommendations, as trimming popular tax deductions like the one for home mortgage interest.

Associated Press writers Andrew Taylor, Stephen Ohlemacher, Jonathan Fahey, Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, Tom Raum, Christopher S. Rugaber and Brian Bakst contributed to this report.

## COVERAGE

the nearby town of Whiteclay, Neb., led to a barrage of media coverage. Alcohol is banned at the reservation, but stores in the Nebraska town that has about a dozen residents and that's just two miles away sold the equivalent of 4.3 million, 12-ounce cans of beer.

A federal judge dismissed the lawsuit Monday, saying the case belonged in state court. The judge did not rule on the merits of the suit, which blames beer makers and the stores for chronic alcoholism on the reservation.

Before the lawsuit, an ABC documentary titled "A Hidden America: Children of the Plains" that aired last year drew both appreciation and consternation among tribal members because it focused on poverty, alcoholism and violence on the reservation.

More recently, Oprah Winfrey's OWN aired "Life on the Rez" part of its "Our America" series hosted by journalist Lisa Ling, in July. Rapper Lupe Fiasco mentioned Pine Ridge in his hit single "Around My Way" and tweeted photos from an impromptu visit to the reservation. And in August, National Geographic Magazine featured a 36-page spread documenting the history of the Lakota people, the poverty that has become entwined in their lives and efforts to overcome it.

Arriving to cover a story with a narrative already decided before the first interview is conducted isn't new in journalism. It's happened in Detroit with reporters writing about empty schools, skyscrapers and factories after the city's economy faltered. There's even a term for it: ruin porn. In Brazil, shantytowns known as favelas and the associated poverty and gang activity is a common thread that sees a lot of newspaper ink.

Giago has blasted "beer-sniffing reporters" who swoop in to Pine Ridge to report a story about alcoholism on the reservation without fully appreciating why the reservation has the statistics it does. Reporters often miss the people who are running the anti-alcohol programs or the schools trying to educate tribal members so they can get a job, he said.

Yet that media coverage on poverty and alcoholism has drawn many people from outside the reservation to donate their time and money to travel to Pine Ridge to try to

"It's the sort of story that Al Jazeera does. It fits very much with our mission," said Brian Wheeler, a producer with Al Jazeera English based in Washington, D.C., who traveled to Pine Ridge in May with two others to report on the alcohol lawsuit. It was Wheeler's first time to South Dakota and the reservation, he said.

"The level of poverty here is striking," he said outside the tribal headquarters as he set up an interview with Oglala Sioux Vice President Tom Poor Bear.

Poor Bear asked the Al Jazeera reporters why they were coming to Pine Ridge just to report about the issue of alcoholism.

"Why don't you guys write anything good about us," he asked?

Still, some tribal members said they are grateful for any media coverage.

Helen Red Feather, who lives in the Wounded Knee district of the reservation, said a few select people in power tend to keep the rest of

the tribe down.

"I want people to see what's going on in this reservation," the 57-year-old said as she hawked beaded jewelry near the site of the Wounded Knee Massacre, where hundreds of men, women and children were killed by the 7th Cavalry in 1890. "We have nothing."

WANTED

NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S** 

**DRIVE-THRU** 

**PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## COMMENTARY





## Red and White race relations 22 years later



**Notes from Indian Country** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

October 8 was Native American Day in South Dakota, the only state in the Union that honors Native Americans with a state sanctioned holiday: A holiday that, in fact, replaces Columbus

Many Native Americans went to bat to cause this to happen. The primary motivator was the 100th anniversary of the massacre at Wounded Knee. Many Lakota felt that something special needed to be done to commemorate the nearly 300 Lakota men, women and children that were shot down in cold blood by elements of the 7th Cavalry, Custer's old outfit, on December 29, 1890.

Birgil Kills Straight organized a horse ride that would follow the exact path taken by Sitanka (Big Foot) and his band of Lakota as they fled to the Pine Ridge Reservation seeking protection under the auspices of Chief Red Cloud. The band was stopped at Wounded Knee Creek by the United States military and the rest is history.

As the editor and publisher of the local Pine Ridge Reservation newspaper called The Lakota Times back then, I watched with great interest the efforts of Kills Straight as he set about planning the trail the riders would take. At the end of the ride Kills Straight decided to hold a ceremony at the mass gravesite at Wounded Knee where a Wiping Away the Tears Ceremony would be held and the riders would pray for the souls of those buried there and for peace and justice. Their commitment was a powerful motivator to me. I immediately wrote an editorial pointing out these facts to Governor George Mickelson (R-SD) and requested that he use this solemn occasion to consider naming a day to honor those who died at Wounded Knee and to use the days leading up to the massacre date as a Year of Reconciliation between Native Americans and whites.

Ironically, in 1989, I did an interview with Gov. Mickelson and asked him what the toughest part of his job was as governor of South Dakota. He replied, "I will give you the same answer my father gave me when I asked him the same question when he was governor of South Dakota. My father said that the toughest part of his job was the bad race relations between Indians and

Together, the governor and I, along with strong support from Lakota people like Kills Straight, Pete Swift Bird, Sr., Red Hail, Melvin "Dickie" Brewer and non-Indians like Tom Katus, Senator Tom Daschle, and Jeff and Linda Lea Viken, we lobbied, twisted arms, and cajoled our way

through the state legislators until they passed the Native American Day holiday and Gov. Mickelson issued a proclamation making 1990 The Year of Reconciliation.

All has not been sugar and spice since that historic year. Many local businesses are still holding their "Columbus Day" sales and even residents of the Indian reservations fail to realize the significance of the holiday and just use it as a day to take off from school and work.

Racial relations have improved quite dramatically, but then the only way they had to go was up. And yet just last week an ugly sign on a bathroom wall at South Dakota State University illustrated the hate and ignorance that still exists. The sign read, "Prairie Niggers, go back to the rez," and it even listed the room numbers where Native Americans were housed at the university.

Yesterday I drove into a lane where I bank and as I waited for my transaction I noticed a man in the passenger side of the car next to me talking on a cell phone. His window was rolled down, as was mine, so I could hear every word. He was shouting into the phone, "There is this bunch of drunken Indians in my neighborhood, yeah that's right, drunken Indians, so I put padlocks on all of my doors."

Of course the bank teller could hear every word he was saying and since she knew me and she knew I was also listening she looked quite dismayed. I finally said to the man, "If those guys were a bunch of white guys would you call them drunken white guys or just drunks?" He frowned at me as the driver pulled away from the bank. The teller buzzed me and said, "Thanks Tim."

Gradually we have made progress in racial relations in South Dakota. Many folks living in cities back east who have seen bad race relations between whites and blacks or Hispanics do not realize that there is the same situation in states like South Dakota, Idaho, Montana and North Dakota to name a few. It has been just over 100 years since the Indians and whites were at war with each other and the bad feelings have carried over in the minds of some people of both

As long as there are good people like the ones I named above we will continue to move forward. I know there is still racial tension in the schools and I think it is up to the superintendents and teachers to address this problem and it is up to the parents as well. But when racial epithets are scribbled on the walls of the rest rooms at a major college, it may be time to take another look at Native American Day, reconciliation, and all of the things many of us have fought so hard and so long to overcome. But as the Black anthem of the 1960s goes, "We shall overcome."

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1991. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. Giago was the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association and the founder of Indian Country Today. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@knology. net

## Self governance and the resurgence of Native nations

**DWAIN CAMP** Ponca Elder

The unmistakable of Native resurgence nations within the United States this past 40 years is often credited simply to self governance. While certainly true as far as it goes, the progression from of a disenfranchised people to today's Native Nations governments, is one of the most exciting and important in recent history. Indigenous people, against

miraculous renaissance of a historically resilient asserted sovereignty.

As a Native man born Great Depression in a Indian Health Service Bureau of Indian Affairs there, I witnessed. boarding school and raised

denied for centuries and boarding school, I traveled, thus embarked upon the worked, married and had political maelstrom that was the 70's. Thus, having subjugation and the despair during the depths of the one foot in our ancient culture and tradition and

Coming of age in a on a federal reservation, country with rampant all odds, with diligence, I had a birds eye view of racism, when a President

intelligence, strength and pervasive racial inequality. was assassinated and other we always educate the new courage, salvaged the To add another dimension, great leaders murdered, generations of our true remnants of a sovereignty immediately after leaving the Native people of our generation survived a turbulent time that did children while living in not include easily won the world of the dominant social change. Legions of people. Self-governance society before being swept nameless Native heroes was born of this newly into the cultural and and heroines died or went to prison during those formative years. Many more went on to work the rest of their days, one foot firmly planted in with pride and dignity, hospital, educated at a the new millennium, I was for reborn tribal nations, newly imbued with self governance.

Just as the struggle for equality is ongoing, so must

history. Only by teaching the staggering truth of loss of land and freedom and the atrocities we as a people have endured, can future generations fully understand how far we have progressed, the price we have paid and why we occupy the unique position in this country that we do. Only then can the warriors of tomorrow truly understand, appreciate and then perpetuate, our hard won self governance.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 

## **HAY for SALE**

www.streetmanfarms.com 918-313-8309 hay@streetmanfarms.com

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES** FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES

**Gracie Cox** 

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net



**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name.		
Address:		
City:	State:	_ Zip:
Phone:		

□ \$65.00 for 52 issues □ \$32.50 for 26 is	sues

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM PLUS LOOK FOR NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES ON TWITTER & FACEBOOK!

## 5 tips to rev up your career this Fall

Career coach and author Ford R. Myers offers the following tips to get your career back on track this fall.

HAVERFORD, Penn. - Fall is now officially here. That means it's time to hang-up the beach bag, dry out the swim trunks, and focus on career advancement.

Ford R. Myers, Career Coach, Speaker and Author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring," (John Wiley & Sons, http://www. getthejobbook.com) offers the following five tips to help job seekers get out of their summer "career coma" and focus on fall career success:

1. Create and Control Your Internet Image. Whether it's LinkedIn, YouTube, Twitter or Facebook, every professional should have an online presence. Most employers

research job candidates on the Internet before making hiring decisions. Therefore, it is vitally important that you take control of your online identity, and carefully monitor the "personal brand" you're building on the Internet.

Invest in Career Coaching. It might seem that career coaching would be a luxury in this difficult economic climate, but actually, this might be the best time to get some career coaching. A qualified Career Coach can help you get totally clear on your objective, differentiate yourself from the competition, market yourself effectively, get the offer, and negotiate the best compensation.

3. Tune into the Network. Early fall is one of the best times of the year to make new connections and find new opportunities. With folks

returning from vacation and refocusing on work, there are many fall networking functions, planning meetings and group events. These are ideal environments in which to build your network.

4. Perform an Internal Career Audit. September is a perfect time to take an honest look at your career - where you've been, where you are today, and where you'd like to go. Identify new goals based on your own definition of career success, take action, and then follow through.

5. Update Your Career "Tool Kit." Most job seekers use only their résumé as the cornerstone of their search because their other "tools" are weak or nonexistent. But there are many other documents you should have in your "career tool kit" - accomplishment stories, positioning statement,

one-page biography, target company list, contact list, professional references, letters of recommendation, and more. These items are important not just to land the next job - but also to maximize your longterm career success.

"There really couldn't be a better time than Fall to launch a professional job search. Hiring managers are back in their offices making employment decisions for the fall and early 2013," says Myers.

For more information and other useful tips for achieving career success, visit http:// www.getthejobbook.com.

Reprinted by permission of Ford R. Myers, a nationallyknown Career Coach and author of "Get The Job You Want, Even When No One's Hiring." Download your free bonuses now at http://www. careerbookbonuses.com.



· Fancy dancing · **Beadwork** Shooting hoops

Stickball · Drawing

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating

an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

## CLASSIFIEDS



The award-winning Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center in Lawton, Okla. is seeking to fill the following positions:

#### **CULTURAL SPECIALIST P/T**

must have extensive knowledge of Comanche history and culture and basic knowledge of the Comanche language. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills are required, as well as the ability to both work independently and in a team environment.

#### **DIRECTOR OF COLLECTIONS F/T**

M.S./M.A. Degree (preferred) in Anthropology (Cultural or Archaeology), Museum Studies, Art History, Conservation or related field and 24 months of collectionsrelated experience. Requirements may be met by equivalent combination of education and related experience.

### **MUSEUM REGISTRAR F/T**

Minimum qualifications: B.A. Degree is required, preferably in Anthropology, history

Preferred qualification: M.S./M.A. Degree (preferred) in Anthropology (Cultural or Archaeology), Museum Studies, Art History, Conservation or related field and 24 months of collections-related experience. Requirements may be met by equivalent

Salaries to commensurate with experience

See www.comanchemuseum.com for full job descriptions and requirements.

• Applicants must submit a cover letter and curriculum vitae or resume with three (3) references • Copy of Valid Driver's License • Copy of CDIB (if applicable) • Copy of Certificates and/or Diploma

#### **Send Resume To:**

**Comanche National Museum** Attn: Phyllis Wahahrockah-Tasi 701 NW Ferris Avenue Lawton, Oklahoma 73507

Email to: ptasi@comanchemuseum.com Phone: (580) 353-0404 Fax: (580) 353-0407 Indian Preference Applies / EEO

Deadline to apply: October 4, 2012

Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

## Ready to Step Up Your Career?

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, one of 12 regional Banks in the Federal Reserve System, counts on exceptional talents and skills to fulfill the important work of the nation's central bank. We value the unique experience and perspective each indi-

vidual brings to the job. We believe diversity adds value and unlimited possibilities.

throughout the week-

**Coordinator (Child Health)** 

Up to \$46.8K + State benefits package

BS/BA or higher, and 1 yr. of exp.

working with diverse stakeholders

and dev't of collaborative networks,

strong group facilitation, strategic

planning and communications skill, or

an equiv. combination of 5 yrs. educ.

and exp. working with . Preference

for: SoonerCare exp.; community

outreach exp; health related exp;

Spanish speaking and writing fluency:

exp. analyzing data; group meeting

facilitation; Word, Excel, PowerPoint,

SAS, SPSS exp.; and/or advanced

education. Download appl. &

questionnaire from website. Deadline:

**OK Health Care Authority** 

**Attn: Human Resources** 

2401 N.W. 23rd, Ste. 1A

personnel@okhca.org

OKC, OK 73107

www.okhca.org

Oct 9th.



#### It's Time to Step Up Your Career

Find your place today at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

www.dallasfed.org/careers

An Equal Opportunity Employer

#### Go online to nativetimes.com GWY9 D3P for more jobs! -New jobs posted

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401 (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

#### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

Positions Close: 10/09/2012

#6481 R/PT Phlebotomist Technician #7147 R/FT Inpatient Registered Nurse (RN)

> Positions Close: 10/12/2012 #5768 R/PT Medical Technologist #6493 Medical Technologist II #5998 T/PT Medical Technologist

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

Cherokee Nation **Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

## **SCHOOLS**

#### **CNA & HOME HEALTH AIDE SCHOOL!!**

Did you know your Tribe will pay for you to become a CNA? Call our office to schedule an appointment

In addition to the CNA & HHA training we offer: Resume and Interview Workshops

 Job Assistance and resume marketing • Free computer classes available

Get Certified in less than 3 weeks! "Meet us at the GOLD DOME" NW 23rd and Classen



TODAY! 405-505-7992

**Native American Times** is on Facebook!

## **FOR SALE**

**HAY for SALE** www.streetmanfarms.com

918-313-8309

hay@streetmanfarms.com

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Ask about special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

## CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### Professional & Affordable Web Design



204-376-3428

www.ganica.net

**Tulsa Area Handy Man** Home Repair, Home Maintenance & Remodeling



painting • drywall repair • carpentry • tile mouldings • doors • lights • fixtures • locks odd jobs • free estimates

I buy houses that just need some TLC...

**Nathan Hicks** 918-857-3983 nathan614@hotmail.com





## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Native American and non-Indian Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Service Unit is located on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. All Things Comanche, a three-part Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** 

Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

#### YOUTH COUNCIL

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

THROUGH NOVEMBER Kiowa Language Class, Fall semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

**THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** 

Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

#### **OCTOBER 13**

**Osage Nation Counseling Center Domestic Violence Program Benefit Dance at Wakon Iron** Building •2 p.m. – Gourd Dancing •5 p.m. - Chili Supper •6 p.m. -**Gourd Dancing. Remember to wear** purple!

#### **OCTOBER 20**

**Seminole Nation Domestic Violence Program annual quilt** auction at Grisso Mansion, Seminole, Okla. Viewing begins at 10am. Auction at Noon. Info call 405-382-3762 or email stone.t@ sno-nsn.gov

#### **OCTOBER 20**

**Pryor Powwow at MidAmerica** Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional - 16 yrs and up; Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs and up Tiny Tots 6 and under. Contestants must be in Grand Entry. Info call 918-698-0583.

#### **OCTOBER 20**

Chickasaw Cultural Center Fall Fest, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Chickasaw **Cultural Center, 867 Charles Cooper** Memorial Road in Sulphur, Okla.

#### **OCTOBER 24-27**

**Pawnee Nation College Presents The First Annual Native Arts** + Media Festival Pawnee, Okla. For details: www.

pawneenationcollege.org. Contact: NOVEMBER 3 918-762-3363

#### **OCTOBER 26-27** Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at

**Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806** W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-

#### **OCTOBER 27**

**Anniversary Dance sponsored by** children of Berwyn Sr and Delilah Moses, Pawnee Tribal Camp Grounds, Pawnee, Okla. Gourd Dance at 2pm. Supper at 5:30, intertribal at 7pm. Proceeds go to Delilah's kidney transplant fund. Info call BJ Moses 918-399-5787 or 918-762-2826

#### **NOVEMBER 1**

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd. david@jobcorps.org

Bacone College Fall Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

Fall Arts and Crafts Festival at The Museum of the Red River, Idabel, Okla. from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at The Mary H. Herron Community Conference Center. The event is free and open to the public. First 100 attendees will receive gift bags. For more information or directions call the Museum at (580) 286-3616.

#### **NOVEMBER 10**

Seminole Nation/City of Wewoka Veterans Day Parade and celebration, downtown Wewoka, 9am-4pm. Parade at 10am. Info call Jodie 405-257-2413 or Judy 405-257-7207 or www.sno-nsn.gov

#### **NOVEMBER 17**

**OKC Public Schools Native American Student Services** Powwow at Douglass High School, 988 Martin Luther King Ave, OKC. Info call 405-587-0359.

#### **DECEMBER 31**

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999

## **VOTERS**

Continued from Page

Walking Bull said. "We had a booth at Rosebud fair and registered 25 voters in one day."

Rosebud The Sioux contingency hits the usual spots like the local Indian clinic, but they also think outside of the box to find new voters. For instance, Walking Bull recently visited the nearby St. Francis Indian School. Inside the senior classrooms, they came up with a hidden cache of would-be voters-students who turned 18 or were about to become of age. They came away with new registers at St. Francis.

Finding the potential voter is only part of the challenge. Rising above voter apathy in communities of color is a big challenge, experts said. Mark Morial, president of the National Urban League (NAL) in Washington, D.C., said minorities often don't see the value of voting even after they are registered.

"One reason is that candidates who run do not aggressively seek minority votes," Morial said. "Plus, politicians may have a habit of reneging on campaign promises in previous elections."

Morial sees a powerful voting bloc in future elections if minorities unite. As its own group, statistics show Indian voters made a respectable showing in 2008. According to the U.S. Census current population survey, among Alaska Natives and Indians who registered; some 78 percent turned out to vote.

Wind River Reservation citizen, Roy Brown, president of the University of Oklahoma's Law School Indian society, said he finds Indians in a college town live and interact in pockets. His goal is to find those pockets.

"It's about getting Indians to register to vote, no matter where they are and there's still not enough people interested in the political process," he said.

Scouting for potential new voters in his corner of Indian Country motivates Walking Bull, who believes that the Native voting fields are ripe for harvest even as the registration deadline for the presidential election approaches. In South Dakota, voter registration ends on Oct. 22.

""I tell them, 'We are all Indian nations, we don't care who you vote for, just get out there and vote," Walking Bull said.

In Oklahoma, the last day to register to vote is Oct. 12 and Nov. 6 is the presidential election. Voters can also register online. Turbo Vote at http://nativevote.turbovote.org will mail voter registration materials to homes with a pre-stamped envelope, NCAI officials said.









Allie P. Revnolo

## MCN officials announce Hall of Fame inductees

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

TULSA, Okla. – A baseball player, an author, an elder and a caretaker will be among the first class inducted into the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Hall of Fame.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation officials announced the selections of Allie P. Reynolds, Joy Harjo, Simon Harry and Elsie Martin Friday morning. The four will be formally inducted on Oct. 11 at a black tie gala at the RiverSpirit Event Center emceed by former National Council member and current mayor of Eufaula, Okla., Selina Jayne-Dornan.

"We had about 100 applications," Muscogee (Creek) Nation tourism director William Lowe said. "We started with four main areas: the arts, volunteering and community service, business development and public affairs.

"With these four though, it was hard to put them in a single category. Their names kept coming up."

A native of Oklahoma City, Reynolds won six World Series titles with the New York Yankees and was named to Major League Baseball's All-Star game six times during a 12-season career. The baseball stadium at his alma mater, Oklahoma State University, was named for him in 1981 and in 1989, the New York Yankees dedicated a plaque to him beyond the centerfield fence in Yankee Stadium, the organization's highest honor. Reynolds died in 1994 at age 77.

Originally from Tulsa, Harjo is an award-winning poet, author and

musician. The winner of the 2011 Myskoke Women's Leadership award, she has released five albums and published 15 books of poetry, two children's books and a memoir.

Harry is a Euchee elder and the leader of the Duck Creek ceremonial grounds in northern Okmulgee County. The Euchees are a tribal community within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that is working on gaining separate federal recognition.

"The Euchees are a big part of who we are as Muscogee (Creek) people," Principal Chief George Tiger said. "He (Harry) has been one of the driving forces in keeping the Euchee tradition, language and culture alive."

For more than 20 years, Martin was the primary caregiver for Ray Murphy, a former Oklahoma State University wrestler who became a

quadriplegic after a 1970 wrestling accident. Originally from Tulsa, Martin now lives in Phoenix, Ariz.

"When you talk about the Murphy family, you talk about the Martin family as well," Tiger said.

The Hall of Fame will replace the tribe's Living Legends program. Previous recipients who were honored annually at the Muskogee (Creek) National Holiday will be grandfathered in.

"We wanted to take it up a notch and honor these people in a way they'll always remember," Tiger said.

For more information contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tourism & Recreation department at 918.732.7992 or by e-mail at tourism@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

## Library to honor filmmaker Sterlin Harjo

"Barking Water," Harjo's 2008 dramatic feature film, was the only American film to play in the Venice Days section of the 2009 Venice Film Festival.

TULSA, Okla. – Sterlin Harjo, Seminole/Muscogee (Creek), will receive the Tulsa Library Trust's "American Indian Writers Award" March 2, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. at Central Library, Fourth Street and Denver Avenue. His award presentation will be followed by a day of educational American Indian family events.

The award, presented every other year, consists of a \$5,000 honorarium and an engraved crystal. Previous winners include: 2001, Joy Harjo (Muscogee Creek); 2003, Vine DeLoria Jr. (Standing Rock Sioux); 2005, Leslie Marmon-Silko (Laguna Pueblo); 2007, Carter Revard (Osage) and 2011, LeAnne Howe, (Choctaw).

Harjo, born in Holdenville, Oklahoma, and now living in Tulsa, studied painting and film/video studies at the University of Oklahoma. While attending OU, a professor suggested he attend a program by Bird Runningwater, an OU graduate who had come to speak on behalf of the Sundance Institute. On the encouragement from Runningwater, Harjo submitted a script to Sundance. After another submission, in 2004, Harjo was selected as one

of the Sundance Institute's first five Annenberg Film Fellows, a multiyear program launched to provide filmmakers with financial support and full involvement in Sundance's professional workshops.

His short film, "Goodnight, Irene," premiered at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival and was cited for Special Jury Recognition at the Aspen Shortsfest.

In 2006 he was selected as one of the inaugural recipients, as well as the first Native American recipient, of the United States Artists Fellowship. He also was selected for a 2006 Media Arts Fellowship from Renew Media. In the same year, he won the Creative Promise Award from Tribeca All Access for his script "Before the Beast Returns."

Harjo's first feature film, "Four Sheets to the Wind," premiered at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival. This film was a product of his selection as one of the Sundance Institute's first five Annenberg Film Fellows.

"Barking Water," Harjo's 2008 dramatic feature film, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was the only American film to play in the Venice Days section of the 2009 Venice Film Festival. He is one of seven indigenous filmmakers who participated in the Embargo Collective, a project started in 2008 by imagineNATIVE Film & Media Arts Festival. Harjo's addition to the project, "Cepanykuce Tutcenen/Three Little Boys," premiered at



COURTESY

Sterlin Harjo, Seminole/Muscogee (Creek), will receive the Tulsa Library Trust's "American Indian Writers Award" March 2, 2013.

imagine/NATIVE in 2009, and was selected for screening in the 2010
Berlin International Film Festival and the 2011 Native American Film + Video Festival.

of an Oklahoma-born American Indian who has become a successful screenwriter and director connecting the traditional ways and thoughts

Harjo served as a jury member for the Sundance Film Festival in 2010. In 2009 he was an advisor for the Sundance Institute Ford Foundation Film Fellowship. In 2008 he was a member of the faculty for the Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute.

Currently, Harjo is a producer/director for This Land Press, an Oklahoma multi-media news organization. At This Land Press, he highlights the stories that inspire him.

"Sterlin Harjo is an example

Indian who has become a successful screenwriter and director connecting the traditional ways and thoughts with scenes in the 21st century," said Teresa Runnels, TCCL's American Resource Center coordinator. "Early in his career he has made an impact in the filmmaking world. His success serves as an inspiration to all young artists, especially emerging Native American artists, who seek to become an author or filmmaker."

For more information on library programming, call the AskUs Hotline, 918-549-7323, or visit the library's website, www.tulsalibrary.org.



CHICKASAW MEDIA RELATIONS | COURTESY

Chickasaw Nation Lt. Gov. Jefferson Keel (L) and Gov. Bill Anoatubby stand with newly crowned Chickasaw royalty Little Miss Chickasaw Payton Robertson, Chickasaw Junior Princess Chelsea Wedlow and Miss Chickasaw Autumn Michelle Underwood.

## 2012-13 Chickasaw Princesses crowned

**DANA LANCE**Chickasaw Nation
Media Relations

ADA, Okla. – Three young Chickasaw ladies were chosen to serve as the ambassadors of the Chickasaw Nation during the 2012-2013 Chickasaw Princess Pageant.

Autumn Michelle Underwood, Ada, Chelsea Wedlow, Allen, and Payton Robertson, Ada, were crowned Chickasaw Princess, Chickasaw Junior Princess and Little Miss Chickasaw, respectively Monday, Oct. 1 at the Ada High School Cougar Activity Center.

"These extraordinary young ladies will serve as excellent ambassadors and culture bearers for the Chickasaw Nation during the upcoming year," said Chickasaw Nation Governor Bill Anoatubby. "We hope the experience will enhance their lives and enable them to become

positive role models to young Chickasaws and other Native American youth. We are proud of these three young ladies and all of our Chickasaw Princess Pageant participants."

The winners received a crown, traditional dress, shawl, sash, trophy, gifts and cash prizes.

The new royalty will have the honor and privilege of representing the Chickasaw Nation at various events nationwide during their one-year reign.

Contestants were judged on the basis of traditional dress, poise and random questions.

There was also a talent portion of the competition. Singing, instrumental performances, storytelling and dance were just a few of the talents displayed.

Chickasaw Princess Autumn Underwood, 18, is the daughter of Michael Underwood and Loraine Weems. She is a senior at Latta High School, Ada. TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# AMERICAN

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 41

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**OCTOBER 19, 2012** 

## DOJ policy says American Indians can have eagle feathers



Wildflife repository specialist Dennis Wiist looks for a place to hang eagles that are ready to be sent out in one of the two freezers on Aug. 21, 2009, in Commerce City, Colo. All useable parts of the eagle bodies are kept so Native American religious practitioners have the requisite eagle feathers and talons for ceremonines.

PETE YOST Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Justice Department said Friday it's going to allow citizens of federally recognized American Indian tribes to possess eagle feathers, although that's a federal crime.

This is a significant religious and cultural issue for many tribes, who were consulted in advance about the policy the department announced.

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and other federal wildlife laws criminalize the killing of eagles, which are listed as either endangered or threatened, and possession of feathers and bird parts, but the Constitution and federal laws also give tribes local sovereignty for self-government.

Under the new Justice Department policy, tribal members will not be prosecuted for wearing or carrying federally protected birds, bird feathers or parts. They also may pick up

feathers found in the wild as long as they do not disturb federally protected birds or nests. Giving, lending or trading feathers or bird parts among tribe members, without any other compensation, also will be allowed.

While Justice did not previously have a written policy, the new directive is in line with long-standing practice by Justice prosecutors, U.S. attorneys and the Interior Department not to prosecute in such circumstances.

But the Justice Department will continue to prosecute tribe members and nonmembers alike for violating federal laws that prohibit killing eagles and other migratory birds or the buying or selling the feathers or other bird

In addition, members of federally recognized tribes are covered by the new Justice Department policy regardless of whether they have a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service permit,

See EAGLES Continued on Page 3

## Candidate chosen to lead BIA's Eastern Okla. office

during the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes quarterly session.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. — One of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' larger regional offices will soon be under new leadership.

Speaking before more than 60 people at the quarterly general session of the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes at the RiverSpirit Event Center Friday morning, acting regional director Karen Ketcher announced that a candidate has been selected to be the new permanent regional director and his application is being reviewed and vetted.

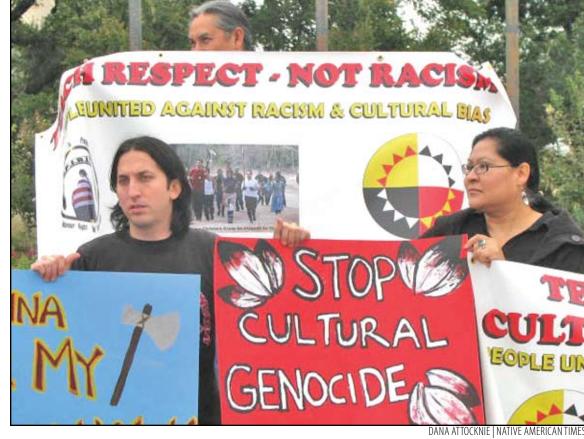
She did not announce the candidate's

"Our goal is to have him in office by Nov. 1," she said. "I look forward to working with the (Inter-Tribal) council as I go back to my old position as deputy regional director."

Based out of Muskogee, Okla., the BIA's Eastern Oklahoma regional office has seven agencies and serves 18 of Oklahoma's 39 federally recognized tribes, including the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole nations. It has not had a permanent director since 2009, when then-director Jeannette Hanna was detailed to Washington D.C.

After more than an hour of reports announcements, including

See BIA Continued on Page 3



Members of the Society to Protect Indigenous Rights & Indigenous Treaties (SPIRIT) gathered on Oct. 11 at the State Capitol in Oklahoma City to speak out against racism and human and civil rights violations based on color.

## **Application filed to access Cheyenne & Arapaho funds**

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

ARAPAHO, Okla. — An application has been filed in Custer County District Court to access frozen Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal dollars.

An ongoing leadership dispute between Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell and Leslie Wandrie-Harjo has created two governments and led to frozen tribal bank accounts with the First Bank and Trust of Clinton, Okla. Since June 21, the bank accounts have been under the supervision of the Custer County District Court. Officials from either government attempting to withdraw funds must contact the court and the other government in writing before any removals are allowed.

See FUNDS Continued on Page 5

## Kiowa council approves vote for Devol casino's refinancing

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

CARNEGIE, Okla. — Kiowa citizens will be heading to the polls to vote on a refinancing proposal, but when that election will happen is anyone's guess.

As part of Saturday's Kiowa Indian

Council meeting, Kiowa Casino Operations Authority Chairman Robbie Aduddell presented a proposal that would allow the authority to refinance the tribe's casino in Devol, Okla., near the Texas border. Currently \$46 million in debt, at one time the 60,000 square

**See KIOWA** Continued on Page 5

## Okla. governor cancels meeting with SPIRIT group, rally goes on

DANA ATTOCKNIE Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY Members of the Society to Protect Indigenous Rights & Indigenous

(SPIRIT) gather Oct. 11, in front of the Oklahoma State Capitol to speak out against racism, and human and civil rights violations based on color.

The peaceful demonstration comes a little over a month after a Kay County officer handcuffed and questioned a Mohawk Nation tribal member who was participating in the Peace and Dignity Journey 2012 run. On Sept. 5 the runner was on a dirt road headed to the Ponca City Indian Methodist Church. He was coming from Wichita, Kan., and was carrying an eagle staff, which the officer directed him to place on the ground. This directive alone has caused outrage in the Native community because it's considered a desecration of the eagle staff.

"The use of an eagle staff is not the use of a weapon. That's what brought us here today," Corey Tabor said. "We came here because our traditional ways are still under attack. We believe that this is an injustice that has not been acknowledged."

Adelegation of SPIRIT members arranged a meeting with Jeffrey Cantmell, the assistant general counsel to Gov. Mary Fallin and the director of cultural affairs, the morning of the protest however the meeting was canceled late the day before due to a "scheduling conflict." SPIRIT members wished to address racism, bias in prosecutions and law enforcement violations during the meeting.

Yet, despite the meeting cancellation a rally was still held

and SPIRIT members took turns testifying about the unequal treatment of Native Americans and people of color in Oklahoma.

"The federal law says we are all supposed to be treated equal. That does not happen in this country. We're here to fight for equal rights for our Indigenous people and for respect for Indigenous people. Here in Oklahoma, of all places, Native Americans should not have to fight for equal treatment. The name of our state means Red People and people of color should be respected here," Fannie Bates said. "We need to educate our kids, we need to educate our adults, and we need to stand up for the rights of all Indigenous people whether they are citizens of the United States or whether they are visiting this country."

**SPIRIT** members homemade signs

See SPIRIT Continued on Page 3

## War Pony Community Outreach founder on mission to help families

KAREN SHADE
Native American Times

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — When you talk to Raymond Vann about War Pony Community Outreach, you have to ask the right questions. Vann is not one to bring it up in relation to himself.

The nonprofit organization has helped people in the Cherokee Nation's 14-county jurisdiction in need of financial help with utility bill payments, diapers, emergency home repairs, appliances, clothing and other resources since it began in 2003 with Vann and a small group of friends and neighbors, including Sioux Smith-Vann, Jack and Catherine Christie, Art Floyd and Sally Williams.

"There was a need for it," said the U.S. Army veteran. "That was the main thing. We kept getting more calls from people needing stuff."

The organization, in fact, grew out of Vann's effort to see that people's basic needs were met. After a 30-year career with General Motors at its plant in Arlington, Texas, Vann retired in 1995 and returned to Oklahoma. Raised in the Chewey community in Adair County, he and his former wife settled in Tahlequah. When he thinks of Chewey, he remembers fishing and a good life.

"Sometimes it was hard. Most of the time it was good," he said.

He also remembers the poverty around him and how his grandmother, Tina Gibson, used to help everyone who came to her. She was well known in Chewey, and her work left an impression on him forever.

"I've done it (help people) off and on always, and my grandmother used to do it," he said.

In Tahlequah, he and his former wife came across the same need and decided to do what they could. When friends decided to join their efforts, they formally established the organization and applied for tax exempt status, which it received the following year.

Why "war pony" for the name? Because a warrior takes care of the people, defends them and helps see to their basic need, he said.

Those needs can be anything from a sack of groceries to see a family through until pay day, help to pay medical bills or referrals to agencies for legal advisement. For John Cornsilk, a leak in his roof brought Vann to his home more than eight years ago.

A Cherokee elder and member of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma, Cornsilk first went to the Cherokee Nation for financial assistance to repair the roof. Little came of his appeal to the tribe for help, he said. He then received a call from Vann, who had heard of his situation and offered to do what he could to help.

"He said he wanted to help through his organization and in two weeks, I had a new roof," Cornsilk said.

In the years of their acquaintance, Cornsilk has donated items for War Pony that went to others who needed assistance and offered his help in other ways.

"I've known Raymond for a long time. We're good friends," Cornsilk said. "I never got into helping (people), but that's his life, doing things for people."

War Pony is run from his home. He stores what donations of goods he receives in a garage. The outreach assists on average between 15-20 individuals every month. Rural living can be hard enough economically where there is little work. In a down economy when jobs can't open quickly enough, people turn to organizations like War Pony for assistance. And War Pony helps everyone whether they are Cherokee or of another tribe or of no tribe at all. It's even aided people living in

Cornsilk said Vann has been known to dig into his own pockets when War Pony's funds are inadequate.

Vann said the organization is getting more aid from the Cherokee Nation, but private donations make



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Raymond Vann of Tahlequah, Okla., smiles while discussing his nonprofit organization that helps people in the Cherokee Nation's jurisdiction.

up 75 percent of what it takes in.

War Pony is a full-time job, keeping him busy most days of the week, either working on houses, picking up donated appliances and answering calls from people in need.

In 2011 he ran for Cherokee Nation deputy chief, a natural step. The loss of that election, however, hasn't kept him organizing Christmas toy drives for the children (500 last year, 1,000 this year) or from thinking of solutions to create more jobs locally that can sustain and stabilize families.

Why does he do it? Vann said his work through War Pony Community

Outreach is an opportunity to get to know others and for him to stay

"There's no need to come home and sit around. Once you do that, you just go downhill," he said. "There's always something that needs to be done and a lot of people with needs. I do what I can with what time I have."

Although resources are limited, Vann, War Pony and its volunteers hope to catch all those people who, as Vann said, fall through the cracks – single-parent families, the elderly and sick or injured.

In 2010, both Vann and Cornsilk were recognized by the American

Association of Retired Persons with AARP Indian Elder Honors. Cornsilk was named for his work toward recognition of descendants of the Freedmen in the Tribe. Vann was awarded for taking care of Cherokee people.

"He'll go out of his way if he sees you need something," Cornsilk said. Vann isn't after awards.

"It's not about trying to make myself look good or make me feel good," he said. "But it does make me feel good to see someone, the look on their face."

To contact or make a donation to, call (918) 458-9095.



## NCAIED launches first regional conference in November

■ The National Center for American Indian Economic Development will host a Reservation Economic Summit on Nov. 14-15 at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Catoosa, Okla.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

CATOOSA, Okla. - Nativeowned businesses and contracting opportunities will be on display next month as a national organization launches its first regional conference.

The National Center for American Indian Economic Development will be hosting its first regional Reservation Economic Summit, RES Oklahoma, Nov. 14-15 at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Catoosa.

"It's a great honor as a Cherokee Nation citizen that our first regional event will be in the Cherokee Nation," NCAIED Chief Executive Officer and President Gary Davis said. "We (NCAIED) have such a great relationship with the tribal leaders in Oklahoma."

Since 1980, the organization has hosted an annual national RES event in Las Vegas, featuring speakers, panels, a trade fair and networking opportunities for Native American entrepreneurs, tribal economic and

business development decisionmakers, tribal leaders, government and corporate executives and buyers seeking Native American suppliers and contractors.

"At our last RES event, more than \$1 billion in contracts were signed in one day," said Margo Gray-Proctor, chairwoman of NCAIED's board of directors. "That kind of impact is power. It also means opportunity and a chance to combat our social ills."

Gray-Proctor, co-principal of Horizon Engineering in Tulsa, Okla., said the event will primarily focus on three areas: entrepreneurs, tribal enterprises and using the power of sovereignty to diversify business interests in Indian Country.

"I know many of our Oklahoma tribes are familiar with government contracting, but not all of them necessarily are," Gray-Proctor said. "This is one way to help get exposed to that."

Among the speakers scheduled for this year's event are Lance Morgan, the president and CEO of Ho-Chunk,



Inc., former Osage Nation chief Jim Gray and David Hinson, the national director of the United States Minority Business Development Agency.

"Part of what we believe as an organization is that there is so much economic development in Indian Country that this can serve as a catalyst to further that discussion," Davis said.

Davis said the Mesa, Ariz.-based center is looking at a second regional event for summer 2013, in part because of the demand for spots at the RES event at Mandalay Bay, but also in response to next month's summit at Hard Rock.

"The trade show has already sold out," he said. "Registration has been phenomenal. In many cases, I think people have been waiting for this (a regional conference) to happen.

In a way, this is simply taking what the RES event in Las Vegas - and what the folks who attend take away from it - means and bringing it to people who might not necessarily be able to travel that far. This very exciting opportunity to begin to grow this into regional events that will to live on in tribal land, give people the opportunity who can't make it to Las Vegas to get a two-day

It's exciting for me. This is something that is long overdue for Indian Country and I'm just happy to be in a position to help provide that kind of event."

The organization will also present its national awards during RES Oklahoma, including college scholarships, the Jay Silverheels awards, the First American Entrepreneurship awards, the First American Corporate Leadership award and recognition of the center's 2012 "40 Under 40" list.

"Twelveofour'40Under40'recipients this year are from Oklahoma," Gray-Proctor said. "It helps that there are so many tribes here, but it is impressive to see so many of our area young people listed among the best and brightest in Indian Country."

For more information or to register, visit www.ncaied.org.

Aaron Cooper said he did not

know when a new meeting

between the governor's office

and the SPIRIT delegation

will be rescheduled. Native

Times attempted to contact

the state's tribal liaison, Jacque

Secondline Hensley, through

the governor's office but did

not receive a response as of

"Our people need to know

that we shouldn't just sit

back and take mistreatment;

to speak out is to empower

our youth and children, and

provide them a sense of pride,"

For more information, visit

www.facebook.com/OKspirit.

Brenda Golden said.

## **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN  $M_{\text{ICHAEL}} \; M_{\text{ARRIS}}$ KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country



## HAY for SALE

SPIRIT members, the Peace and Dignity runners were stopped "three times in four days for looking suspicious."

SPIRIT

Continued from Page 1

According to

information from

professional banners that addressed stereotypes, sought appreciation of diversity, or screamed for equality. Dan Yaholar, Muscogee Nation, also sang and played guitar. Some members shared stories about discrimination they have experienced or witnessed.

Tabor said he confronted a local radio DJ via Facebook because she said she was

The Muscogee (Creek)

Nation contends that a

\$246 million proposed

expansion of a gaming

facility belonging to the

Poarch Band of Creek

Indians in Wetumpka,

Ala., would desecrate

a site that is sacred to

Creek Indians.

going to dress up her children as a cowboy and Indian for Halloween, and she said it was OK because she was part Native American. Tabor said it is not OK to dress up like an Indian for Halloween, and called it racial injustice and cultural genocide.

"We need to educate the state of Oklahoma about what's happening as far as racism towards everybody, but in particular for the Native people here. You would think that in a state that has one of the largest [Native] populations in the United States, they would have a better understanding, a cultural understanding of what Native people are, but I've learned they're the most culturally illiterate about what Native people are ...," Dave Narcomey said. "The reason that we're having this issue

four resolutions, including

one to save a sacred site facing

Located near Wetumpka,

Ala., Hickory Ground, or

Oce Vpofa, was the last

pre-removal capital of the

Muscogee (Creek) Nation and

its National Council. The site

is now part of the reservation

of the Poarch Band of Creek

Indians and is adjacent to one

Muscogee (Creek) Nation

officials contend that the

of the tribe's casinos.

potential desecration.

with the sacred staff, with the eagle feathers, the desecration, is not because, I don't think, the lack of understanding, but I think it's just a clear line of racism, discrimination ... They (police) know what an eagle staff is."

Narcomey said he is running for House District 29, "because we do need more Native politicians here to help keep a watch on anti-Indian legislation, to promote Native causes and Native issues, and to help stop a lot of what we're here for today."

According to information from SPIRIT members, the Peace and Dignity runners were stopped "three times in four days for 'looking suspicious." The Peace and Dignity Journey Facebook page at http://www.facebook. com/supportpdj has a link to

million expansion

project to the gaming facility

would desecrate the site. To

date, more than 60 sets of

human remains, including

those of seven chiefs, have

been unearthed during the

happened to us will probably

happen to you," said Sam Deer

on behalf of Hickory Ground

Mekko George Thompson.

"We were all removed and

"When we see this, what

expansion process.

brought here.

Ketcher's, the council passed Alabama tribe's proposed

a story outlining their version of the events. The Ponca City News also posted the dashcam video of the incident on their Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/ permalink.php?story\_fbid=4 14418175285016&id=13788 8652936318, stating many of the Internet comments about the incident are inaccurate.

"We're at a point to where the law enforcement today is the agents of oppression," Yaholar said. "We have the people of color who are most affected by it and it's the criminal justice system that has been the tool of the corporate elites to keep us in the area where we have to continually step up here to the steps of the Capitol to voice our concerns, and I wish they were out here today...so they can hear us."

Fallin's Press Secretary

"We still hold on to our traditions and customs here

in Oklahoma, but we need

to please remember who

we really are and who our

Formally established in

1949, the Inter-Tribal Council

of the Five Civilized Tribes

was reinstated earlier this year

during the mid-year meeting

of the National Congress of

American Indians after being

dormant for several years. The

Choctaw Nation will host the

next meeting in January.

ancestors were."

## www.streetmanfarms.com 918-313-8309 hay@streetmanfarms.com

# Thoroughbred Banking

VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 

918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned TERO Certified



ahlequah

## TIMES recycles with

Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

## **EAGLES**

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder says the new policy strikes the right balance between enforcing wildlife laws and respecting the cultural and religious practices of tribes.

Attorney General Eric Holder said in a memo to U.S. attorney offices around the country.

Holder said the new policy was issued to address concerns of tribal members who were unsure of how they might be affected by federal wildlife law enforcement efforts, particularly whether a permit would be required.

The Fish and Wildlife Service issues a very limited number of permits for Indians to kill eagles in the wild or obtain feathers and carcasses of accidentally killed eagles from a federal repository.

Doug Craven, the natural resources director for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians in Michigan, said tribal members there frequently encounter feathers from around 25 bald eagle nesting sites on their reservation.

But it wasn't always clear to them whether they could keep the feathers for ceremonial use or if they'd have to send them off to a repository.

"They feel that's been gifted to them and they have a responsibility for that feather," said Craven, who was part of a group consulting with the Justice Department on the eagle feather policy. "This policy supports that."

While tradition and customs vary widely among the more than 500 federally recognized tribes, a high reverence for eagles is fairly consistent.

Holder said the new Justice Department policy strikes the right balance between enforcing wildlife laws that protect eagles and respecting the cultural and religious practices of federally recognized Indian tribes.

"From time immemorial, many native Americans have viewed eagle feathers and other bird parts as sacred elements of their religious and cultural traditions," said Assistant Attorney General Ignacia Moreno, head of the

department's environment and natural resources division. She called the new policy "a major step forward by establishing a consistent and transparent policy to guide federal enforcement of the nation's wildlife laws."

Currently, a depository near Denver holds the carcasses of eagles that are killed by contact with power lines or other causes. Indians may apply for a feather or a carcass. There is a wait to get the feathers.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has issued a few permits allowing tribes to kill eagles in the wild.

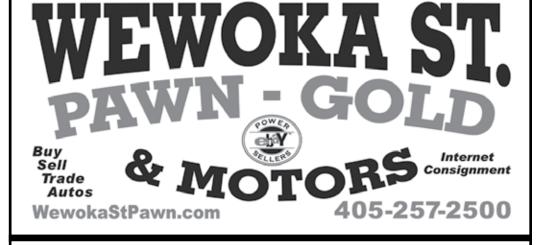
The Hopi Tribe has killed golden eagles under a federal permit for years. The Northern Arapaho Tribe of Wyoming received a federal permit from the Fish and Wildlife Service earlier this year that would allow the tribe to take up to two bald eagles a year for use in the tribe's annual Sun

However, the Northern Arapaho are suing the Fish and Wildlife Service in federal

The tribe argues the federal permit is meaningless because it would limit the tribe to

killing bald eagles outside the Wind River Indian Reservation, but a Wyoming state law prohibits killing eagles outside the reservation.

> American Indian Owned & Operated Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK

"Where every day is Indian Day"

## PNC hopes to attract crowds with new art, film festival

■ The festival has received man entries for the film portion of the event, most categorized as short works.

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

A small college in Pawnee wants the world's attention if only for a few days in October.

Pawnee Nation College is hosting the Oklahoma Native Arts & Media Festival, Oct. 24-27. The event has scheduled film screenings, art shows, music entertainment, comedy performances and crafts vendors spread across four days on the school campus and other locations. The hope is that visitors will also learn what Pawnee Nation College has to offer.

"The target of the festival is to make the college more visible and more attainable for enrollment - for all students and for the community," said festival Chair Alfreda Doonkeen, Seminole and Yaqui. "The school is not restricted only to American Indians, but it is created by and sponsored by the Pawnee Nation."

Pawnee Nation College is housed at the old Pawnee Indian Boarding School and Pawnee Agency headquarters, a campus of several historical buildings located at 861 Little Dee Drive in the town of Pawnee, both county seat and tribal headquarters of the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma. The school opened in 2004 with a diverse curriculum under the umbrella accreditation of Bacone College in Muskogee and offered core curriculum courses in math, English and science along with courses for study programs, particularly American Indian studies, construction trades, art, business and computer science.

The plan to bring higher education to the Pawnee Nation Reserve, however, goes back to the late 1970s when the tribe's business council had a plan developed for a two-year college.

Lack of resources forced the Nation to table the plan. Another attempt to bring higher learning to the reserve (an Information Technology academy) in the 1990s was unsuccessful, but the experience helped lay a foundation for what would become Pawnee Nation College.

Built on a mission to "indigenize" higher education, the school offers the local community education with a Native perspective. The school has nearly 50 students enrolled, mostly in American Indian studies course work, said Joseph Bohanon, PNC president.

"It's a good place to start," he said.

Credits transfer to four-year universities and colleges. While the PNC seeks its own accreditation, it also has plans to provide curriculum in agriculture and nutritional sciences, business administration studies emphasizing gaming specialties, medical assistant and pre-law programs and management and health certificate programs.

Some programs are already available through distance learning and online capabilities. With so much to offer the citizens of the Pawnee Nation, the residents of Pawnee and potential students, the college is little known outside of the students and faculty.

This inaugural arts festival could change that, said Bohanon, Choctaw.

"It's going to be a historic event. The college has never put something like this together with this many partnerships as we have," he said. "We have some really talented artists, producers who are going to be there for the four days."

Among them will be festival spotlight artist Bunky Echo-Hawk, Pawnee. "I'm really honored to be a part of it," Echo-Hawk said. "It's an opportunity to showcase Native art,



CULIDITECA BIINIKA ECHU"HYWY

Pawnee artist Bunky Echo-Hawk will be one of the spotlight artists featured during the Oklahoma Native Arts & Media Festival Oct. 24-27 at Pawnee Nation College in Pawnee.

and I hope to represent as a Pawnee artist and as a contemporary artist. I'm looking forward to it."

Echo-Hawk is scheduled to attend the festival opening reception, booked for 5-8 p.m. Oct. 24 at the Pawnee Nation Cultural Center, 657 Harrison St., in downtown Pawnee.

Admission will not be charged at the art show opening reception, but donations to support the college will be accepted at the door.

Film screenings will begin at 2 p.m. Oct. 25 also in the cultural center. The festival has received many entries for the film portion of the event, most categorized as short works. Subjects include the Native American Church, alcohol and drug abuse in Osage country and other topics of cultural significance.

On Oct. 26, morning and afternoon events will be for students attending the Oklahoma Native Leadership Initiative conference, but at 5 p.m., the 49 Laughs Comedy Show opens to all at the cultural center. Among the group is Anadarko native Adrianne Chalepah, Kiowa and Apache. Chalepah gave the invocation for First Lady Michelle Obama at a rally in Durango, Colo. Show admission is \$5. Vendors will open, however, Oct. 26 beginning at noon and all day Oct. 27 on the college grounds and the Pawnee County Courthouse Square.

Festivities and attractions include arts and crafts vendors, food vendors, artist demonstrations, storytelling, children's programming, poetry slams and more. Look for a 10k, 5k and kids' fun run in the morning, Art and film award winners will be named on the last day.

Excepting the opening reception, event admission is \$5 for adults (or \$8 for a two-day pass), \$4 for active military personnel with identification and \$3 for ages 6-17. Admission is free for elders (55 and up) and children under 6. Proceeds of the event go to benefit programs and services offered by Pawnee Nation College. For more information, call (918) 762-3363 or visit pawneenationcollege.org.



## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each
Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## COMMENTARY

## 'What the hell, they're only Indians'



#### **Notes from Indian Country**

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Melvin "Dickie" Brewer, a classmate of mine at the Holy Rosary Indian Mission on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, and a lifelong friend, like so many Indian boys and girls faced with the hardships of growing up in poverty, developed a drinking problem.

It became a little more pronounced while he served in the military and one day while in Paris he was arrested and spent a couple of days in the infamous Bastille. He used to quip, "I'm probably the only Sioux Indian that ever did time in the Bastille."

This wasn't something he was proud of but it was the irony of the situation that settled in his mind. It also motivated him to do something about it. He went on with his education and eventually became a substance abuse counselor at Pine Ridge. He and his then wife Alma bought an old house and tried to refurbish it and turn it into a home where homeless alcoholics could stay while undergoing rehabilitation. Of course they didn't count on the near impossibility of raising money. They searched high and low through every agency and program they could find, but it seemed that treating alcoholism on the Pine Ridge Reservation was not too high on the priority list of

As a lifelong resident of the reservation Dickie saw the problems presented to the residents of Pine Ridge because of the easy availability of alcohol in the nearby, just across the border, community of Whiteclay, Nebraska. It didn't deter him from doing his job and working with the heavy drinkers to find a cure.

Dickie used say, "You know, when I was a drinker nobody put a gun to my head and said drink that beer. I did it all by myself."

Dickie believed that the prohibition of the sale of alcohol on the reservation was a bigger problem than opening the reservation. He firmly believed that as long as the sale of alcohol was forbidden on the reservation those prone to alcohol

consumption would just go across the border to buy it.

"If we had legal sales here at Pine Ridge we could use the tax dollars to combat the disease. We could have well-funded programs, more counselors and more control over the sale of liquor and this would go a long way to help us cure this terrible disease," he used to say.

That was many years ago and today one of the strongest advocates of legalizing the sale of alcohol on the reservation is an elected member of the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council from the Pejuta Haka (Medicine Root) District of the reservation named James "Toby" Big Boy. When a lawsuit was brought against the alcohol distributors and manufacturers and four liquor stores in Whiteclay, Big Boy knew the suit was frivolous, but he also felt that at least something was being done.

Suing a liquor store is like suing a gun manufacturer because a gun was used in an armed robbery or murder. It was not the gun that did the damage but the person using it. And the same can be said of alcohol.

The reasons there is a problem with alcohol consumption in Indian Country are many and it would take volumes to explain it. One that is either overlooked or downplayed happened when thousands of Indian children were institutionalized beginning in the late 1800s and continuing into the 1960s. They were taken from their homes and families and placed in Bureau of Indian Affairs or church mission boarding schools in an effort to de-Indianize them.

Like those Jews interred in concentration camps during World War II, they were stripped of their clothing and issued identical clothes, had their heads shaved, pushed into dormitories, forbidden to speak their Native tongues, beaten and abused for the slightest infraction, taught that everything "Indian" was bad including their parents and grandparents if they still were clinging to the old ways. Thousands of these children had never before experienced corporal punishment until the boarding schools. Beaten with leather belts and locked in dark closets for hours, two or three generations of Indian children were pushed out of these schools and onto the reservations or streets totally confused about who they were and what life expected of them. More often than not, many of these children were sexually abused by their keepers.

Again, thousands of these children, now adults, turned to alcohol to forget and probably because it numbed them of these memories. The abused, as often happens, became the abusers

and another generation of children experienced the trauma of their parents. It is a cyclical thing that the Indian people themselves are trying so hard to break.

There is another entire chapter that must be written about the loss of land, traditions, culture, dignity and selfesteem as perpetrated by the United States government over the past 200 years that greatly contributed to the problems related to the alcohol and drug consumption among American Indians. Indians were the guinea pigs of social experiments for more than 200 years. Esteemed attorney Felix S. Cohen called Indians "miner's canaries" because every social experiment intended to improve life in America was tested on them first to see if it would fly. As can be expected, many of the social experiments did more harm than good, but as one anonymous government official said back then, "What the hell, they're only Indians."

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, is President of Unity South Dakota. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard with the Class of 1991. His weekly column won the H. L. Mencken Award in 1985. Giago was the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association and the founder of Indian Country Today. He can be reached at UnitySoDak1@

## **FUNDS**

Continued from Page 1

Using figures from the tribes' 2008 budget, Thomas Ivester, a Sayre, Okla.-based attorney representing the Wandrie-Harjo recognized legislature, filed a request last Tuesday with the Custer County District Court to access federal contract funds for the tribes' elder nutrition program, emergency youth shelter and Indian Child Welfare office.

Ivester also asked that if the tribes' jurisdictional area.

foot building owed more than

If approved, the KCOA

would be allowed to negotiate

and execute the necessary

contracts to refinance the

Kiowa Casino - Red River,

which could lower its debt by

about \$5 million and reduce

its interest rate. The contracts

would also require the tribe

and the KCOA to waive

sovereign immunity with

to the loan on the casino,"

Aduddell said. "We have

already been working under a

limited waiver. This would just

"Under this deal, the only

According to the tribe's

constitution, issues presented

at the October Kiowa Indian

Council, such as Aduddel's,

recourse the lender has is the

assets of the casino."

"This would only apply

respect to loan.

spell it out.

\$84 million.

application is granted, that the Western Oklahoma regional office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Anadarko, Okla., be notified so the office can closely monitor the drawdowns.

The filing is the first written request from either side to allow a drawdown from the frozen account since the court assumed oversight.

A hearing date has not yet been scheduled.

More than 12,000 people are enrolledintheconstitutionallybound tribes, including about 5,000 who live within the

would go before voters on the

first Saturday in November.

However, a representative for

the Kiowa Tribe could not

confirm an election timeline

for the issues presented

Saturday due to a vacancy on

In addition to the KCOA's

bid, the Kiowa Indian Council

also heard a proposal to issue a

second annual elder payment.

Currently, tribal citizens 65

and older receive a check

each December. If adopted,

an additional check would be

In addition to the issues

presented for the first time

Saturday, another 20 issues

that were presented at the

October 2011 Kiowa Indian

Council meeting have not yet

including recall elections,

office terms and signatory

authority on tribal checks,

those 20 were re-read Saturday

morning at the request of the

Spanning a range of topics

mailed in November.

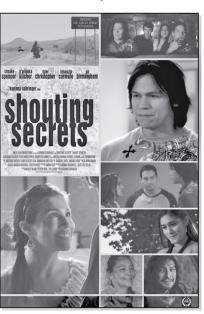
gone before voters.

meeting attendees.

the tribe's election board.



#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19th



7:00 pm – Stumbling Bear Dir. Dan Bigbee Prod. Lily Shangreaux

7:05 pm - Tonto Plays Himself Dir. Floyd Jacob

7:45 pm – Short Films:

Thunder Inside Me Maiden Indian The Indian Word

8:15 pm – **Shouting Secrets** A film

Korinna Sehringer Written by Mickey Blaine, Steven Judd, & Tvli Jacob

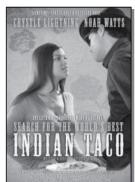
(Meet writer Tvli Jacob)

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th

1:00 pm - Up Heartbreak Hill Dir. Erica Scharf

2:45 pm - This Time Last Winter Dir. Ann Verrall



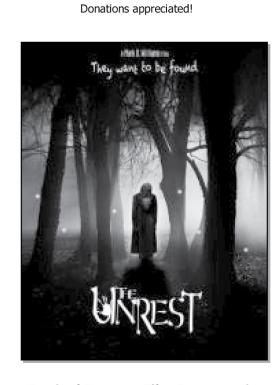


3:30 pm - Short Films from The 1491s

The 1491s are a sketch comedy/media collective sensation from the wooded ghettos of Minnesota and the buffalo grass of Oklahoma.

(Meet Ryan Red Corn and Sterlin Harjo)

5:00 pm - Search for the World's Best Indian Taco Dir. Steven Judd



For more information -

http://www.facebook.com/redforknaff

**Support Native American Film** 

Festival Feature Film Presentation **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20th** 

7:15 pm - The Adventures of Josie the Frybread Kid The Adventures of Josie the Frybread Kid II



8:00 pm – *The Unrest* (Meet Director Mark Williams)

## **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736

johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties



## Native American Art Exhibition & Market

4:00—9:00 pm Friday / 1:00—9:00 pm Saturday

Dusty Billie, Loretta Burgess, Charlie Chapman, Teddi Duncan, Crystal Hanna, Sonny Howell, Michal Laudermilk, Victoria Mason, Dora Smith-Patzkowski, Jamie Sumpter, Dana Talbert, and Donna Tiger





## CLASSIFIEDS



The IRS is the foundation for all that our nation is capable of — and we depend on our brightest, most dedicated citizens to achieve our goals.

Consider a future — where your expertise does more than meet a bottom line — it serves the American public and funds our nation's future. There are a lot of ways to stay in touch with the IRS as you consider a career move:

 Keep up to date about what we have to offer employees on our Facebook page.

- Follow job vacancy announcements on Twitter.
- Watch real employees tell their stories on our YouTube channel.
- Learn which career might suit you best with our Fit Check tool.
- Connect with IRS recruiters and see what IRS employees have to say about working here on our **LinkedIn** page.

A career at the IRS means being challenged and supported. It means enjoying work-life balance in a truly diverse and inclusive environment. It means using your skills to strengthen our workforce as we fund America's most vital programs. Connect with IRS recruiters via social media today; it may help you realize what kind of career you really want.

Connect with us. fb 18 in 18

U.S. Citizenship Required An Equal Opportunity Employer www.jobs.irs.gov/more



Count on me

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

Positions Close: 10/16/2012

#7182 Registered Respiratory Therapist/T/PT #6890 Inpatient RN/PRN/T/PT

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465

(918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results, Indian preference is considered

## **Human Resources Director**

Plans, directs, and coordinates human resource management activities of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe to maximize the strategic use of human resources and maintain functions such as employee compensation, benefits, recruitment, personnel policies, and regulatory compliance. Assists in resolution of grievances, updates and assists in Tribal Policy and Procedures Manual, oversees maintenance of HRIS and hard copy personnel records; represents the Tribe in hearings/meetings and administers and implements goals & objectives of the Human Resources Department.

Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources, Personnel Administration preferred or related field. Minimum of 3 years directly-related experience as a generalist in the areas of recruitment, employee relations, benefits, compensation and/or other human resource programs.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe is an equal Opportunity Employer. Otoe-Missouria and Native American preference will be observed. All appointments are subject to drug screening and background checks.

Please submit employment application to Human Resources, 8151 Hwy 177, Red Rock, OK. 74651 by 4:30 p.m., October 24, 2012 or email to hr@omtribe.org. An application form can be found at www.omtribe.org (Human Resources\Forms). Resumes are accepted but will not substitute for application.

**Look for Native American Times on Facebook and Twitter!** Friends get front page scoops, new features and breaking news.

## **Native American** hiring preference?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, **MORE EVENTS** EVERY DAY. Visit online at NATIVETIMES.COM

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Ask about special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

## WANTED

### *NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS*

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

## CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

## **Professional & Affordable Web Design**

Let us create a web site that never stops giving you BUSINESS 24

204-376-3428

www.ganica.net

#### Tulsa Metro Area **HANDYMAN**

Painting • Drywall Repair Odd Jobs Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"



918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA



# E E OUTDOOR CONCERTS

**GATES OPEN AT 6 PM** 

**OPENING ACT • MICHAEL TODD AND THE WILD FRONTIER BAND** 

Rain or shine. All ages welcome. Bring your own chairs. No outside coolers, food or drinks allowed.



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19



**JO DEE MESSINA** FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26 SAND SPRINGS



TULSA BARTLESVILLE SAND SPRINGS PONCA CITY SKIATOOK HOMINY PAWHUSKA

(918) 699-7777 • osagecasinos.com •

Like us on Facebook!



©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.

## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance **Abuse and Behavioral Health** Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

#### **SECOND TUESDAY**

**Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

#### THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, **Oklahoma City** 

#### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

www.okchoctaws.org

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

#### Kiowa Language Class, Fall semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant

Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor:

Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337,

**THROUGH NOVEMBER** 

e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com **THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center,

**OCTOBER 20 Seminole Nation Domestic** 

701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton,

Okla. 580-353-0404 or www.

comanchemuseum.com

**Violence Program annual quilt** auction at Grisso Mansion, Seminole, Okla. Viewing begins at 10am. Auction at Noon. Info call 405-382-3762 or email stone.t@ sno-nsn.gov

> **Pryor Powwow at MidAmerica** Expo Center, 526 Airport Road, Pryor, Okla. Contest powwow! Men's Fancy Dance - 16 yrs and up; Men's Traditional - 16 yrs and up; **Senior Ladies Southern Cloth 55 yrs**

> > Entry. Info call 918-698-0583. Chickasaw Cultural Center Fall Fest, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Chickasaw **Cultural Center, 867 Charles Cooper**

Memorial Road in Sulphur, Okla.

and up Tiny Tots 6 and under.

Contestants must be in Grand

### **OCTOBER 24-27**

**Pawnee Nation College Presents The First Annual Native Arts** + Media Festival Pawnee, Okla. For details: www. pawneenationcollege.org. Contact: 918-762-3363

#### **OCTOBER 26-27**

**Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806** W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-9385.

#### **OCTOBER 27**

Anniversary Dance sponsored by children of Berwyn Sr and Delilah Moses, Pawnee Tribal Camp Grounds, Pawnee, Okla. Gourd Dance at 2pm. Supper at 5:30, intertribal at 7pm. Proceeds go to Delilah's kidney transplant fund.

Info call BJ Moses 918-399-5787 or

"37th Annual Sorghum Day Festival," hosted by the Seminole Nation Museum and the City of Wewoka's Chamber of Commerce, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

#### **OCTOBER 30**

918-762-2826

An evening with N. Scott Momaday at Oklahoma City University, 7 p.m. at Kerr McGee Auditorium Meinders School of Business N.W. 27th Street and McKinley Avenue Oklahoma City. Momaday will read from his most beloved works and sign books after the event. Books will be available for purchase. For more information, call 405-208-5290 or 405-208-5898.

### **NOVEMBER 1**

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd. david@jobcorps.org

Bacone College Fall Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

Fall Arts and Crafts Festival at The Museum of the Red River, Idabel, Okla. from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at The Mary H. Herron Community **Conference Center. The event is** free and open to the public. First 100 attendees will receive gift bags. For more information or directions call the Museum at (580) 286-3616.

Osage Exhibit Opening at Osage **County Historical Society Museum,** 10am-12pm. Exhibit includes rare Osage items not seen anywhere. Info call 918-287-9119.

AHA Powwow honoring all heart attack and stroke survivors and their families, Concho Community Hall, Concho, Okla. Winner take all contest, tiny tots. Info call Rachel 405-593-6931.

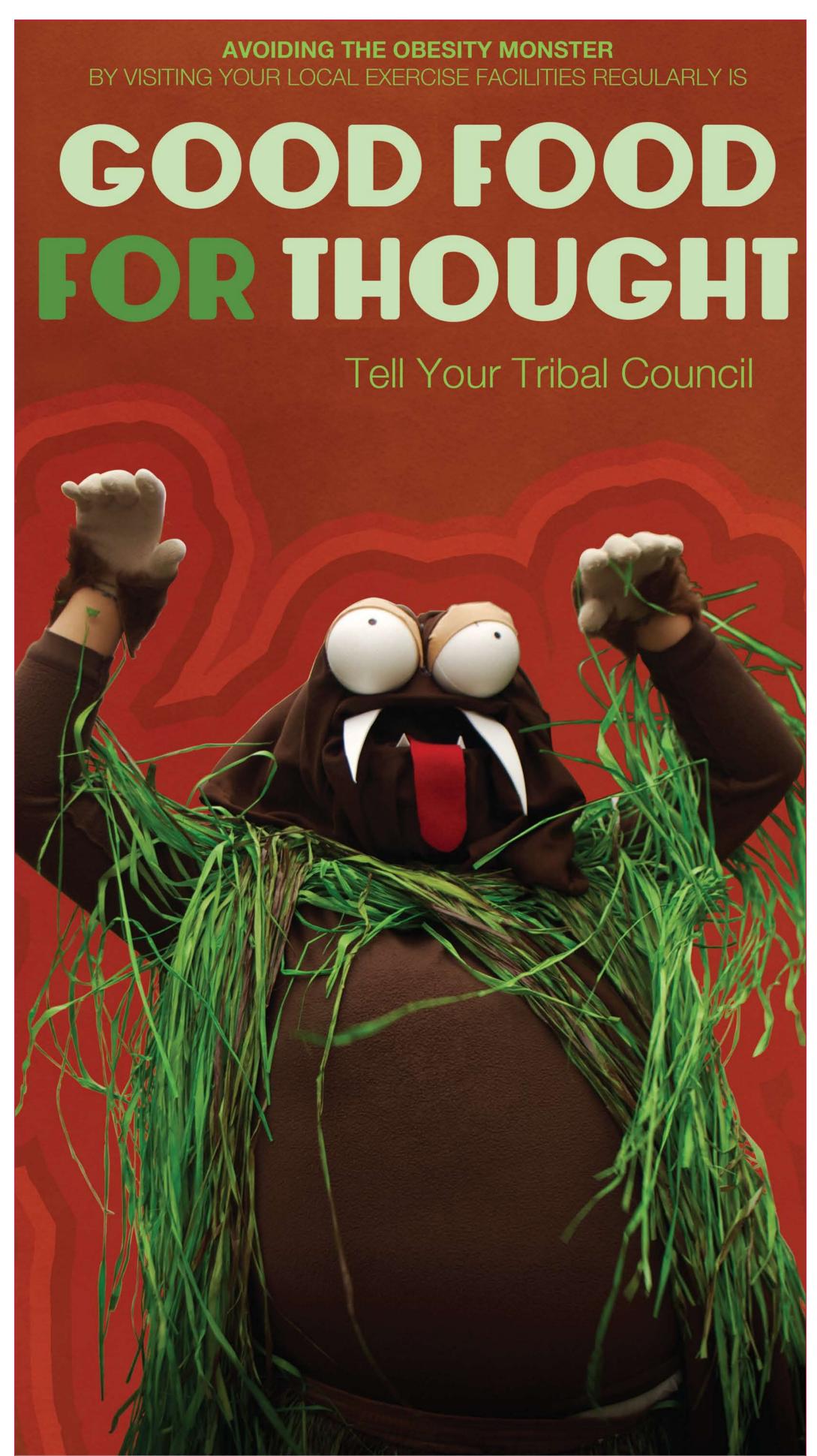
#### **NOVEMBER 10**

Seminole Nation/City of Wewoka **Veterans Day Parade and** celebration, downtown Wewoka, 9am-4pm. Parade at 10am. Info call Jodie 405-257-2413 or Judy 405-257-7207 or www.sno-nsn.gov

'Eat What Eagles Eat' benefit dinner for Grey Snow Eagle House, 6:00 at the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma **Powwow Grounds in the Chena** building. Tickets are \$50. Info call 405-334-7471

#### **NOVEMBER 16-17**

Tahlequah Holiday Bazaar Arts & Crafts show to raise awareness and donations for Leukemia/ Lymphoma Society, 10 am to 6 pm, Fri & Sat, Cherokee Cty Comm Bldg, 908 S. College. Contact Linda @ 918-694-3349 for more information.





A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

TODAY'S INDEPENDENT INDIAN NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 42

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

OCTOBER 26, 2012

Officials gather under a tent in this September 2008 file photo to celebrate the dedication of the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum in Oklahoma City.

## AICCM audit targets money management problems

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

OKLAHOMA CITY — An audit released Wednesday has uncovered multiple problems with a partially completed American Indian Cultural Center and Museum.

Earlier this year, Gov. Mary Fallin requested an audit of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority. Created in 1994, the authority oversees a proposed cultural center and



Gov. Mary Falli

museum that currently sits partially completed at 900 N. Broadway Ave.

"The purpose of a performance audit is to provide a tool to improve efficiencies and correct ineffective practices," state Auditor Gary Jones said. "While the audit may be critical in nature, the end result is to propose solutions to put the entity on solid ground with recommendations to enhance its operations."

So far, the facility has received about \$97 million in state funds, almost \$15.7 million in federal dollars and \$8 million from other sources. The figures do not include \$40 million in private pledges if the state agrees to match it with an additional \$40 million. During the 2012 session, the Oklahoma legislature rejected a bond proposal that would have

provided additional funds, leading to the building's construction to be suspended pending additional funds.

According to the audit, which covers July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2012, the board chose the most expensive of the six plans presented by the center's architect, despite only having \$5 million secured at the time.

Initially, project cost options ranged from \$53.5 million to \$136.1 million, but the board approved a budget plan of \$169 million, the audit found.

"The board appears to have equated cost with quality, with ensuing decisions based on this premise," Jones wrote. "While this cost may have been statutorily permissible, it may or may not be regarded as reasonable by state taxpayers and officials."

The audit also showed that the board spent an additional \$18.7 million on multiple outside consultants while only securing \$8.3 million in outside donations prior to the 2012 legislative session.

"The board does not appear to have managed the AICCM efficiently and effectively to this point, and has yet to develop an operating budget for the museum in which future state subsidies are realistically estimated," Jones wrote. "However, a change in the attitudes of decision makers, a commitment to completion within a given budget, and a shift in the direction of the project in the short run might salvage the project in the long run. Board modifications and legislative involvement should incentivize private participation, and greater accountability and transparency should encourage more efficient operations."

The audit includes five recommendations for the board

See AUDIT Continued on Page 3

## Poarch Creeks halt casino expansion

■ The decision comes on the heels of a resolution adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes to intervene.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

OKMULGEE, Okla. – A proposed casino expansion project is now on hold as officials from two tribes work

towards a resolution to preserve a preremoval burial ground potentially threatened by construction.

Late night Oct. 16, Muscogee (Creek) Nation officials announced that the Poarch Band of Creek Indians would halt all construction efforts near Hickory Ground, the last pre-removal capital of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and home to ceremonial and burial grounds. To date, more than 60 sets of human remains have been unearthed during the expansion process, including those of seven chiefs.

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians confirmed the details of the release the following morning but declined further comment until the two tribes' leaders meet Monday afternoon (Oct. 22) during the annual convention of the National Congress of American Indians in Sacramento, Calif.

"Trying to correct something in one afternoon isn't easy," Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger said about the upcoming meeting. "We're talking about the

See CASINO Continued on Page 4

## Means hospitalized in Arizona

NATIVE SUN NEWS STAFF

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. – Russell Means has been admitted to a hospital in his seasonal hometown of Scottsdale.

The American Indian Movement co-founder and actor was hospitalized last week, when he announced that his esophageal cancer was no longer in remission. The 72-year-old said he learned he has "new cancer spots" on Aug. 20.

Prior to the Aug. 20 diagnosis, Means, who is Oglala Lakota, had kept his throat cancer at bay since December of last year, saying at the time that he was cancer-free.



Activist Russell Means

Initially diagnosed with esophageal cancer during the summer of 2011, he opted to forgo the conventional Western medicine methods of

chemotherapy and radiation to treat his cancer, and instead chose to fight it using methods more attuned to his Lakota spirituality, including prayer.

Sources close to Means and his wife, Pearl, who is originally from the Scottsdale area, say his lungs are failing and he is in "terminal condition."

Means, whose birthday is Nov. 10, isn't expected to live much longer and doctors say they didn't expect him to have survived this long.

In an email message to Native Sun News last week, he said he has "fantastic medical teams utilizing

See MEANS Continued on Page 4

# Boy's miracle cure prompts creation of 1st Native saint

■ Cure of five-year-old American from flesh-eating disease propels Mohawk Kateri Tekakwitha on to sainthood

NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) – Jake Finkbonner was so close to death after flesh-eating bacteria infected him through a cut on his lip that his parents had last rites performed and were discussing donating the 5-yearold's tiny organs.

Jake's 2006 cure from the infection was deemed medically inexplicable by the Vatican, the "miracle" needed to propel a 17th century Native American, Kateri Tekakwitha, on to sainthood. Kateri will be canonized on Sunday along with six other people, the first Native American from what is now the U.S. to receive the honor.

Jake is fully convinced, as is the Catholic Church, that the prayers his family and community offered to God through Kateri's intercession, including the placement of a Kateri relic on Jake's leg, were

See SAINT Continued on Page 4



AP PHOTO/ALESSANDRA TARANTINO

Jake Finkbonner, of Ferndale, Washington, left, is flanked by his mother Elsa during an interview with the Associated Press, in Rome, Thursday, Oct. 18, 2012. Jake was infected with a flesh-eating bacteria in 2006, when he was five years old, and his prognosis was so grave that his parents had last rites performed and were discussing donating his organs. The Vatican determined that Jake's cure was a miracle due to the intercession of Kateri Tekakwitha, a 17th century Mohawk who is among seven people declared saints Oct. 21 by Pope Benedict XVI.

Betty Boney, Cherokee, a participant in the Project NATIVE low vision workshops and program tries out several styles of equipment that enhance images for the visually impaired.

## Free training, visual aids for Native Americans with impaired vision provided by unique program

Sign up now for Project NATIVE's fall workshops

SAMMYE RUSCO

American Indian Resource Center

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – Free workshops offering meaningful life skills and visual aid technology training to help Native Americans with impaired vision are scheduled to start on Saturday, October 27 and will be held at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

"I am now reading things that I haven't read in years!" exclaimed Project NATIVE participant Betty Boney. Boney recently received a machine that magnifies written pages and projects them onto a screen monitor which is set to the magnification that enables her to read text. She can also use it for family photos.

The workshops help participants

remain productive and independent, which is a central goal of Project NATIVE. The unique program, the first of its kind to focus on Native Americans, is made available through the American Indian Resource Center in Tahlequah and funded through a grant from the Administration for Native Americans, U.S. Department of Health and Human

Now in its second year, this phase of Project NATIVE will provide training to up to 75 Native Americans this fall. The free program offers a short series of hands-on workshops designed to help low vision individuals with beneficial information to live more independently. The workshops also introduce the participants to current technology and equipment such as special lighted magnifiers and computer aids that help those

with impaired vision see and read. After attending the workshops, Project NATIVE orders some of the equipment for participants and delivers it to their homes, all at no cost.

"People, especially older people, in the United States are losing eyesight at the rate of one person every seven minutes [according to Research to Prevent Blindness]," stated Project NATIVE Director Lillian Young, Ed.D. Americans are particularly impacted since there is a high correlation between the incidence of diabetes and loss of eyesight. This program is a great start at providing direct services to those with impaired vision, helping them get started with technology and equipment geared specifically for them and eventually to create awareness with the general public about the common issues people

with low vision face every day."

"Last year we launched this program with 25 participants. We are delighted to report that our first group of participants eagerly learned about the equipment available to help them in their daily lives. They expressed sincere pleasure and gratitude for getting to know each other and they want to continue to meet as a group. The participants really became a community. This year our new participant goal is 75. Right now there is plenty of room and we encourage people to spread the word and get signed up."

If you know of someone who is visually impaired and may be interested in Project NATIVE, please ask them to call (918) 456-5581 for information. The staff at Project NATIVE is happy to answer questions and help with the application.

## Trio gets prison time for investment scheme

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) – Three people convicted in a fraudulent Nebraska investment scheme have been sentenced to prison and ordered to make restitution of more than \$16.6 million.

The three were sentenced last Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Lincoln.

Stella Levea and James Masat, both of Grand Island, were given eight years and a month in federal prison. Kenneth Mottin, of St. Libory, was given five years. They must serve three years of supervised release after leaving prison.

Levea and Masat were the principals of First Americans Insurance Service, which had been under investigation since a 2009 bankruptcy filing. Mottin worked for them.

First Americans, incorporated in 1980, had touted services to American Indian tribes in more than 20 states before it failed. The former insurance company isn't related to First American Corp., a Santa Ana, Calif.-based provider of title and specialty insurance and business information.

Prosecutors have said Levea, Masat and Mottin solicited investments from private lenders who were told that their money was backed by secure annuities.

Instead of buying annuities, the three used the money to support their business and personal expenses, prosecutors said.

Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning compared First Americans' actions to a Ponzi scheme in which investors were promised unusually high returns and early investors were paid out with money from later investors.

In court Wednesday, Levea and Masat apologized and expressed regret.

"I would love to turn back the clock," Levea said.

Masat's attorney, Tom Dahlk, blamed the 2008 financial crisis for the Grand Island company's problems and said things went out of control there.

"It never should have happened," Dahlk said.

Levea's attorney, Clarence Mock, and Dahlk urged the judge to sentence their clients to house arrest, community service and five years of probation and order them to earmark half their salaries for the restitution.



## Tribal court disputed in Grand Canyon bridge fight

■ The federal district court repeatedly has said that the tribal court has the first right to hear the case.

**TERRY COLLINS** Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - The jurisdiction of a Native American tribal court was challenged Friday by the developer of a popular glass bridge over the Grand Canyon who has been locked in a multi-million dollar contract dispute with an Arizona-based tribe.

David Jin's lawyer, Troy Eid, told a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that the Las Vegas businessman should not have to fight his legal battles in the Hualapai tribal court system, saying it lacks authority to hear the case.

Eid also said the tribal court is not giving his client a fair shot to protect his financial stake.

Jeffrey Gross, an attorney for the tribe, denied the allegations and told the panel that Jin signed a contract allowing the operation of the Skywalk to be governed by Hualapai law. Gross argued that Jin first must exhaust his legal options in tribal court before turning to federal

The fight between Jin and the tribe could be worth tens of millions of dollars and stems from a disagreement over management fees and an incomplete visitor center.

The dispute prompted Hualapai leaders to sever Jin's contract. They say he is owed \$11 million for fair market value of the Skywalk. Jin, however, says his rights are worth closer to \$100 million. He has alleged in lawsuits that his constitutional rights are being violated.

The Grand Canyon Skywalk extends in a horseshoe shape from the canyon's edge on tribal land in western Arizona, giving visitors a view of the Colorado River 4,000 feet below. Jin invested \$30 million to build it.

It's unclear when the panel will rule in the dispute over jurisdiction.

The judges said they understood the claims and are aware of the financial stakes. They also said they realize both parties are anxious for a resolution.

The judges also asked Gross halfheartedly if they would see the parties back again for another possible round of appeals.

"Or not," Gross said. "Because we don't know what's going to happen in tribal court and that's the whole point of exhausting the administrative remedies in tribal court because that process may prevent us from coming back."

There is an exception to exhausting tribal court remedies if Jin's attorneys can prove that the tribal court – not the Tribal Council - has acted in bad faith. He's been unsuccessful so far.

The federal district court repeatedly has said that the tribal court has the first right to hear the case.

The two sides don't agree either on an arbiter's decision to award Jin more than \$28 million in the contract dispute. The tribe pulled out of the proceeding by the American Arbitration Association once it cut Jin out of the contract.

Writer Felicia Fonseca in Flagstaff, Ariz., contributed to this report.

## Projects teaching children to speak Native language at younger age

So far, parents say they are seeing noticeable differences in their children.

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) - When Peter Hill's daughter was born two years ago, he made a conscious decision to only speak Lakota to her.

Hill, who is fluent in Lakota after learning it as a second language, said he wanted Charlotte to learn the American Indian language from the start.

"By virtue of that ... in terms of understanding, (she is) completely and equally fluent in both English and Lakota," the proud father and Lakota instructor said.

Now the Pine Ridge S.D., man plans to start an immersion day care to get other infants speaking fluent Lakota early. His is part of a wave of projects targeting younger children in an effort to revitalize the language of Lakota, which is spoken primarily by Sioux Native Americans in North and South Dakota.

Fewer than 6,000 people speak the American Indian language of Lakota fluently - less than 14 percent of the Lakota population in the Dakotas - and the average age of a Lakota speaker is 60.

"My hope is if we can make it successful then other people that want to do the same thing can follow the same model," said Hill, who initially will focus on infants from 15 to 20 months old.

in-home Lakota Immersion Childcare is set to open at the end of October or beginning of November on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in southwestern South Dakota. Hill's mission is to immerse children in the language as infants so that Lakota becomes their first language rather than a second language.

It's a lofty goal but something that parents want, even if they cannot speak the language fluently themselves. There's already a waiting list of 10 children.

Hill previously worked at the Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge reservation. He's searching for another caregiver besides him, preferably a woman who is fluent in Lakota and has experience working with children.

He describes the ideal candidate as "someone who is young enough that they have the energy and the charisma to sort of handle all these toddlers but also old enough that they are a ... genuinely fluent speaker."

The plan it to expand the program to include elementaryschoolcurriculum as the initial children reach school age. The early childhood component will be retained permanently.

Other initiatives are under way to start teaching Lakota at a younger age. Twenty episodes of the Berenstain

Bears cartoon have been translated into Lakota, and an app geared toward kids learning the language has been created.

And on the Standing Rock reservation, which straddles the North Dakota-South Dakota border, an immersion nest for 3-year-olds called the Kampus Kids Lakota Immersion program started in September.

Project director Sacheen Whitetail Cross said the program uses basic earlychildhood teaching methods and a concept called total physical response, which uses action to teach. For example, Whitetail Cross said, students will use the language to describe their actions of passing out utensils at meal times or brushing their teeth.

The immersion nest is part of the Lakota Language Education Action Program, which is aimed at trying to increase the number of young teachers capable of teaching Lakota as a second language. The Action Program offers tuition, room and board to qualified language students at the University of South Dakota or Sitting Bull College on the Standing Rock reservation. Once completed, students are required to teach Lakota in a classroom for the same amount of time they received funding.

So far, immersion nest parents say they are seeing noticeable differences in their

children. Mary Wilson and her husband had been trying on

their own to teach Lakota to their daughter, Tiwakanna Mentz, but the 3-year-old showed little interest in learning it. The Fort Yates, N.D., couple enrolled Tiwakanna in the day care and now she's surrounded by other 3-year-olds, being taught by a fluent Lakota speaker and learning new words and expressions every

"Almost immediately her attitude about it has changed and she sort of accepts that it's something that people use other than her mom or her dad," Wilson said.

Another parent, Stephanie Yellow Hammer, said she is constantly surprised by her son Karsen's growing vocabulary. The Fort Yates woman said the 3-year-old knows how to ask for things in Lakota without repeating someone else's words.

Yellow Hammer, who does not know the language but grew up with her father speaking it, said keeping the language alive is paramount for the Lakota culture.

"A lot of our culture is oral so without our language we would have no culture. No songs and prayers for ceremonies and powwows. No way to pass on stories, traditions, beliefs values," she said.

For more information or to donate to the Lakota Immersion Childcare, visit www.LakotaLearners.com

as it moves forward: develop a clear comprehensive budget; enhance legislative oversight via NACEA independence; modify the board membership to include people with more museum administration experience; differentiate the NACEA board responsibilities from those of the museum foundation's board and develop a realistic business plan.

"Our audit found no lack of dedication to the project from the board," Jones wrote. "On the contrary, they show an enthusiastic passion for the mission. The vision of the American Indian Cultural Center and Museum (AICCM) as a world-class facility, one that will provide a comprehensive history of our native citizens, is a source of great pride and accomplishment for board members. However, the same pride and desire to construct such a multisensory masterpiece resulted unrealistic expectations from the board and legislature

Attempts to reach NACEA chairman Gov. Bill Anoatubby were unsuccessful.

Fallin's office released a statement on the audit late Wednesday.

"Moving forward, it is important for the legislature, NACEA leadership and all stakeholders to work together to ensure that this project, which the state began seven years ago, is completed and can open as quickly as possible to attracting visitors and earning revenue. The governor continues to feel that a halfbuilt facility on prime location that taxpayers are still paying for is a wasted opportunity to enhance tour ism and economic development. The state needs to look at all possible ways to complete it."

## **HAY for SALE** www.streetmanfarms.com

918-313-8309 hay@streetmanfarms.com



918-256-5585

LANGLEY

**MONKEY ISLAND** 

**Equal Housing Lender** Native American Owned

## **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers DANA ATTOCKNIE LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country







918-782-0011

918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

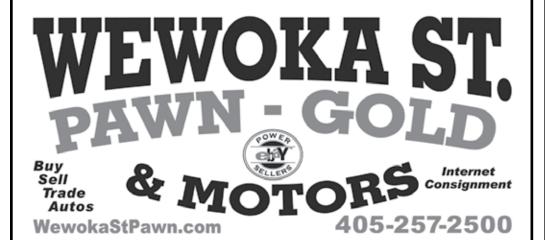
TERO Certified



## TIMES

recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

American Indian Owned & Operated Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK

"Where every day is Indian Day"

**SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY** 

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

#### Chilocco Indian School Reunion organizers seeking former classmates

The Chilocco Indian School classes of 1963 and 1964 will be celebrating their 50th year reunion in 2013 and 2014, respectively. For contact and planning purposes, the 1963 graduates are requested to contact Ida Jane (McCoy) Johnson, at 601 Rolling Hills Drive, Tahlequah, OK 74464, telephone Nos. (918) 207-0073, (918) 284-1703, Betty (Tanner) Belt, at 1005 S. State Ave., Tahlequah, OK 74464 or Jerry Hogner at 14205 E. 11th Street, Tulsa, OK 74108, telephone No. (918) 437-3509. The 2013 Reunion plans are currently underway for May 30-June 1, 2012 to be held at Chilocco Indian School.

In conjunction with the 2014annualChiloccoreunion,

the class of 1964 Chilocco graduates are requested to contact Charley Johnson, Jr., P.O. Box 531, Bixby, OK 74008, telephone No. (918) 366-6158, e-mail address is johnson6158@olp.net, or Lucian (Jake) Larney, 524 S. 2nd St., Okemah, OK 74859, telephone No. (405) 401-8881, e-mai jake74868@hotmail.com. The date and location for the 2014 reunion will be established at the 2013 annual Chilocco reunion business meeting.

Anyone having information or knowledge of the whereabouts of any Chilocco 1963 or 1964 graduate is encouraged to contact the above names.

## **MEANS**

Continued from Page 1

both alternative and western applications" to aggressively treat his throat cancer, and "we are working toward a good solid program that will enable me to come home to my ranch on the Pine Ridge Sioux Indian Reservation within the next few weeks."

He has a ranch near Porcupine, where family members are seeking to have him flown. All but one of Means' children has traveled to the Scottsdale hospital to be near him, according to sources.

"I am sorry I am not available for comments as I need all of my energy to fight for my life once again," said Means in closing his email to NSN last week. "I love you and look forward to regaining my life. May the Great Mystery continue to guide and protect the paths of you and your loved ones."

## **CASINO**

Continued from Page 1

remains of our forefathers and foremothers. It's hard to say whether anything will come anything out of Monday's meeting other than continuing the dialogue."

The decision comes on the heels of a resolution adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes to intervene. On Oct. 12, officials from the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Muscogee (Creek) and Seminole tribes voted unanimously at the RiverSpirit Event Center to stop the casino expansion project and protect the sacred site.

"The irony is that the Inter-Tribal Council (of the Five Civilized Tribes) normally does not get involved in disputes between tribes," Tiger said. "The other tribal leaders looked at it from the perspective of the site's sacredness and saw that this could happen to almost any tribe in the country."

Announced in July, the \$246 million expansion project includes plans for a 20-story hotel with 285 rooms, a full-scale casino with more than 2,500 electronic gaming machines, a resort-style pool and space for live entertainment. Scheduled to open around New Year's Day 2014, the expansion would create about 1,000 jobs for the Wetumpka., Ala., area.

The only federally-recognized tribe in Alabama, the 3,000-citizen Poarch Band of Creek Indians also operates casinos in Montgomery, Ala., and Atmore, Ala.

## NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: **lisa@nativetimes.com** 

## **SAINT**

Continued from Page 1

responsible for his survival.

Jake, now 12 and an avid basketball player and crosscountry runner, will be present at the canonization, along with hundreds of members of his own Lummi tribe from northwest Washington state and indigenous communities across the U.S. and Canada who have converged on Rome to honor one of their own. It's a ceremony the Catholic Church hopes will encourage Native Americans to keep to their Christian faith amid continued resentment among some that Catholicism was imposed on them by colonial-era missionaries centuries ago.

"I believe everybody has a purpose on this earth," Jake's mother Elsa Finkbonner said this week soon after the family arrived in Rome for the ceremony. "I think this Sunday Jake will define his purpose, and that's to make Kateri a saint."

Jake, a poised, lanky kid who just got his braces off, seems perfectly at ease with his role in the whole thing, gracious and grateful to the doctors who performed 29 surgeries to save his life and reconstruct his face.

"It's a really special thing," Jake told The Associated Press, flanked by his parents on a hotel terrace sofa. "We've never been to Rome, and especially meeting the pope? It'll be an experience of a lifetime."

Besides Kateri, Pope Benedict XVI declared another American a saint Sunday, Mother Marianne Cope, a 19th century Franciscan nun from Utica, New York – near where Kateri lived two centuries earlier – who cared for lepers exiled to Hawaii's Kalaupapa Peninsula. Another new saint is Pedro Calungsod, a Filipino teenager who was killed in 1672 along with his Jesuit missionary priest by Natives resisting their conversion efforts.

The Catholic Church creates saints to hold up models for the faithful, convinced that their lives – even lived hundreds of years ago – are still relevant to today's Catholics. The complicated saint-making procedure requires that the Vatican certify a "miracle" was performed through the intercession of the candidate – a medically inexplicable cure that can be directly linked to the prayers offered by the faithful. One miracle is needed for beatification, a second for canonization.

In Jake's case, Kateri was already

an important figure for Catholics in the Lummi tribe, of which his father Donny is a member. A carved wooden statue sits in the church on the Lummi reservation near Bellingham, Washington, 25 miles (40 kilometers) south of the Canadian border, where Jake's grandparents worshipped and where Donny remembers being told of Kateri's story as a child.

Known as the "Lily of the Mohawks," Kateri was born in 1656 to a pagan Iroquois father and an Algonquin Christian mother in what is today upstate New York. Her parents and only brother died when she was 4 during a smallpox epidemic that left her badly scarred and with impaired eyesight. She went to live with her uncle, a Mohawk, and was baptized Catholic by Jesuit missionaries. But she was ostracized and persecuted by other natives for her faith, and she died in what is now Canada when she was 24.

The Rev. Tim Sauer was the Finkbonner's parish priest in Ferndale, Washington – as well as the pastor on the Lummi reservation – when Jake cut his lip while playing basketball on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006. The necrotizing fasciitis bacteria that entered Jake's body through the cut immediately began spreading, and by the time Sauer arrived at Seattle Children's Hospital where Jake was airlifted two days later, Donny and Elsa Finkbonner were preparing to bury their son.

"At that point, we were desperate, and we were looking for anyone's help that would help our son," Donny said, recalling how doctors had said there wasn't much else for them to do but pray, and that they had come to terms with the possibility that their oldest of three children might not survive the week.

"We wanted Jake back with us desperately," he recalled. "But we were willing to give him up" to God

Sauer, who performed the last rites ritual on Jake that Wednesday – four days after he cut his lip – said he immediately urged the Finkbonners and the congregation back on the reservation to pray to Kateri, thinking their shared Native American heritage and scarring diseases were relevant.

He said he did so first and foremost to save Jake, but also because he thought that Native Americans could use a "boost of faith" if one of their own were held up as a saint. Indigenous Catholics in the U.S. and Canada, he said, increasingly find themselves ostracized and criticized within their communities for embracing

and retaining the Christian faith spread by imperial colonizers.

"There's been a growing sense of a return to Native American spirituality on reservations, which are good things, but at the same time along with that has been some criticism that native people should let go of Christianity because that was brought by the 'white man' and should go back to their own native culture entirely," he said.

He said Kateri represents a perfect model for indigenous Catholics today, someone who resisted the ostracization of fellow natives and kept the faith.

For the devoutly Catholic Finkbonners, prayer was all they had left after Jake's doctors tried unsuccessfully for two weeks to stop the bacteria's spread. Jake was in a drug-induced coma for most of that time and says he doesn't remember much, a few memories "here and there, not all of it."

"Every day it would seem the news would get worse," Donny recalled. "I remember the last day that we met with the whole group of doctors, Elsa didn't even want to hear. She just got behind me and was holding on."

But rather than bad news, the doctors said the infection had stopped. "It was like a volcano that was erupting, and they opened him up and it was gone. It had stopped. It was a pretty amazing day," Donny said.

It took the Finkbonners several years to realize that the turning point had come a day after a friend of the family – a nun named after Kateri – had visited them in the hospital, prayed with them and placed a relic of the soon-to-be saint on Jake's leg.

"It took years for us to look at the calendar and recall that this is the day she came, this is the day she put the relic on, this is the day the infection stopped," Elsa said. "As the years of the investigation have gone on, little bits and pieces of puzzle seem to fall into place, and that's where it all makes sense now as to why Jake's story turned out so big."

Jake, who bears the scars of his ordeal, seems all too happy to be the center of attention this weekend. But he seems keen to move on from his celebrity. He has basketball tryouts when he gets back home and his studies – he wants to be a plastic surgeon when he grows up. "Kateri was placed on this earth, and she has interceded on many people's behalf, she has defined her purpose," Elsa said. "I think Jake has bigger, larger plans in store for him."

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:	_
Address:	_
City: State: Zip:	_
Phone:	_
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>	

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

#### PEARY L. ROBERTSON ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

INDIAN LAW | PROBATE | CRIMINAL LAW DIVORCE | SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY STATEWIDE REPRESENTATION

1700 N. Milt Phillips Ave., Seminole, Okla.



#### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program.

Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!

## COMMENTARY

## Quantum vs. descendency, an egg best left unscrambled



S.E. RUCKMAN

A recent review of the old executive order of Affirmative Action reminded me of a scene out of Frankenstein, where the mad scientist (read what you will) tries to inject new life into an empty shell. I hate to make this comparison, but with President John F. Kennedy gone nearly half of a century it is one of the last breaths of his administration.

I was never a particular fan of horror movies, but it seems appropriate to make this comparison as we hover around Halloween and right before we swing into full Thanksgiving gratitude mode.

Like most things in the bigger scope of American existence, things tend to affect Indian Country by osmosis. That is to say, if it's big enough of an issue, we may feel a breeze but mostly we just hear about the wind rather than feel it directly on most mainstream issues. This is sometimes is a good thing.

The Supreme Court's recent review on Affirmative Action was derided in one venue not by questioning the Kennedy era ideal, but rather heckling the system underneath it. A Lone Star teenager was the anti-Affirmative Action poster child by questioning Texas' standing tenets of this

policy and the use of it when regarding entry into the University Of Texas (UT).

Race simply cannot be a reliable determinant in certain venues, like education. In Indian tribes, however, it is entirely about race. Let's weave two seemingly unrelated issues together.

So I began to read about Affirmative Action presidential order; like Law-Lite) that was designed to "level the playing field" for minorities when seeking position/entry into some entities. It is still a fact that minorities face many sociological limitations when competing directly with the

As a woman and a minority, I favor Affirmative Action. It was the invisible mound of dirt below home plate that allowed the minorities (and admittedly me) to step up

and bat credibly. Nowhere did it smack of anything un-American, in fact, it felt seriously American—to make things appear equal.

I felt a bit wobbly reading through the related stories. Maybe I was ready to change my mind. Perhaps outdated (albeit concepts meaning) should be allowed all the dignity of a legal death. It is in this light (not lite) that I consider the egg that I like to leave unscrambled: blood quantum versus descendancy.

Many smaller tribes today are facing the decision to lower their blood quantum requirement. Without a change, their children will not belong to the tribe that the parents belong. It is the cold conscription of blood Descendancy proponents argue that tribes alone should get to set the criteria to say who is Native.

So being lineally related to a higher blood person is a reasonable substitute, descendancy proponents say.

Some contend blood quantum (a practice rightfully ascribed to the federal government) Natives are being slowly phased out as a people. Lowering the degree to a fractionized margin for enrollment could be the answer. I tossed this around a bit. Then it hit me that descendency might be the tribal version of Affirmative

Ironically, rather than leveling the playing field, it lowers the playing field (or blood requirement) for more to bat or in this case to enroll in a tribe. The more people there are in our in respective tribes then the danger of being extinct is momentarily circumvented. This is a provocative thought.

Another solution is to allow those with a half or more blood quantum to claim fullblood status in their tribe (decided by vote) and notch up their offspring's blood degree as well. Blood quantum stays sterling here and ethnic annihilation is held at bay.

Descendency does seem to be the trump card for tribes, that tactic by which it can hang onto a tribal designation and maintain its sovereignty. For other tribes, it's an ace they don't mind keeping up their sleeve.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and is currently a special contributor to the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.

## Indian voting rights and the restricting of voting



**Around the Campfire** 

**DR. DEAN CHAVERS** © COPYRIGHT 2012

There has been no Indian voting rights act, and no congressional hearings or testimony on such a bill. But as I demonstrated in my book "Racism in Indian Country," there are many conspiracies among non-Indians on or near reservations to keep Indian people from registering to vote and to keep them from voting. There have been dozens of lawsuits filed against county voter registrars, county commissioners and state officials over denying Indians the right to vote.

When they returned from World War II, many Indian veterans were upset that they still could not vote. They had fought and died for their country, only to be denied this basic constitutional right when they got home. They began to lobby Congress and the state legislatures to give them suffrage rights. They had been exposed to the world outside the reservation, some for the first time, and had started to learn that they had been cheated out of many things, such as adequate housing, an adequate education, decent jobs, and the right to vote.

They found they could not get loans to buy cattle, to start businesses, to build houses on reservations, and to buy cars

Indians could still not vote in New Mexico and Arizona as of 1948. The denial of the right to vote was in the constitution of the State of New Mexico. It stated that Indians living on reservations could not vote in state and federal elections. The BIA had started to push to change such laws before the war started, but had gotten sidetracked by the war.

When Miguel Trujillo, from Isleta Pueblo and a recent veteran of the Marine Corps during World War II, went to register to vote, he was told by the county registrar, Eloy Garley, that he could not register since he was an Indian living on a reservation.

Trujillo was incensed. He brought suit against the county registrar and won. (Trujillo v. Garley) Felix Cohen, who had written the definitive book on Indian law, the "Handbook of Federal Indian Law," was the attorney for Trujillo. Finally, in 1948, Indians in New Mexico could vote for the first time. Trujillo and Cohen became friends and worked on other issues of civil rights in New Mexico and in the South.

The case also debunked the myth that Indians did not pay taxes. The only taxes Indians did not pay, the court said, was taxes on the land the government held in trust for them. They had to pay sales taxes, income taxes, and all other taxes.

In that same year, a lawsuit by another Indian veteran, Frank Harrison, in Arizona, let Indians vote for the first time in that state. (Harrison and

Austin v. Leveen) Harrison was a member of the Mohave Tribe. He had tried to register to vote in Maricopa County, Arizona, and been denied by the County Recorder, Roger Leveen. The ubiquitous Felix Cohen was also one of the attorneysinthislandmarkcase. The NCAI, the Department of Justice, and the Department of the Interior also filed amicus curiae (friends of the court) briefs in this case. Thereafter, it was clear in all states of the union that Indians could vote in tribal, state, local, and federal elections. Utah, however, did not get around to removing this barrier to Indian voting for another two decades.

The other states that had restricted Indian voting fell in line—to a limited extent. They continued to restrict Indian voting by refusing to allow roving registrars, by charging the poll tax, and by gerrymandering Indian votes to deny Indians the right to vote and to run for office.

But the legacy of Indians being denied the right to vote is still strong. Most Indians are either not interested in national issues, or are afraid that if they vote in national elections they will somehow lose their membership in their tribe. The latter is not true. And many barriers still exist to keep Indians from registering and voting. They include having one single election place in a county, requiring voters to travel from their reservation to the county seat to register to vote, refusing to allow roving registrars to register voters, and holding elections in places hostile to Indian voters.

Indian people have only

slowly started, since 1980, to vote in increased numbers in national elections. The National Indian Youth Council (NIYC) of Albuquerque found in surveys in the 1980s that only 15% to 20% of Indians in Arizona and New Mexico were registered to vote in state and national elections.

In most states, Indians are under 10% of the eligible voters. In only three states are Indians more than 10% of the total population. But in some cases, the Indian vote has been critical to the success of candidates. The Indian vote defeated the reelection of Slade Gorton, the anti-Indian former Attorney General of Washington State. Gorton was the lead attorney for sport fishermen who lost the case in the Boldt decision (U. S. v. Washington) that gave Indians the right to half the salmon and steelhead catch in the state. He ran for the Senate on an anti-Indian platform and won, but lost for re-election when Indians mobilized against him.

Gary Johnson (Republican), governor of New Mexico from 1995 to 2003, won both elections with the help of the Indian vote and donations from tribal casinos. His opponent in the first election, Bruce King (Democrat), had waffled on support for tribal casinos during his third term as governor. This lost King almost all the Indian support. The Indian vote, which was about 6% of the total, put Johnson over the top in his first election in 1994. His opponent in the second election, my friend Martin Chavez, was the Democratic mayor of Albuquerque. Marty's lack of spirited support for tribal

casinos also cost him the election; Johnson won 54% to 46% in 1998. If Marty had had 3% more votes from Indians and 2% from Hispanics, who are one of the main customers of the tribal casinos, Marty would have been governor.

Larry Echohawk, the recent Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, was the first Indian to win an election for statewide office. Denise Juneau, who is Blackfeet and Mandan, won the election in 2008 for Superintendent of Public Instruction in Montana. Denise is the second Indian person in the history of the U. S. to win such a statewide seat. She obviously won with to support the unsuccessful mostly non-Indian votes, since Indians constitute less than 10% of the voting population in the state. It helped that she is an attorney and a former school teacher who paid her dues learning the system. She ran a spirited campaign, and defeated a well-known opponent. Denise was one of our scholarship students for her Master's degree in English from Harvard and for her law degree from the University of Montana.

**Indians** overwhelmingly for Barack Obama for President in 2008, and probably added one or two percent to his election margin. With up to a million Indians voting nationwide, they could swing the margin in a close election, something numerous Indian voting advocates have pushed for years.

For the first time in 1980 there was an active campaign within the Democratic Party to have a voice in the election for President. Billie Masters, a Cherokee from California, headed the campaign.

There were a dozen and a half Indian delegates at the convention. In 1984 there were 28 Indian delegates to the national convention of the Democratic Party. In 1988 there 51 Indian delegates, and in 1992 there were 62. In 1984, Roger Jourdain, Ada Deer, Ruby Ludwig, Verna Wood and I headed First Americans for Mondale. We had 28 Indian delegates at the Democratic convention, raised \$32,000, and registered 30,000 new Indian voters. The Democrat Mondale lost to the Republican Ronald Reagan.

In 1988, a group of people put together an Indian effort campaign of Michael Dukakis. He lost to George H. W. Bush. In 1992, attorneys Kevin Gover and Cate Stetson of Albuquerque headed First Americans for Clinton, and repeated their efforts in 1996. Ada Deer headed the BIA in Clinton's first term. Mr. Gover headed the BIA in the second Clinton term.

There are now about 85 Indian elected officials in the US. They are state senators and representatives, local sheriffs, county commissioners, and city council members. They have more authority than at any time in Indian history to influence budgets and policies. But the Indian vote is still too

Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of Catching the Dream, a scholarship program for Native college students. His last book was "Racism in Indian Country." His next book is "The American Indian Dropout." He welcomes your comments about dropouts; his e-mail address is CTD4DeanChavers@aol.com.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465. To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

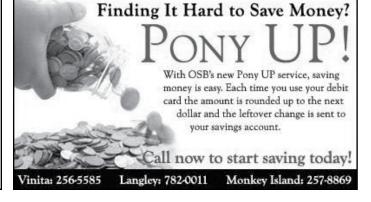
> 918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties -

Quality painting at a reasonable price

**Interior & Exterior** Brush / Roll / Spray Ted Bear 918-718-4120

- Serving the Tahlequah Area -



## Okla. voters to decide affirmative action future

**SEAN MURPHY** Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) - While the nation's highest court ponders the use of race in college admissions, Oklahoma voters will decide next month whether to prohibit any affirmative action programs in state government.

State Question 759, a Republicanbacked proposal approved by Oklahoma lawmakers last year, would specifically ban any programs government employment, education or contracting that give preferred treatment based on race, gender, ethnicity or national origin. Supporters say affirmative action programs, first implemented in the 1960s to provide equal opportunities for minorities and women, are no longer needed, while opponents maintain racism and sexism still exists and that eliminating such programs would move the state backward.

"The only way we're going to get past racism and get people not to see the color difference is to get our government to lead by example," said

state Sen. Rob Johnson, R-Kingfisher, who sponsored the proposal in the Legislature.

Ryan Kiesel, the director of the Oklahoma chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, said the group opposes the ban and questioned whether Republicans placed the question on the ballot in part to help drive white, conservative voters to

"You have to wonder if politics are behind the motivation to put this on the ballot," Kiesel said. "I think this is an unnecessary state question. I think the negative impacts of it are much greater than any of the purported positives that the supporters are putting on the table."

The ballot question in Oklahoma comes as the U.S. Supreme Court considers a case involving a white Texas student, Abigail Fisher, who contends she was discriminated against when the University of Texas did not offer her a spot in 2008 because of its program that considers race in college admissions. The high court, which is expected to rule on the case next summer, heard arguments in the case Oct. 10.

But in Oklahoma, state officials say racial preference programs like those in place at the University of Texas already have been abolished and that passage of the state question here will have little effect, other than to eliminate a handful of scholarships at public universities that target women and minorities. The question specifically allows exemptions for programs in place because of existing court orders or consent decrees or when affirmative action is needed to keep or obtain federal funds.

"Our practices will stay the same regardless," said Shelley Reeves, a spokeswoman for the Office of Management and Enterprise Services, the state agency that oversees both state hiring and contracting. "In practice, we're comfortable with the hiring practices that we employ in providing the state with a diverse workforce ... and based on the way that we interpret the resolution, there would be no change in the bidding practice."

The ballot measure in Oklahoma is based on similar proposals that already have passed in California, Michigan, Nebraska, Washington and, most recently, Arizona in 2010.

The measures have been spearheaded by Ward Connerly, the founder and president of the nonprofitAmerican Civil Rights Institute, who argues that the time for affirmative action programs, implemented in the 1960s under President John F. Kennedy, has ended.

"I think that the initiative in Oklahoma is one whose time has come," said Connerly, who recently visited with civic organizations in Oklahoma City to build support for the proposal.

Most of the studies into how these measures affect states come from California and Washington, which put the bans in place in the 1990s. According to a 2012 study by the Henderson Center for Social Justice at the University of California's Berkeley School of Law, state contracts to women and minorityowned businesses in California dropped by more than 50 percent after the affirmative action ban was implemented.

The study also notes that data from Washington shows a similar decline in transportation construction awards

after that state passed its ban in 1998 and that there was a dramatic drop in minority applicants at the University of Washington. The number of African American, Hispanic and Native American students applying to elite law schools in several states that banned affirmative action, including California and Washington, also declined, the study notes.

And while those impacts may not be felt in a state like Oklahoma, which doesn't use racial or gender preferences in college admissions or contracting, the proposal could still have negative implications for race relations in the state, said Michael Sumner, who helped author the 2012

"One of the things we've found in our research is that people become afraid of both violating the law accidentally as well as just becoming afraid to talk about race and ethnicity and gender," Sumner said. "Part of this chilling impact is that it creates an environment where even bringing up these issues at all, people become fearful."

## CLASSIFIEDS





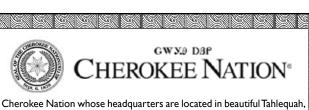












Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

Positions Close: 10/23/2012

#7005 Surgical Technician/R/FT (Certified) #6741 Certified Respiratory Therapist/T/PT

Positions Close: 10/24/2012 #7218 Inpatient RN/R/FT/Med-Surg #7208 Inpatient RN/R/FT/OB

#7212 Inpatient RN/R/FT/OR

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO** Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered

Ready to Step

**Up Your Career?** 

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, one of

12 regional Banks in the Federal Reserve System,

the unique experience and perspective each indi-

vidual brings to the job. We believe diversity adds

counts on exceptional talents and skills to fulfill the

important work of the nation's central bank. We value

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma Administration department will begin accepting applications for Executive Director. The Incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Kiowa Business Committee. This position has overall administrative responsibilities of the Kiowa Tribe's federal, state, and tribal program in accordance will applicable policies, rules and regulations. Responsibilities include: (1) Overall direction of day-to-day administrative activities of the tribe which do not involve policy determinations; (2) Planning, organizing, directing, coordinating and executing the tribe's functions of fiscal management, personnel, record keeping, property and supply, procurement, program analysis and improvement; (3) Performing management advisory services as requested by the business committee in these functions and related matters. QUALIFICATIONS: Applicant must possess an earned Bachelor's Degree from an accredited, four-year university in Business Administration, Public Administration, or related fields, plus a minimum of five years experience working with Indian Tribal Governments or ten years working with Public Administration. Must possess excellent oral and written communication and organizational skills. Must be computer literate. REQUIREMENTS: Applicant must possess a valid Oklahoma drivers license and be insurable under the Kiowa Tribe's motor vehicle insurance. Must submit to and pass a OSBI background check and drug testing. APPLY AT: The Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, Personnel Department, P.O. Box 369, Carnegie, OK 73015 or call for an application at 580-654-2300 extension 356/358. CLOSING DATE: November 2, 2012 C.O.B. EOE UP-PL-93-638 INDIAN PREFERENCE APPLIES

#### **OK Public Employees Retirement System** SENIOR APPLICATIONS SYSTEMS ANALYST/DEVELOPER

Responsible for systems analysis, design, development, maintenance. and support of the application systems in an Oracle environment. Must be highly motivated with relevant experience using SQL with Oracle PL/SQL, C++, or Java. Uses Oracle tools to design, program, debug, and document web and windows applications of various sizes. Must have 3-5 years experience using Oracle PL/SQL or an object oriented language like C++ or Java. Experience with RPG a plus. Strong written and oral communications skills required. Hiring range \$50,625 to \$82,013. Deadline for application materials: 10/31/2012. For more information and application procedures go to http://www.opers. ok.gov/jobs. EOE

**Kiowa Gaming Commission Vacancy** Announcement

Chief Inspector – Responsible for compliance of the gaming operation in accordance to Tribal, State, and Federal regulations, investigations, machine testing, and other duties within the job description. Applicants must have knowledge of NIGC MICS, Tribal-State Compact, supervisory skills, excellent writing skills, analytical skills, and ability to multi-task. Employment is contingent upon ability to obtain a gaming license. Interested candidates may apply at: Kiowa Gaming Commission Office, 2439 Ponderosa Drive, Chickasha OK 73108 or fax resume to (405) 222-0728.

**DEADLINE: October 29, 2012** 

#### **SCHOOLS**

#### Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted

throughout the week-

It's Time to Step Up Your Career

Find your place today at the

Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

www.dallasfed.org/careers

An Equal Opportunity Employer

#### RFP/RFQ

#### **Request for Qualifications**

The Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma is advertising for an Accountant to work on a contractual basis with the tribal Finance Office. The complete Request for Qualifications including the criteria that will be used to select the most qualified accountant is available for download via the link below:

http://www.pawneenation.org/ files/newsletters/Accountant%20 Contractual%20Position.pdf

Qualifications documents must be received no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, October 26, 2012.

Point of Contact for Information: Phillip Ellis, Finance Division Director pellis@pawneenation.org

Contact: Phillip Ellis, Finance Division, Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, (918) 762-3621, Fax: (918) 762-6446. Attn: **Accountant, Contract Position.** 

#### **Professional Contractor**

The Wyandotte Nation is requesting the services of a professional contractor to build a senior housing duplex unit in the Wyandotte Nation Community near Wyandotte, Oklahoma. Details of this project will be included in the bid packet. Professional Contractors for consideration must be able to provide adequate liability insurance, workman's comp, and subscribe to federal requirements regarding labor. Indian Preference will apply.

Interested parties may pick up bid packets at the Wyandotte Nation Housing Department located at 64600 E. 145 Rd, Wyandotte, OK beginning October 22, 2012.

Proposals must be received by November 19, 2012 by 1:30pm to be considered. Bid opening will be at 2:00pm, November 19, 2012.

#### CNA & HOME HEALTH AIDE SCHOOL!!

Did you know your Tribe will pay for you to become a CNA?

Call our office to schedule an appointment In addition to the CNA & HHA training we offer:

 Resume and Interview Workshops Job Assistance and resume marketing

Free computer classes available

Get Certified in less than 3 weeks! "Meet us at the GOLD DOME" **NW 23rd and Classen** 



A CALL TODAY!

105-505-7992

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Special Small Business Rates Available Through December! Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

#### WANTED

value and unlimited possibilities.

#### *NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS*

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

#### **DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP**

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

### CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



204-376-3428 www.ganica.net

#### Tulsa Metro Area **HANDYMAN**

Painting • Drywall Repair Odd Jobs Free Estimates

> Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"



918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste."  ${\scriptscriptstyle op}$ 

## **Red Feather Gala to benefit OKC** Indian clinic pharmacy expansion

Special guest former Oklahoma Lt. Gov. Jari Askins to be honored at special ceremony

OKLAHOMA CITY - Live paintings, a friendship dance led by a ceremonial drum and auctions highlighting the work of local Native artists will be featured at the 2012 Red Feather Gala to benefit the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic (OKCIC) at 7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Cox Convention Center, 1 Myriad Gardens in the Grand Ballroom. All money raised will go to constructing a new pharmacy that will fill over 250,000 prescriptions per year.

During the event, former Lt. Gov. Jari Askins will receive the Spirit of the Urban Indian Award for her contribution and dedication to Native

Americans in Oklahoma. During the festivities, Askins will be blessed with an honor song and will receive a traditional shawl to thank her for her service to the community.

"We are proud to present former Lt. Gov. Askins with this year's Spirit of the Urban Indian Award to recognize her continued support of Native Americans in our state," said OKCIC CEO Robyn Sunday-Allen. "She has been an advocate in Oklahoma government, encouraging efforts to foster strong working relationships with the state's

This is the eighth year the Red Feather Gala has been held to benefit OKCIC. Donations, which are tax deductible within the law, will be used to build a new pharmacy to increase service capacity and create a larger community of wellness and care for urban Indians in Central Oklahoma. Please contact David Toahty at David.T@okcic.com or call 405.948.4900 ext. 483 for more information on table sponsorships.

About Oklahoma City Indian Clinic

The Oklahoma City Indian Clinic (OKCIC) was established in 1974 to provide high-quality health care and wellness services to urban Indians in central Oklahoma. The clinic staff cares for more than 16,000 patients from more than 220 federally recognized tribes every year. Urban Indians can receive a range of services, including medical, dental, prenatal, pharmacy, optometry, physical fitness, nutrition, family programs and behavioral and substance abuse treatment. For more information, visit www.okcic.com.



Live paintings such as this 2011 demonstration by Micah Wesley, a friendship dance led by a ceremonial drum, and auctions highlighting the work of local Native artists will be featured at the 2012 Red Feather Gala to benefit the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic on Saturday, Nov. 3. All money raised at this year's gala will go to constructing a new pharmacy that will fill more than 250,000 prescriptions per year.

## Okla. City U hosts poet, storyteller N. Scott Momaday

**ROD JONES** 

OKLAHOMA CITY -Oklahoma City University will host Pulitzer Prizewinning poet and storyteller N. Scott Momaday for a presentation at 7 p.m. Oct. 30 in the Meinders School of Business at N.W. 27th Street and McKinley Avenue. The presentation is free to the

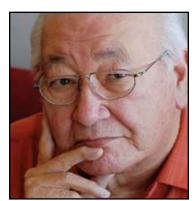
The event will open with a preview of a documentary by Momaday's daughter, Jill Momaday.

Momaday received the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1969 for his novel, "House Made of Dawn." He was awarded the Presidential National Medal of Arts in 2007.

"Scott Momaday is at least a quintuple threat. He is a novelist, an artist, a lyric oralist, a historian and above all, a poet," OCU President Robert Henry said. "He is a man of several worlds, worlds of the Kiowas of his birth and blood, the Navajos and Pueblos of his youth, the classical writers and contemporary scholars of his university days at Stanford and at the worlds where he has taught: Moscow, Siberia, France, Italy and others."

Momaday is best known for his poetry and storytelling abilities. He is also an accomplished playwright, painter and drawer.

He was the first professor to teach American literature at the University of Moscow in Russia. He was the Oklahoma Centennial State Laureate in 2007, has won a



N. Scott Momaday

Guggenheim Fellowship and received UNESCO's Artist for Peace Award. He is the founder and chairman of The Buffalo Trust, a nonprofit foundation supporting the efforts of indigenous communities to preserve and perpetuate their cultural identity.

Some of his other literary works include "The Way to Rainy Mountain," "Angel of Geese," "The Names: A Memoir," "In the Bear's House" and others.

For Oklahoma City University's presentation, Momaday will read from his most beloved works and sign books after the event. Books will be available for purchase.

The event is funded in part by the Oklahoma Humanities Council (OHC) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program do not necessarily represent those of OHC or NEH. Red Earth Inc. is an event partner.

For more information, call (405) 208-5290 or (405) 208-5898.

## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance **Abuse and Behavioral Health** Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, **Oklahoma City** 

#### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH NOVEMBER** Kiowa Language Class, Fall semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

**THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

**OCTOBER 24-27 Pawnee Nation College Presents**  **The First Annual Native Arts** + Media Festival Pawnee, Okla. For details: www. pawneenationcollege.org. Contact: 918-762-3363

#### **OCTOBER 26**

**Six Nations Walking Together** Domestic Violence Walk, 2:00pm at Standing Bear for the walk against Domestic Violence. Open to the public and first 75 people to arrive will receive a free shirt. For information on event call 580-761-2426 or 580-628-3619

#### **OCTOBER 26-27**

**Euchee/Yuchi Heritage Festival at Creek County Fairgrounds, 17806** W HWY 66, Kellyville, Okla. Fri. 6-11pm; Sat. 10am-Midnight. Traditional dinner; games; raffles; 50/50; Stomp Dance and more. Call 918-695-0195 or Wade 918-378-9385.

#### **OCTOBER 27**

Anniversary Dance sponsored by children of Berwyn Sr and Delilah Moses, Pawnee Tribal Camp Grounds, Pawnee, Okla. Gourd Dance at 2pm. Supper at 5:30, intertribal at 7pm. Proceeds go to Delilah's kidney transplant fund. Info call BJ Moses 918-399-5787 or 918-762-2826

"37th Annual Sorghum Day Festival," hosted by the Seminole Nation Museum and the City of Wewoka's Chamber of Commerce, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

#### **OCTOBER 30**

An evening with N. Scott Momaday at Oklahoma City University, 7 p.m. at Kerr McGee Auditorium Meinders School of Business N.W. 27th Street

and McKinley Avenue Oklahoma City. For more information, call 405-208-5290 or 405-208-5898.

#### **NOVEMBER 1**

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd. david@jobcorps.org

Bacone College Fall Powwow, Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

Fall Arts and Crafts Festival at The Museum of the Red River, Idabel, Okla. from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at The Mary H. Herron Community **Conference Center. The event is** free and open to the public. First 100 attendees will receive gift bags. For more information or directions call the Museum at (580) 286-3616.

Osage Exhibit Opening at Osage **County Historical Society Museum,** 10am-12pm. Exhibit includes rare Osage items not seen anywhere. Info call 918-287-9119.

**AHA Powwow honoring all heart** 

attack and stroke survivors and their families, Concho Community Hall, Concho, Okla. Winner take all contest, tiny tots. Info call Rachel 405-593-6931.

#### **NOVEMBER 10**

Seminole Nation/City of Wewoka **Veterans Day Parade and** celebration, downtown Wewoka, 9am-4pm. Parade at 10am. Info call Jodie 405-257-2413 or Judy 405-257-7207 or www.sno-nsn.gov

'Eat What Eagles Eat' benefit dinner for Grey Snow Eagle House, 6:00 at the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma **Powwow Grounds in the Chena** building. Tickets are \$50. Info call 405-334-7471

#### **NOVEMBER 16-17**

Tahlequah Holiday Bazaar Arts & Crafts show to raise awareness and donations for Leukemia/ Lymphoma Society, 10 am to 6 pm, Fri & Sat, Cherokee Cty Comm Bldg, 908 S. College. Contact Linda @ 918-694-3349 for more information.

#### **NOVEMBER 17**

**OKC Public Schools Native American Student Services** Powwow at Douglass High School, 988 Martin Luther King Ave, OKC. Info call 405-587-0359.

#### **DECEMBER 31**

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999



STARTING A COMMUNITY GARDEN
MEANS TRADITIONALLY GROWN FOOD
AT YOUR FINGERTIPS AND THAT'S

## GOOD FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Tell Your Tribal Council

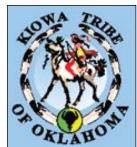




#### **Inside this issue:**

- Native women face myriad Plan B policies
- Kiowa Election Board schedules election
- Native girls get BLING at Riverside School









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT TRIBAL NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 43

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**NOVEMBER 2, 2012** 

## Native candidates on ballot in several state races

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

OKLAHOMA CITY — Races for the Oklahoma legislature are reaching into Indian Country.

According to the 2010 census, about 10 percent of the voters in House District 29 are Native American. However, residents in west Tulsa County and most of Creek County will be choosing between two tribal citizens to represent them

at the state Capitol for the second consecutive election.

House Majority Whip and Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Skye McNiel (R-Bristow) is a six-year incumbent. Her opponent, David Narcomey, belongs to the Seminole Nation and is a former regional director of the American Indian Movement.

"This speaks well for Natives," she said about her district's all-Indian ballot. "This shows that we're out there, we're productive and we want to contribute."

Narcomey, who also ran against McNiel in 2010, could not be reached for comment.

Headquartered in Shawnee, Okla., the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will have at least one new representative at the capitol in 2013 alongside Veterans and Military Affairs Committee chairman Rep. Paul Wesselhoft (R-Moore). With no Democratic challengers, Mark McBride defeated

three other Republicans this summer to represent District 53 in Cleveland County, adjacent to Wesselhoft's district.

Fellow Citizen Potawatomi Nation citizen Jason Smalley, a Republican from Stroud, is on the ballot in District 32, which covers Lincoln County and a portion of Logan County.

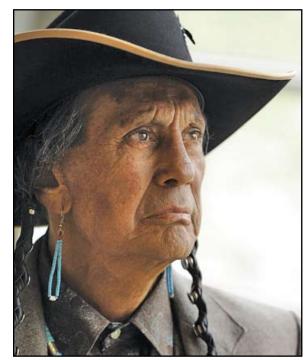
Citizens from other tribes are also trying to become first-term representatives. Further east,

Democrat Shawna Keller, who is Cherokee and Choctaw, is running for State House District 23, which covers part of east Tulsa County and western Rogers County, including Catoosa. The seat was vacated earlier this year by the death of long time legislator Sue Tibbs.

The district also straddles the boundary between the Cherokee Nation and Muscogee (Creek)

See BALLOT Continued on Page 4

## Longtime activist Russell Means dies at 72



Activist Russell Means

DIRK LAMMERS and KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – Russell Means spent a lifetime as a modern — American Indian warrior. He railed against broken treaties, fought for the return of stolen land and even took up arms against the federal government.

A onetime leader of the American Indian Movement, he called national attention to the plight of impoverished tribes and often lamented the waning of Indian culture. After leaving the movement in the 1980s, the handsome, braided activist was still a cultural presence, appearing in several movies.

Means, who died Oct. 22 from throat cancer at age 72, helped lead the 1973 uprising at Wounded Knee – a bloody confrontation that raised America's awareness about the struggles of Indians and gave rise to a wider protest movement that lasted for the rest of the decade.

Before AIM, there were few national advocates for American Indians. Means was one of the first to emerge. He sought to restore Indians' pride in their culture and to challenge a government that had paid little attention to tribes in generations. He was also one of the first to urge sports teams to do away with Indian names and mascots.

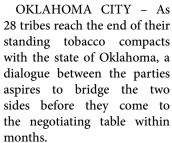
"No one except Hollywood stars and very rich Texans wore Indian

See MEANS Continued on Page 5

## Fallin's tribal meetings called a 'disappointment'

On the talk block are possible agreements between the state and tribes on issues like law enforcement, trust applications and license tags.

**S.E. RUCKMAN**Native American Times
Special Contributor



Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin's new tribal liaison and general counsel are hosting the meetings and extending invitations for tribal leaders to attend as the current tobacco compacts reach their end in June 2013. One exception is the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which just signed a new tobacco compact with Oklahoma in August.

Also on the talk block are possible agreements between the state and tribes on issues like law enforcement, trust



John Berrey, Quapaw Chairman



general counsel are hosting Jacque Secondine Hensley, Native American

applications and license tags. State officials said no timeline existed for the issues with which the state will look at on a case-by-case basis.

John Berrey, chairman of the Quapaw Tribe in Miami, attended one of the sessions and called the meetings a

See MEETINGS Continued on Page 3

## Nations unite against domestic violence

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

PONCA CITY, Okla. – For a few hours Friday, Standing Bear Park was awash in purple.

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Kaw Nation, Otoe-Missouria Tribe, Osage Nation, Pawnee Nation, Ponca Tribe and Tonkawa Tribe co-sponsored an awareness walk at the park on Ponca City's south side.

"We wanted to get together and do something," said Dawn Roe with the Tonkawa Tribe's domestic violence program. "Ponca City's domestic violence office hosts 'Walk a Mile in Her Shoes.' We wanted to do something similar, but make it more traditional so more men, tribal leaders and victims could get involved."

Ponca City is within the jurisdictional areas of the Osage Nation and the Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma. The other four co-host tribes are all headquartered within 40 miles of the Kay County community.

More than 100 attendees lapped the park Friday afternoon. As a drum circle played a prayer song near the entrance to the Standing Bear Museum and Cultural Center, walkers released purple helium-filled balloons in honor of domestic violence victims.

"This is even more special for

us because one of our victims was admitted to the hospital last night in critical condition," said Janette Rayna, coordinator for the Ponca Tribe's domestic violence program.

Launched earlier this year, Rayna said her program has already worked with more than 60 victims and hopes to make this an annual event.

According to the Oklahoma State Department of Health, 49 percent of all women statewide and 40 percent of men will experience some form of domestic violence within their lifetime. Nationally, Native Americans are more than twice as likely than any other racial

See UNITE Continued on Page 4



LISA SNELL I NATIVE AMERICANTIMES

As a drum circle played a prayer song Friday afternoon near the entrance to the Standing Bear Museum and Cultural Center in Ponca City, walkers released purple helium-filled balloons in honor of domestic violence victims.

## Oklahoma tribe on track to buy La., Miss. casinos

JEFF AMY Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) – An Oklahoma Indian tribe is moving forward with buying the DiamondJacks casinos in Bossier City, La., and Vicksburg, Miss

Global Gaming Solutions was the only entity that sought to buy the casinos in the bankruptcy process, averting a possible auction among multiple bidders. The unit of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma plans to pay \$27.5 million in cash and \$97.5 million in new debt to top-level lenders of current owner Legends Gaming.

Legends filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization in Shreveport, La., in July.

Court papers show Legends has \$105 million in assets. But even after an earlier bankruptcy, it owes lenders \$298 million, almost all secured debt.

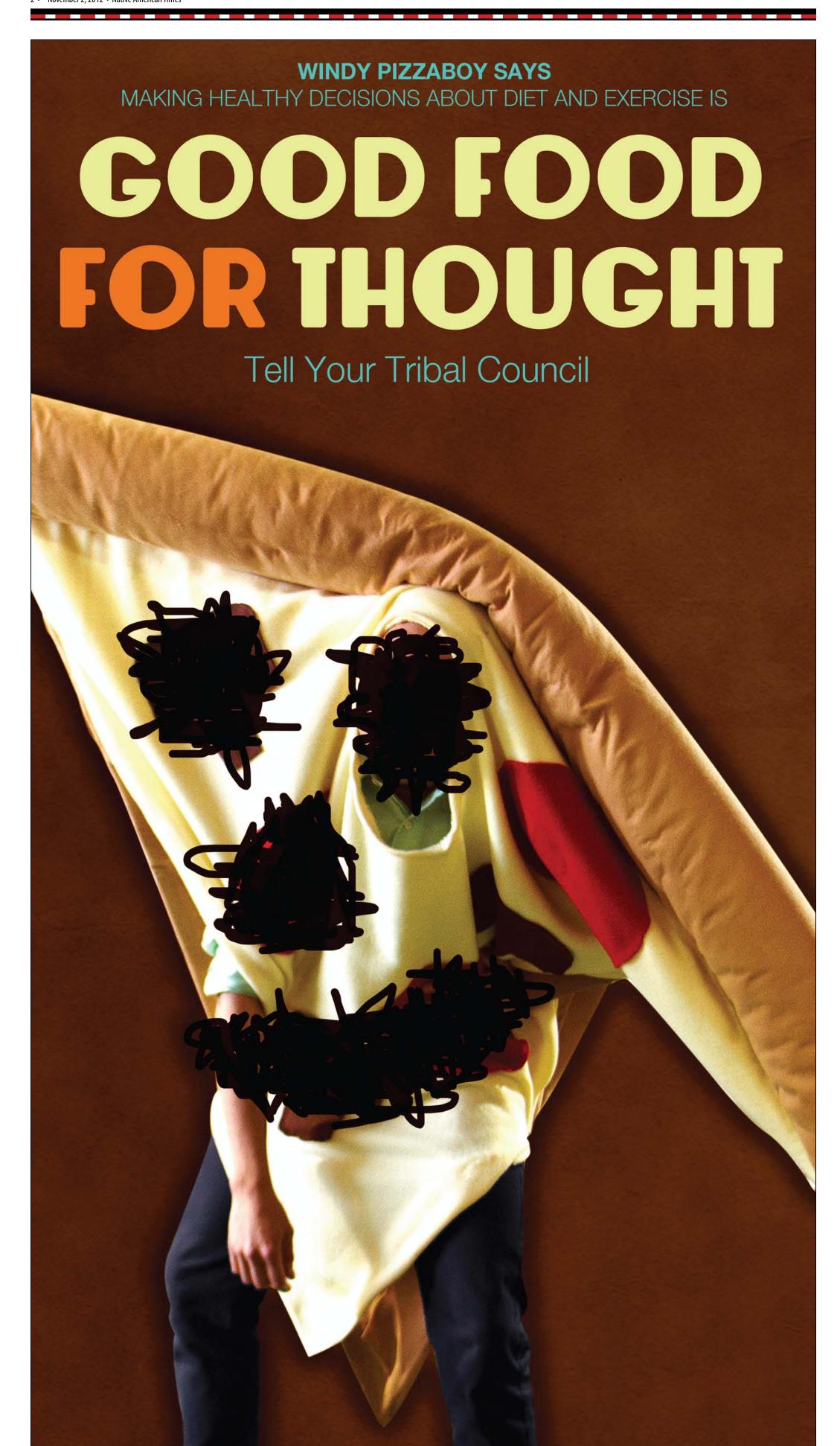
Wilmington Trust, a Delaware institution, leads a syndicate holding \$181 million in secured debt with the first claim on Legends assets. A lawyer for Wilmington Trust wrote in court papers that lenders negotiated the sale before the July 31 bankruptcy filing and that most first-lien lenders agreed to avoid sabotaging the sale.

Wells Fargo & Co. leads another syndicate that holds \$115 million in debt.

The new owners won't be able to complete the purchase until a bankruptcy judge approves. A reorganization plan isn't due to the court until late November.

The Chickasaws own 13 casinos in Oklahoma's competitive Indian gambling market. Their Global Gaming unit bought Remington Park Racing and Casino in Oklahoma City in 2010 and an ownership stake in Lone Star Park in Grand

See CASINOS Continued on Page 4







## Native women face patchwork of policies for Plan B

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) -Months after the federal Indian Health Service said it was finalizing a policy that would make emergency contraception more accessible to American Indian women, advocates say they're still waiting. And in the meantime, Native women face a patchwork of policies at hospitals and clinics that don't always ensure timely access to the medication.

Across the country, any woman 17 or older can buy emergency contraception from behind the counter at retail pharmacies. But the Indian Health Service has no retail pharmacies. Instead, Native women typically must visit a a consultation before being system in terms of being able budget is administered by tribes

prescribed the medicine that is to access Plan B or its generic through dispensed on-site.

Critics say that system time-consuming burdensome, and they've been some facilities don't carry the pushing for change. In May, medication at all, some hand they scored a victory when the it out only at the direction of Indian Health Service's chief a physician, and others have medical officer, Susan Karol, said the agency was working on who can provide it to patients. a new policy aimed at allowing pharmacies to give Plan B May saying many IHS facilities directly to patients.

been released yet, and until the medication to patients, and it is, Native women face an unreliable assortment of rules all our facilities to go." that can vary from clinic to clinic, said Charon Asetoyer, Dawson declined to discuss director of the South Dakota- when the policy would be based Native Women's Health Education Resource Center.

clinic, urgent care facility or continuity that women should to the medicines they need." emergency room and have be able to expect through the

In this Oct. 19, 2012 photo, activist Donna House, 58, of Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, left, participates in a forum on access for American

Indian women getting emergency contraceptive Plan B, in Albuquerque. The federal Indian Health Services has said it is finalizing a

policy to make Plan B available to American Indian women at its facilities much like it is in retail pharmacies across the country —

without requiring a consultation with a health care provider and without a prescription, except for those under 17.

counterpart," Asetoyer said.

A recent informal survey by contracts, and the resource center found that expanded the list of people

Karol wrote to Asetoyer in and tribal sites already have But that policy hasn't authorized clinicians to provide "this is the direction we want

IHS spokeswoman Dianne American released, saying only that "IHS is in the process of standardizing our procedures "There's not consistency and to ensure patients have access

More than half of the IHS

RUSSELL CONTRERAS | ASSOCIATED PRESS

an equivalent.

in Tacoma, Wash., for example, adverse response to it because longtime pharmacist Don Downing in 2002 gave other taking. pharmacists the authority to dispense the drugs directly to we offer," Spacone added. age. The women also were assaulted, you can offer to offered a glass of water to take follow up with counseling, and the medication on the spot.

for the medication at retail pharmacies, American Indian and Alaska Native women get it for free at IHS facilities because the federal government has a trust obligation to provide any IHS policy on emergency times at IHS facilities on and on patient volume, and not all operate around the clock.

hours away, cutting into the a false sense of security from 72-hour period after a woman has unprotected sex that emergency contraception is most effective. Having to wait to see a physician and getting typically are required for any a prescription further cuts into that time, advocates say.

"If you set up too many hope that 'I don't get pregnant.' Those barriers are real," said Downing, clinical professor at the University of Washington's School of Pharmacy who works it without appropriate reason with tribes on the issue.

Alan Spacone, chief medical said.

self-determination officer at the Tuba City Regional contracts or self-governance Health Care Corporation which means on the Navajo Nation, said policies at clinics operated by there are several benefits to tribes can be different from having women see a health those at IHS-run sites. The care provider before they get agency stocks medication from emergency contraception. He a list that includes emergency said women can be counseled contraceptives like Plan B or on safe sex practices and learn whether they're allergic to On the Puyallup reservation the drug or if they'll have an of other medications they're

"There are other things patients after verifying their "If you've been sexually make sure they're treated for While women must pay sexually transmitted diseases at that time. I think it's rather simplistic to think all you need to do is make sure you're not

Spacone said he's hopeful health care to them. Wait contraception would include a way to follow up with patients off reservations can depend to see if they'd like regular birth control and make sure they're clinics and urgent care centers not taking undue risks. That might be tricky, he said, but Those facilities also can be patients otherwise could get Plan B.

Downing said he can appreciate the reasoning behind the consultations that drug dispensed at IHS facilities, including ibuprofen and cough syrup, to ensure patients get hoops to jump through and the right medication for their too much time to wait, there's ailments. But he said Plan a tendency of women to not go B shouldn't fall in the same after the service at all and just realm as other restricted drugs because it's time-sensitive and doesn't carry the same abuse

> "The medical risks of using are essentially zero," Downing



Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at:

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** Attn: Subscriptions Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country



## **MEETINGS**

draw lines over jurisdiction rather than review in order to determine the meetings as simple disclosure meetings and Walker memo. as a new way of doing business.

espoused the rhetoric of someone who doesn't appreciate the value of the tribes its negotiations. in Oklahoma."

time tribal counsel, Hobbs, Strauss, the Fort Cobb venue and cited a Oct. 17 meeting with tribes in northeast Oklahoma, among them the Modoc, Peoria, Quapaw, Wyandotte, Miami, Eastern Shawnee and Ottawa tribes. The four-page memo noted points Technology Center.

The law firm's unsigned memo,

also concerned about new terms for 17 at Northeast Technology Center in presentation by the governor's general per carton of \$10.30.

that the wording by the state's general "disappointment." He said he saw the whether tribes would ever be required Muskogee. ngs as an attempt by the state to to open their internal books to state taxation rate based on volume on sales and did not carry the weight of "It's the same old same old," Berrey to non-Indians. Gov. Fallin's general said. "Fallin's new chief counsel counsel, Steven Mullins, said the state was not seeking that kind of review in meetings," Mullins said. However, regarding state-tribal agreements,"

Furthermore, the state's general A memorandum, drafted by long counsel will remove the use of the "most favored nation" clause and the Dean and Walker, were handed out at wording "border set-back" in the upcoming negotiations. Because each tribe is different, the state believes all should have different terms to define their tobacco compacts, the law firm's memo notes.

All fees negotiated by the two entities discussed in Afton at the Northeast will be collected from the tribes on a quarterly basis by the state.

The meetings, scheduled across dated Oct. 22, noted that the tribes had Oklahoma, included an Oct. 3 meeting concerns about the state intending to at the Tri-County Technology Center expand their jurisdiction over Indian in Bartlesville; Oct. 23 at Caddo-Kiowa Country. Tribal representatives were Technology Center in Fort Cobb; Oct.

negotiation.

Meetings Act did not apply to these meetings specifically because tribes are not public bodies as defined in the law, therefore excluding the meetings from the state law. Tribal leaders are allowed to bring representatives of their choosing to the meetings and anyone else may attend at the agreement of all the tribes in attendance, he added.

The meetings came after a letter to tribal leaders from Jacque Secondine Hensley, Fallin's Native American liaison, to brief them on "initial compact considerations" of the Governor's staff according to conditions outlined in the brings the state of Oklahoma some existing tobacco compacts.

Hensley outlined an opening said.

tobacco sales, including a starting bid Afton; Oct. 23 Department of Human counsel followed by an open floor Services in Pauls Valley; Kiamichi for tribal concerns where she called Meanwhile, some expressed concerns Technology Center in McAlester. the meetings a "springboard" in the Another is scheduled for Oct. 30 at communications process between counsel allowed some question as to Indian Capital Technology Center in tribes and the state. She is characterized as a "neutral, back-door, informational State officials characterized the conduit" by the Hobbs, Straus, Dean

> "I look forward to seeing you and discussing how we can work together "There is nothing secret about these to come to a better understanding he added that the Oklahoma Open Hensley said in the memo directed to tribal leaders.

Gov. Fallin's director communications, Alex Weintz, called the discussions "private" and "often informal meetings" that will help the governor get acquainted with the tribes in the state.

"Having not only Jacque, but two other employees who are engaged in tribal matters helps to ensure that our office continues to work together with the tribes to benefit all of Oklahoma," he said.

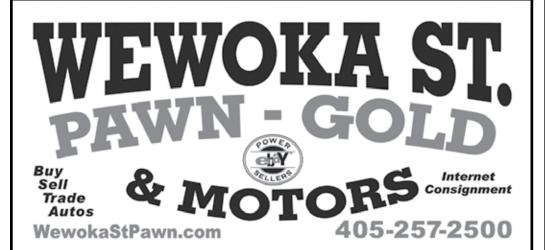
Tobacco compacts with the tribes \$33.8 million annually, state officials



918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

> NATIVE TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

American Indian Owned & Operated Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK "Where every day is Indian Day"

## **SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY**

Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## Kickapoo ask Kan. gov. to help with water

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) – The chairman of the Kickapoo Indian tribe in northeast Kansas wants Gov. Sam Brownback to intervene in its fight for a reservoir.

The Topeka Capital-Journal reports that Steve Cadue was in Topeka on Friday to receive a proclamation honoring Kansas tribes.

While there, Cadue handed out a letter addressed to Brownback asking for help in the tribe's long-running battle with the Nemaha Brown Watershed Board for a reservoir. The Kickapoo have sought to build the Plum Creek Dam for decades to ease water shortages on their reservation.

The Kickapoo and the water board came to an agreement in 1998 to build the dam, but landowners won't sell their property to make way for the project and board members have declined to use eminent domain to enforce the agreement.

## **C&A Tribes get \$15 million energy settlement**

CONCHO, Okla. – The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes will receive a multimillion dollar severance agreement from one of the country's largest natural gas producers.

On Friday, a representative from the one of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes' two claimant governments announced that it would receive \$15,570,288.90 from Oklahoma City-

based Chesapeake Energy Corporation in severance taxes, penalties and interest on several leases held by the tribes that had not been paid out.

According to Lisa Liebl, spokeswoman for Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell's administration, the severance funds will go towards tribal programs, including education, public

health and law enforcement. Under the Cheyenne and Arapaho General Revenue and Taxation Act of 1998, the money is not eligible for per capita payments.

The announcement came soon after a hearing date was set in Custer County District Court in the tribes' civil case with the First Bank and Trust of Clinton, Okla. Due to the on-going leadership

dispute within Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, their accounts with that bank are under court supervision. A hearing is scheduled for Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the Custer County Courthouse in Arapaho, Okla., on an application from one faction's legislature to access the funds on behalf of three tribal programs.

### Lumbees concerned about rule on eagle feathers

PEMBROKE, N.C. (AP) – Member of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina are upset over a new federal rule making it illegal for tribe members to carry eagle feathers.

The Fayetteville Observer reports that a Justice Department rule that took effect last month only allows members

of federally recognized tribes to have the feathers of birds protected by federal law.

Tribal attorney Ed Brooks says the policy is unconstitutional and attacks tribes that are not recognized by the federal government. He says the Justice Department cannot create a policy that

singles out one tribal people over another.

The tribal council has passed a resolution saying the tribe should be allowed to have eagle feathers. The Lumbee Tribe is recognized by the state but does not have the full federal recognition.

#### Court upholds Navajo hiring rules at Ariz. mines

GALLUP, N.M. (AP) – A federal judge has upheld hiring preferences at northeastern Arizona coal mines that require the mining company to favor members of the Navajo tribe.

U.S. District Judge John Sedwick's ruling may end a decade-long battle that pitted the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission against Peabody Western Coal Co. Sedwick is based in Alaska but heard the case in Phoenix.

The EEOC alleged in its 2001 lawsuit that contracts requiring hiring preferences for Navajos seeking work on Peabody's reservation mines discriminate against members of other tribes. The federal anti-workplace

discrimination agency argued that American Indians as a group could be offered preference but not Navajos specifically. EEOC sought to void federally approved lease provisions on two mine sites requiring Navajo preference and to invalidate the Navajo Preference in Employment Act.

The Gallup Independent reports a Navajo Department of Justice statement said the Oct. 18 ruling backs its position that the practice is legal.

that the practice is legal.

The Navajo Nation and U.S. Interior
Department were eventually brought
into the original suit. Both Peabody
and the Interior "unequivocally
and steadfastly supported Navajo

tribal preference for on-reservation

employers," according to DOJ.

"The Nation, Peabody, and the Department of the Interior all explained that tribal preference in employment for on-reservation employers is not prohibited national origin discrimination, as the EEOC alleged, but is instead a political preference which falls outside the scope of federal equal employment opportunity law. And this is what the district court ruled."

"We are disappointed," EEOC regional attorney Mary Jo O'Neill said Friday. "We disagree with the decision and we are considering our options, including appeal."

## 11 voting locations set for Nov. 5 UKB election

There will be eleven voting locations in the Monday, November 5, 2012, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma's tribal elections. Polling locations will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Tribal members will vote for four officer positions: Chief, Assistant Chief, Tribal Secretary and Tribal Treasurer, as well as voting for one district representative who will represent them on the tribal council.

The officers will serve a four year term beginning in January 2013, while the district representatives will serve two year terms beginning in January.

There are nine districts in the UKB jurisdiction, including Canadian, Cooweescoowee, Delaware, Flint, Goingsnake, Illinois, Saline, Sequoyah, and Tahlequah.

Four district representatives ran unopposed in this election, including Canadian District Representative Eddie Sacks; Delaware District Representative Jerry Hansen; Goingsnake District Representative William Christie; and Illinois District Representative Peggy Girty.

Due to the National elections on Tuesday, November 6, the UKB election board was not able to secure three of the former voting locations. The three new locations will be in the Canadian District at Muskogee; in the Saline District in Salina; and in the Tahlequah District in Tahlequah.

Voting locations include:

Canadian District, Muskogee, Oklahoma Indian Capital Technology Center, 2403 N. 41ST Streets Muskogee, Okla., Phone: 918-682-1965 Directions: Located on comer of Country Club Road on Shawnee St.

Cooweescoowee District, Collinsville, Oklahoma First Baptist Church Collinsville-

First Baptist Church Collinsville-Fellowship Hall, 1301 W. Main, Collinsville, Okla. Phone: 918-371-2526 First Christian-Presbyterian Church, 301 N. E. 1st Street Pryor, Okla., Phone: 918-825-2396

Delaware District, Jay, Oklahoma Jay Community Building, 102 N. 5th Street Jay, Okla. Phone 918-253-4277

Flint District Stilwell, Oklahoma, Stilwell Satellite Office

On the Corner of Young and Section Line Road Phone 918-696-7672

Goingsnake District, Stilwell, Oklahoma Maryetta Public School, 100 Maryetta Rd Stilwell, Okla. Phone 918-696-2285

Directions: Boys & Girls Club Entrance

Kansas, Oklahoma, Kansas Satellite Office

On the corner of Hwy 10 and Hwy 33, there is a service station and the Kansas office is the red brick office behind the service station. Phone 918-868-2656

Illinois District, Vian, Oklahoma Vian Satellite Office, 207 W. Schley Vian, Okla.

Directions: Across the street from the Lifetime Tire Shop. Phone: 918-822-0956

Saline District, Salina, Oklahoma Band of Believers Church, Owen Walters on Hwy 82 Salina, Okla., Phone: 918-434-2288

Sequoyah District, Sallisaw, Oklahoma UKB Sallisaw Satellite Office, 3750 W. Cherokee Ave. Sallisaw, Okla. Phone: 918-775-0920

Directions: Across from Blue Ribbon Downs

Tahlequah District, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

UKB Wellness Center. Directions: At UKB Circle, off West Willis Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Phone: 918-822-0956

For more information, call the UKB Election Board at 918-456-8421.



LISA SNELL | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES together against Domestic Violence

Marilyn Cornell, Tonkawa tribal citizen, was one of the first to arrive for the Six Nations Walking together against Domestic Violence event, Oct. 26 at Standing Bear Park, Ponca City. She got a free t-shirt and purple awareness bracelet - but most importantly, she said, she was there in support of a loved one.

## **UNITE**

Continued from Page

group to experience domestic violence, often at the hands of a non-Native perpetrator.

"This is going on in our communities," Roe said. "We have to get the word out there that this is not traditional. This is not OK."

For one of the host tribes, Friday's event comes as its domestic violence program prepares to close its doors.

The Kaw Nation, headquartered in Kaw City, Okla., was unable to secure grant funding through the U.S. Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women to keep its domestic violence program running after Dec. 31.

"Out of the six tribes in our area, only two were able to receive grant money," program coordinator Rima Bellmard-Mathews said. "It's competitive and it shouldn't be, especially if there is a demonstrated need in an area." Bellmard-Mathews said her office is searching for and applying for more grants, but none will provide funding until April 2013 at the earliest. She doesn't know for sure what will happen to victims who would normally go to her Ponca City office after the grant runs out.

"A lot of it will just depend on where they live and who they make contact with," she said. "We'll do what we can to shuffle victims to other tribes' programs in the area to try to get them the help they need."

Contact information for tribal domestic violence programs in north-central Oklahoma:

Kaw Tribe: 580-762-4477
Osage Nation: 866-897-4747
Otoe-Missouria Tribe: 580-723-4466 ext. 132
Pawnee Nation: 855-810-4144
Ponca Tribe of Oklahoma: 580-761-3144
Tonkawa Tribe: 580-628-3619

## **BALLOT**

Continued from Page 1

Nation, prompting Keller to reach out to both tribes.

"I've been lucky to get support from both the Cherokee and Muscogee (Creek) Nations," she said. "I have had the opportunity to speak with several leaders from both nations about issues specific to their tribes. My tribal citizenship and heritage is very important to me, and, if elected, I hope to foster these relationships further to benefit the citizens of both nations."

A teacher with Owasso Public Schools, Keller is running against Catoosa Republican Terry O'Donnell. Several members of the legislature's Native American caucus are running unopposed this year, including Cherokee Nation citizen Rep. Chuck Hoskin (D-Vinita), Chickasaw Nation citizen and speakerelect Rep. T.W. Shannon (R-Lawton), and Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens Rep. Dan Kirby (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Jerry McPeak (D-Warner).

Caucus co-founder Wesselhoft also did not draw an opponent, which he is taking as a positive sign.

"This shows that the people in my district have confidence in my abilities," he said. "This frees up my time to help other candidates and work on other projects, like the 2013 budget."

Wesselhoft, who is also a member of his tribe's

legislature, has drawn on his experience and firsthand knowledge of Indian Country's economic impact on Oklahoma repeatedly while representing southern Oklahoma County and northern Cleveland County.

"Most tribes realize that there are only so many gaming dollars out there," he said. "It's very wise for our tribes to diversify. Having the knowledge and experience I do, I try to share that with non-Native legislators and sometimes wind up going against the wind.

"There are some people, legislators included, who are resistant to tribes and don't understand what sovereignty means."

## **CASINOS**

Continued from Page 1

Prairie, Texas, in 2011. The tribe says its strategy is to expand regionally.

"This purchase, if successful, would complement our strategy to increase our footprint in the Midwest as it puts us into two more regional markets with close proximity to our operations in Texas and Oklahoma," CEO John Elliott wrote in an email.

Global Gaming plans to keep the DiamondJacks name, Elliott said.

Raymond Cook, president of Legends, says the casinos will operate "as usual" until the sale closes. "We will continue to provide our guests with the same great value

and service they have always enjoyed at our properties," he said in a statement. "Upon completion of the sale process, DiamondJacks will be part of Global Gaming and its parent family."

Though tribes in Louisiana and Mississippi operate casinos outside the state regulatory structure, state officials have said Global Gaming would be regulated and taxed just like any other non-Indian casino owner. Elliott said Global Gaming won't seek state regulatory approvals until the sale is finalized.

DiamondJacks is typically last among Bossier City's five casinos in terms of revenue, according to Louisiana state figures. Mississippi doesn't release revenue figures for individual casinos, but DiamondJacks has the

second-largest number of slot machines among Vicksburg's four casinos. A fifth Vicksburg casino, Grand Station, closed in March amid its own bankruptcy.

DiamondJacks employs 364 people at its casino and hotel in Vicksburg, according to Mississippi figures. It employs about 650 people in Bossier City, according to Louisiana figures. Elliott said no layoffs are planned.

Both properties were the first casino in their respective cities when opened by the Isle of Capri. Vicksburg opened in 1993 while Bossier City opened a year later. Isle of Capri sold the gambling halls to privately-held Legends in 2006. Legends first filed bankruptcy in 2008 to lower interest rates on \$215 million it borrowed to finance the purchases.

## **Kiowa Election Board schedules** special elecion for Dec. 22

■ The Kiowa Election Board has been locked out of its office at the tribal complex since a June 2011 recall election, prompting a move east to the Anadarko Public Library.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

CARNEGIE, Okla. - The Kiowa Election Board will be conducting a special election Dec. 22.

All eight seats on the tribe's business council and four seats on the Kiowa Housing Commission will be on the ballot. The filing fee is \$150 per candidate. Potential candidates may file for office on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays through Nov. 9 at the Anadarko Public Library, located at 215 W. Broadway, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

All tribal citizens who are 21 years old or older are eligible to run for office except those who have been in debt to the tribe for at least two years or are convicted felons.

The Kiowa Election Board has been locked out of its office at the tribal complex since a June 2011 recall election, prompting the move east.

"Every time there is a recall election, they blame the election board," Kiowa Election Board chairman Dwayne Davis said. "We just run it. We don't get in the middle of it. When we get an order from the hearing board, we don't get a choice. We just follow those orders."

The election board is in the process of confirming a polling place in Carnegie.

Precincts in Lawton, Okla., and Hobart, Okla., have been secured.

The election board is also registering new voters through Nov. 23. Any Kiowa tribal citizen older than 18 is eligible to vote.

In addition to the 12 positions, issues brought before the Kiowa Indian Council at its 2011 and 2012 meetings will be on the ballot. Among those questions is a proposal that would allow the Kiowa Casino Operations Authority to refinance the tribe's Red River Casino in Devol, Okla., which is currently \$46 million in debt.

After the Kiowa Indian Council meeting on Oct. 6, a representative for the tribe would not confirm a timeline for the election due to a vacancy on the election board. Davis said the board still has an open seat, but with four members, has enough for quorum to conduct business.

"We are required to have a quorum of three," he said. "We can still operate with the vacancy."

Under the tribe's constitution, issues presented at the Kiowa Indian Council meeting are supposed to be voted on during the first Saturday in November. Because the election board is combining the issues with the eight seats up for grabs, Davis said they have to allow 60 days from the election's announcement to allow sufficient time for voter registration and candidate filing.

The Kiowa Tribe's public relations office did not respond to requests for comment.

## COMMENTARY

## Addiction is a brain disease

RONALD SHAW, M.D. Osage

Alcoholism, chemical dependency or drug addiction are all terms for the same illness. It has many different manifestations. What many see as voluntary actions by the affected individual are actually the result of a compulsion to use or drink that is embedded in a psycho-social context. The behavior that is actually seen is the son that continues to drink despite mounting legal and financial consequences or the wife that shops doctors for her pain pills despite being seen to be sleepy and unsteady on her feet in the middle of the day with unremitting claims of pain. On the inside, these decisions to use or drink represent involuntary acts to continue to supply the drug to the brain and a persistent search for ever fleeting periods of euphoria or to simply prevent painful withdrawal. The actual drinking or using appears to be a voluntary act but it actually is an involuntary act that represents an overwhelming compulsion to use or drink as the result of dramatic changes in the reward center of the brain known as the meso-limbic system.

The amount of time required to develop these changes may be weeks to years depending on the drug and whether, yet to be precisely identified, pre-existing genetic abnormalities exist. Family history is an important risk factor. If an individual has one parent with a history of alcoholism that person's risk of developing alcoholism or drug addiction is more than doubled. If both parents were affected the risk is more than tripled. Nonetheless, many addict/alcoholic individuals have no immediate family

with alcoholism/addiction. One feature of the disease of addiction is that of denial. Denial is a term that indicates the affected person's refusal to admit he/she has an abnormal relationship with a drug/ alcohol despite overwhelming evidence that ongoing use is causing multiple problems (1 egal,financial,medical,relat ionships). The presence or severity of the illness is not self-evident to the affected individual. Despite our best efforts to convince that son or mother that that he or she is dependent or addicted, they cannot see the damage that is being done and explain these major problems away with excuses that do not hold

Many people have never in their life experienced what appears to be a self-induced problem they could not handle on their own. They cannot accept that they got themselves in to this medical problem that they are unable to get themselves out of without help. One of the first steps to recovery of the affected individual is that of admitting that one does not have the power to control or stop their use of the drug/alcohol. Such surrender is perceived by the alcoholic/ addict as shameful or a sign of personal weakness leading some to delay reaching out for treatment for years while jobs are lost, marriages dissipated and perhaps even incarceration.

The good news is that there is effective treatment for this illness that can return the affected individual to healthy function. Medications are available to improve the patient's chances of recovery.

This month, be aware that alcohol/drug addiction is an illness and not a moral weakness or a bad habit. It is a real illness that requires real treatment.

*Dr. Shaw is a member of the* Association of American Indian Physicians and the Medical Director of Citizen Potawatomi Health Services.

## MEANS

Continued from Page 1

jewelry," Means said, recalling the early days of the movement. And there were dozens, if not hundreds, of athletic teams "that in essence were insulting us, from grade schools to college. That's all changed."

AIM was founded in the late 1960s to demand that the government honor its treaties with American Indian tribes. The movement eventually faded away, Means said, as Native Americans became more self-aware and selfdetermined.

There were plenty of American Indian activists before AIM, but it became the "radical media gorilla," said Paul DeMain, editor of News from Indian Country, a national newspaper focused on tribal affairs.

"If someone needed help, you called on the American Indian Movement, and they showed up and caused all kind of ruckus and looked beautiful on a 20-second clip on TV that night," DeMain said.

Means and AIM co-founder Dennis Banks were charged in 1974 for their role in the Wounded Knee uprising in which hundreds of protesters occupied the town on the site of the 1890 Indian massacre. Protesters and federal authorities were locked in a standoff for 71 days and frequently exchanged gunfire. Before it was over, two tribal members were killed and a federal agent seriously wounded.

After a trial that lasted several months, a judge threw out the charges on grounds of government misconduct.

Other protests led by Means included an American Indian prayer vigil on top of Mount Rushmore and the seizure of a replica of the Mayflower on Thanksgiving Day in Plymouth, Mass.

"The friendship between Russell and I goes back almost 50 years," Banks said late Monday night. "I lost a great friend. But Native people lost one of the greatest warriors of modern-day times. Truly, he was a great visionary. He was controversial, yes. But he brought issues to the front page."

But Means' constant quest for the spotlight raised doubts about his motives. Critics who included many fellow tribe members said his main interest was building his own notoriety.

Means said his most important accomplishment was the proposal for the Republic of Lakotah, a plan to carve out a sovereign Indian nation inside the United States. He took the idea all the way to the United Nations, even though it was ignored by tribal governments closer to home, including his own Oglala Sioux leaders, with whom he often clashed.

For decades, Means was dogged by questions about whether the group promoted violence, especially the 1975 slaying of a woman in the tribe and the gun battles with federal agents at Wounded Knee.

Authorities believe three AIM members shot and killed Annie Mae Aquash on the Pine Ridge reservation on the orders of someone in AIM's leadership because they suspected she was an FBI informant.

Two activists - Arlo Looking Cloud and John Graham – were both eventually convicted of murder. The third has never been charged.

Also in 1975, murder charges were filed against Means and Dick Marshall, an AIM member, in the shooting death of a Sioux man at a saloon in the town of Scenic, S.D. Marshall served 24 years in prison. Means was acquitted.

His activism extended to tribes beyond the United States. In the mid-1980s, Means traveled to Nicaragua to support indigenous Miskito Indians who were fighting the Sandinista government.

Born on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Means grew up in the San Francisco area and battled drugs and alcohol as a young man before becoming an early leader of AIM.

With his rugged good looks and long, dark braids, he also was known for a handful of Hollywood roles, most notably in the 1992 movie "The Last of the Mohicans," in which he portrayed Chingachgook alongside Daniel Day-Lewis' Hawkeye.

He also appeared in the 1994 film "Natural Born Killers," voiced Chief Powhatan in the 1995 animated film "Pocahontas" and guest starred in 2004 on the HBO series "Curb Your Enthusiasm.

Means also ran unsuccessfully for the Libertarian nomination for president in 1988 and briefly served as a vice presidential candidate in 1984 on the ticket of Hustler publisher Larry Flynt.

Means always considered himself a Libertarian and couldn't believe that anyone would want to call themselves a Republican or a Democrat.

"It's just unconscionable that America has become so stupid," he said.

Means often refused interviews and verbally blasted journalists who showed up to cover his public appearances. Instead, he chose to speak to his fan base through YouTube videos and blog posts on his website.

Means recounted his life in the book "Where White Men Fear to Tread." He said he pulled no punches in the autobiography, admitting to his frailties but also acknowledging his successes.

"I tell the truth, and I expose myself as a weak, misguided, misdirected, dysfunctional human being I used to be," he said.

Means died at his ranch in Porcupine, S.D. He announced in August 2011 that he had inoperable throat cancer and told The Associated Press that he would forego mainstream medicine in favor of traditional American Indian remedies.

Means' death came a day after former Sen. George McGovern died in Sioux Falls at the age of 90. McGovern had traveled to Wounded Knee with then-Sen. James Abourezk during the takeover to try to negotiate an end to

"I've lost two good friends in a matter of two to three days," Abourezk said last Monday. "I don't pretend to understand it."

Wake services for Means' were Wedneday, Oct. 24 on Pine Ridge and his ashes were scattered in the Black Hills on Thursday.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465. To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.



recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated... shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates 918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes



VINITA 918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 

918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned TERO Certified

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day. www.nativetimes.com

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:			
Address:			
City:	_ State: Zi	p:	
Phone:			
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues			
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues	s 🔲 \$1.25 sii	ngle copy	

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## **Native American fashion** magazine launches online

KRISTI EATON Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, South Dakota (AP) - Growing up on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, Kelly Holmes spent hours thumbing through the latest issues of Seventeen or Vogue. She noticed the models didn't look anything like her and the stories had little to do with her experiences in the vast, sparsely populated area hundreds of miles (kilometers) from any highend retailer.

So Holmes, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, set out to create her own fashion magazine geared toward Native American men and women and non-Native Americans who want to learn about the culture.

Native Max focuses on indigenous people, places and cultures with the same sleek photography found in fashion magazines but without the headdresses stereotypical and tomahawks sometimes seen in the mainstream media. The premiere issue, which is online only, features interviews with Native American artists, musicians, designers and models, as well as sections on health, beauty and sports.

"There's really no magazine, a Native-owned and operated, Native-designed magazine. There's nothing like this magazine out there. The ones that do have stuff focused on younger people, they're really vulgar and very revealing," said Holmes, 21, who now lives in Denver.

The first issue of the quarterly magazine features Mariah Watchman as the cover model. Watchman, a member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation out of Oregon, catapulted to fame in Indian Country after becoming the first Native American woman Next Top Model."

While the magazine aims to present positive role models and uplifting messages, it will touch on controversial topics, Holmes said. In the premiere issue, Holmes interviewed two women who started a campaign called Save Wiyabe Project to highlight violence against Native American women. The U.S. Department of Justice estimates one out of every three Native women will be raped and one out of every four will be physically assaulted.

Rhonda LeValdo, president of the Native American **Journalists** Association, said Native Max and other Native-focused media show American society that Native Americans are regular people, too.

"They want to be models, movie stars, artists. I think that's showing the regular side as opposed to that stereotype of just showing us in our dance regalia," she said.

The magazine's nine staff members come from all over North America, including the Navajo Nation in Arizona and the Otomi and Yaqui nations in Mexico. Ad director and writer Angelica Gallegos, 20, of Denver, said she has enjoyed learning about new and up and coming Native American artists and musicians.

"I like how we want to involve a lot of people in the community and get ideas from them," said Gallegos, a member of the Santa Ana Pueblo and Jicarilla Apache tribes. "I also like the aspect of getting to know different artists and Native people around the country and how they're contributing to their people in different ways."

But LeValdo, a professor at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kan., said it's imperative for

**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS** 

**RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES** 

**FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES** 

**Gracie Cox** 

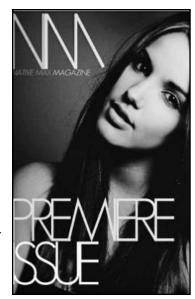
Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025

gracie.cox@suddenlink.net

**True American Indian** 

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com



any new publication to have financial backing to survive. A few years ago, one of her students started a Native American music magazine but was only able to put out two issues before it folded.

Holmes has been searching for grants and investors but so far has had no luck. She said she invested about \$1,000 of her own money to get the magazine going but hopes that advertising and sales will keep it afloat and maybe even provide a profit by mid-next year. Beginning in December, the magazine will switch to a print-only format, with issues mailed to subscribers at a cost of \$10 each.

Native Max has fewer than 100 subscribers at the moment, but Holmes said she hopes to boost that with fashion events at various locations across the country. She said the obstacles in getting the magazine launched haven't tarnished her dream of having her own magazine for Native Americans.

"There are Natives out there who are talented," she said. "... I want it to be inspirational and to show to others, 'Hey, there is someone out there doing the same thing as me."

Thoroughbred Banking

**VINITA** 

918-256-5585

LANGLEY

918-782-0011

**MONKEY ISLAND** 

918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com

**Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned

TERO Certified

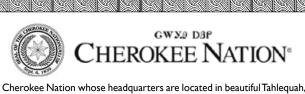
## CLASSIFIEDS

**EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED** 

## TRANS/AM

is currently hiring Entry-level Drivers from





Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

Positions Close: 10/30/2012

#6584 RPT Inpatient Registered Nurse (8-12 Rotating Shifts)

#6749 TPT Inpatient Supervisory Clinical Nurse

Positions Close: 11/09/2012 #6470 TPT Medical Technologist (7 am - 4 pm) **#7255 RFT Medical Technologist** 

> (Based on Educ/Exper) **#7256 RPT Medical Technologist**

(Every other weekend/other shifts) Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

> **Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department** PO Box 948 Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Kialegee Tribal Town Environmental Protection Agency is seeking an

#### **EPA Director**

MAJOR DUTIES: Plans, directs, and coordinates activities of the Kialegee Environmental Protection Agency staff involved in developing policies, procedures and techniques to solve pollution problems of the Kialegee Tribe.

Organizes and conducts Education and Outreach activities concerning environmental and natural resource issues of the Kialegee Tribe.

Carries out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with the Tribe's policies and applicable laws. Responsibilities Include interviewing, assisted hiring and training employees; planning assigning and directing work; appraising and evaluation performance and rewarding or disciplining accordingly.

#### KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED:

Four years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination or education and experience. Must be computer literate.

Please submit letter of application and resumé to Kialegee Tribal Town, Attn: Elisha Scott, PO Box 322, Wetumka, OK 74883

Closing Date: Nov. 9, 2012 @ 4:30 p.m.



Kickapoo Tribal Health Center **Vacancy Announcements** 

Accountant (FT Position, Mon.-Fri. only) Kickapoo Community Childcare Center Annual Salary: \$35,360.00

**Requirement: Associates Degree** acceptable - Bachelor's degree preferred. Previous experience with Pro-care or a related childcare program software such as CCDF.

Benefits include: Health Insurance (PPO), Dental, Vision 401K (4% matching), Life Insurance Closes: October 31, 2012

**Behavioral Health Director** (FT Position, Mon.-Fri. only) Annual Salary: \$56,160.00 -\$62,400.00 -depending on qualifications

Requirement: At minimum, mental health counselors must hold a master's degree in counseling from an accredited institution.

Benefits include: Health Insurance (PPO), Dental, Vision 401K (4% matching), Life Insurance Closes: October 31, 2012

**Psychiatrist** On a contract basis, 1-full day per

month for medication management Open Until Filled

Send Curriculum vitae to the Kickapoo Tribal Health Center, P.O. Box 1360, McLoud, Oklahoma 74851 or email to cheryl.garcia@kthcmcloud.com. More info call (405) 964-2081.

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native Times. Special Small Business Rates Available Through December! Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

### WANTED

#### *NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS*

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00 Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

## CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Thursday 10-6 • Friday 10-7 • Saturday 10-2 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



Nww.ganica.net

Tulsa Metro Area **HANDYMAN** Painting • Drywall Repair

Odd Jobs Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983 nathan614@hotmail.com

"Your first call in home repair"



918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA



## Win Your Share of Over in Cash and Prizes!



Play at all 7 locations!

**TULSA BARTLESVILLE SAND SPRINGS PONCA CITY** 

SKIATOOK HOMINY PAWHUSKA Saturday, November 17 • 6 pm – 10 pm Earn entries November 4 - 15

(918) 699-7777 • osagecasinos.com • f Like us on Facebook!

©2012 Osage Casino. Must be 18 to participate. Guests must be actively playing with their Club Osage card to be eligible for promotional drawings. Cash and Prize total is across all seven locations. Must be present to win Free Play drawings. Free Play is a non-cashable credit and must be redeemed at the location received. Need not be present to win Cash and must claim within 30 days of notification. Management reserves all rights. If you think you have a gambling problem, please call 1-800-522-4700.





## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance **Abuse and Behavioral Health** Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

#### **SECOND TUESDAY**

**Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

#### THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

#### **EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, **Oklahoma City** 

#### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

#### **THROUGH NOVEMBER** Kiowa Language Class, Fall

semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

#### All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history

**THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** 

and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

**OCTOBER 30** An evening with N. Scott Momaday at Oklahoma City University, 7 p.m. at Kerr McGee Auditorium Meinders School of Business N.W. 27th Street and McKinley Avenue Oklahoma City. For more information, call 405-208-5290 or 405-208-5898.

#### **NOVEMBER 1**

"Meet the Masters" free event to Tulsa's Black & Pink Supplies & Dance, 6:00-8:00pm at W Houston St, Broken Arrow, OK. The event includes Moscow Ballet dancer Natalia Miroshnyk. Visit www. nutcracker.com/capezio or call Christy Hopkins 918-258-5705 for information.

#### **NOVEMBER 3**

**Talking Leaves Job Corps Annual** Powwow, 5700 Bald Hill Rd. Tahlequah, Okla. Gourd Dancing from 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm.; Grand Entry at 7:00. Free Admission. Info contact: David Gourd: 918-207-3340 or 918-207-3425 or gourd. david@jobcorps.org

#### **Bacone College Fall Powwow,** Muskogee, Okla. For more info call Kyle Taylor 918-360-1085 or email taylork@bacone.edu

Fall Arts and Crafts Festival at The Museum of the Red River, Idabel, Okla. from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at The Mary H. Herron Community Conference Center. The event is free and open to the public. First 100 attendees will receive gift bags. For more information or directions call the Museum at (580) 286-3616.

Osage Exhibit Opening at Osage County Historical Society Museum, 10am-12pm. Exhibit includes rare Osage items not seen anywhere.

#### Info call 918-287-9119.

**AHA Powwow honoring all heart** attack and stroke survivors and their families, Concho Community Hall, Concho, Okla. Winner take all contest, tiny tots. Info call Rachel 405-593-6931.

#### **NOVEMBER 10**

Seminole Nation/City of Wewoka **Veterans Day Parade and** celebration, downtown Wewoka, 9am-4pm. Parade at 10am. Info call Jodie 405-257-2413 or Judy 405-257-7207 or www.sno-nsn.gov

'Eat What Eagles Eat' benefit dinner for Grey Snow Eagle House, 6:00 at the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma **Powwow Grounds in the Chena** building. Tickets are \$50. Info call 405-334-7471

#### **NOVEMBER 11**

**Pawnee Indian Veterans Day Dance** at Round House, Pawnee Tribal **Reserve. Noon meal War Dance** to follow. Lewis Only A Chief, U.S. Army, Flag will be flown. Free Admission BYOC/D. Contact: David D. Echo Hawk Pawnee Indian Veterans President 918-873-0499 or email ddeh82@hotmail.com for information. Check us out on **Facebook Pawnee Indian Veterans** Organization

#### **NOVEMBER 16-17**

Tahlequah Holiday Bazaar Arts & Crafts show to raise awareness and donations for Leukemia/ Lymphoma Society, 10 am to 6 pm, Fri & Sat, Cherokee Cty Comm Bldg, 908 S. College. Contact Linda @ 918-694-3349 for more information.

#### **NOVEMBER 17**

**OKC Public Schools Native American Student Services** Powwow at Douglass High School, 988 Martin Luther King Ave, OKC. Info call 405-587-0359.

2nd Annual Josh Williamson Memorial All Indian Men's **Basketball Tournament sponsored** by the Sac & Fox Powwow Committee. \$150 entry fee, 10 man roster, double elimination. Stroud 66 Coliseum. More info call Graham Primeaux, 405-886-9451 or gprimeaux@shawnee.k12.ok.us

#### **DECEMBER 1**

4th Annual Native American **Craft Show sponsored by the OKC** Chickasaw Elders, at Graceway Baptist Church, 1100 SW 104th in Oklahoma City from 9:00 - 3:00. For vendor information contact Pat Bartmess, 405-703-09889.

#### **DECEMBER 5**

**VA Enrollment Fair at Claremore** Indian Hospital to help veteran patients apply for eligibility for health care services at the VA hospitals and clinics. Bring your DD214 or military discharge papers to Conference Room #1, 9am-3pm. Representatives will be on hand to help with the application process and answer questions. Please RSVP at the Claremore Indian Hospital 918-342-6240 or 918-342-6607 by Dec. 4

#### **DECEMBER 31**

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow.

COURTESY DEBORAH SCOTT | SAGE ASSOCIATES INC

Girls and staff from BLING (BeLieving In Native Girls) rallied together to decorate the winning float in the non-profit category at the 81st Annual American Indian Exposition. BLING focuses on teaching healthy living skills to girls ages 12 and up who are attending Riverside Indian School.

## After school group shows a little 'BLING' Program works to educate Native girls

■ BLING is open to all girls enrolled at Riverside who are between the ages of 12 and 18. Since its implementation in 2008, about 300 girls have gone through the program.

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

ANADARKO, Okla. – An after-school group at a Bureau of Indian Education school has Native girls showing some bling.

Funded by a multi-year grant through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Women's Health, Believing in Native Girls, or BLING, is a program at Riverside Indian School that works to educate Native girls about reproductive health, juvenile delinquency prevention, peer mentoring, bullying and how to make positive life decisions through discussion and role playing.

"A lot of these kids haven't had anyone to teach them about their bodies or what is and is not OK in relationships," program manager and Riverside graduate Carmen Klinekole said. "When they're at home and see Mom and Dad drinking and fighting all the time, they think that's normal. We talk with them about positive relationships and are happy to be there as a support for them."

One of two Indian boarding schools left in Oklahoma, Riverside Indian School serves more than 500 students from more than 60 tribes in grades

four through 12. BLING is open to all girls enrolled at Riverside who are between the ages of 12 and 18. Since its implementation in 2008, about 300 girls have gone through the program.

"We focus on helping lay the foundation for these girls to make healthy choices," program director Deborah Scott said. "They're teenagers – it's hard enough as it is to make good choices."

Girls who complete a year in the program have an opportunity to join SuperBLING, which covers many of the same programs, but at a more intense level and with more leadership development opportunities.

Earlier this year, the girls won the float contest at the Comanche Nation Fair parade in Lawton, Okla. They also won the non-profit division of the American Indian Expo parade in August.

The participants also get the opportunity to attend conferences with Klinekole and other BLING staff members. The staff chooses up to two girls to represent the program at events hosted by the National Congress of American Indians, the National Indian Child Welfare Association and a handful of other national Native organizations.

"One year, we let two girls present with us at a conference," Klinekole said. "We watched them get up in front of this large national audience and listen to them talk in their native language about BLING and how much it has meant to them.

"It was simply amazing to see how much they had grown in their year in the group." The program's success has caught the campus' attention.

"Almost immediately after we started it, the boys started asking for something similar," Scott said. "We've been looking, but so far we just haven't been able to find grant funding for it."

As part of the grant terms, BLING hosts four campus-wide events each year, which has helped foster interest in the program among students and the Anadarko community as a whole.

One of those events, Riverside Indian School Empowered, brought more than 20 presenters to the dormitories Saturday, including representatives from the Kiowa Tribe's teen suicide prevention program out of Carnegie, Okla., and Indian Health Services.

"These presenters are coming in from all over," Klinekole said. "We have people coming in Albuquerque and Houston, plus local people. All of these different people are interested in helping us. The Wichita and Affiliated Tribes are sponsoring us. The Kiowa Teen Suicide Prevention program made a donation. Another local group donated supplies."

Scott said other organizations and area school districts, including Anadarko Public Schools' Office of Indian Education, have asked about implementing BLING or something similar.

"We'd love to roll it out to the public, but money's the big hiccup," she said. "There's been a lot of support and engagement on both sides. We just haven't found the right opportunity."

## OSU play to focus on Okla. Native narratives

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

STILLWATER, Okla. — A new production highlighting Indian Country will debut at Oklahoma State University early next year.

Funded by a private grant, the school's theater department is creating "Oklahoma Voices," which will emphasize underrepresented groups in Oklahoma.

"A lot of the focus is on women, Freedmen and Native Americans," assistant theater professor Jodi Jinks said. "This piece will help give a voice to Oklahoma residents who really haven't had much of one."

With her students helping with the research, Jinks said the production will rely heavily on first-person narratives and oral

history. Along with a graduate student, she has conducted many interviews with elders across the state, including attending a codetalkers meeting earlier this year.

"This is a production that will have very rich stories," Jinks said. "It offers perspectives from people in this section of the country that are rarely seen on stage."

The play will also include segments on significant moments in Oklahoma history, such as the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot and the Oklahoma City bombing.

Auditions are scheduled for Nov. 26 at the Vivia Locke stage of the Seretean Center for the Performing Arts at OSU-Stillwater. Rehearsals will start in January 2013 and the show will run Feb. 13-17, 2013.

## Author Momaday to be honored in Tulsa

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. – Kiowa author N. Scott Momaday will be one of three Oklahomans honored with a new award honoring the state's leading artists.

The Oklahoma Center for Poets and Writers based at the Oklahoma State University-Tulsa campus will present the award to Momaday, author S.E. Hinton (The Outsiders) and to musician Roy Clark during a new event called Oklahoma Legends, 7 p.m. Nov. 1 at OSU-Tulsa, 700 N. Greenwood Ave.

Momaday was born in Lawton and grew up in New Mexico and Arizona among the Navajo, Apache and Pueblo tribes. He received his Ph.D. from Stanford University in California and later went on to write his first novel, House Made of Dawn, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1969. The book is a classic of Native American literature. Other titles from Momaday include The Way to Rainy Mountain, The Gourd Dancer and The Indolent Boys, a play. His most recent work, Again the Far Morning: New and Selected Poems, was



N. Scott Momaday

published last year. Momaday currently lives in Tucson, Arizona, where he teaches at the University of Arizona.

Momaday, Hinton and Clark will do special presentations at the ceremony. Tickets to the event are \$15, available at myticketoffice.com.

The author is also scheduled to visit Oklahoma City University. "An Evening with N. Scott Momaday" will feature the author reading selections from his work and signing books afterward beginning at 7 p.m. Oct. 30 at OCU's Kerr McGee Auditorium in the Meinders School of Business, N.W. 27th Street and McKinley Avenue, Oklahoma City. The event is free. For information on that event, call (405) 208-5290.

## Fred Jones Museum hosts private collection, lecture events

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

NORMAN, Okla. – The exhibition of privately-collected American Indian art work continues at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and other locations on the University of Oklahoma campus in Norman. To provide curious visitors with more information on the exhibit, two gallery lectures will be held in November.

The James T. Bialac Native American Art Collection: Selected Works and Indigenous Aesthetics: Selections from the James T. Bialac Native American Art Collection remain open through Dec. 30 and feature just some of the collection of paintings, works on paper, kachinas and jewelry gifted by Arizona attorney James T. Bialac to the university this year. In total, Bialac gave more than 4,000 pieces, adding to the OU's

existing Native arts collection, states a press release from the museum.

The works include art from tribes across the country, but most particularly from the Pueblo, Navajo, Hopi and tribes of the plains and southeast.

"It is an honor to share the James T. Bialac Native American Art Collection with our museum patrons because not only is it an example of the collector's passion and generosity, but the work represents many of the best artists from and cultural diversity of Native America," said Heather Ahtone, James T. Bialac Assistant Curator of Native American and Non-Western Art at the museum.

Bialac has served as a juror for many important native art shows and exhibits, including the prestigious Southwestern Association for Indian Arts (SWAIA) Santa Fe Indian Market. He began the fine art collection

in 1964 and became friends with many of the artists he collected. Bialac began collecting kachina dolls in the 1950s.

At 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 6, the museum offers the "Gallery Talk: Living Cultures" with Ahtone discussing Native American cultural dynamics found in works throughout the exhibits. It takes place in the Ellen and Richard L. Sandor Photography Gallery at the museum. On Nov. 15, Phoenix, Arizona, art appraiser Christy A. Vezolles will talk about how Bialac amassed his collection and about his friendships with artists, dealers and other collectors in American Indian art. "James T. Bialac: A Lasting Legacy" starts at 4 p.m. and will be held in the Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium at the museum, 555 Elm Ave., Norman.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more, call (405) 325-3272.



COURTES

Two exhibits from the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art's James T. Bialac Native American Art Collection including Tony Da's 'Many Faces of the Moon' are open to viewing through Dec. 30. The museum, located on the University of Oklahoma's Norman campus, will have two lecture events in the coming weeks regarding the collection.



#### **Inside this issue:**

- Kansas Kickapoo still seeking reservoir
- Tulsa's Golden Driller gets new neighbor
- NAJA recognizes Native Heritage Month









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT TRIBAL NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 44

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**NOVEMBER 9, 2012** 

## More tribes meet with state for preliminary compact discussions

■ At Tuesday's meeting, members of the media were allowed to stay for the first 85 minutes before being asked to leave at the request of two unnamed tribes.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

MUSKOGEE, Okla. Representatives from the State of Oklahoma and several area tribes met Tuesday to begin preliminary

compact discussions.

"This is just to open dialogue," Native American liaison Jacque Secondine Hensley said about the Muskogee meeting. "No one will walk away with a compact in hand."

Representatives from the Absentee Shawnee Tribe, Cherokee Nation, Citizen Potawatomi Band, Pawnee Nation, Ponca Tribe, Sac and Fox Tribe, Seminole Nation, United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians and the Wyandotte Tribe were among those attending the last of six meetings held across Oklahoma by state officials in advance of tobacco compact negotiations.

Tobacco compacts for 28 of Oklahoma's tribes expire in June 2013. Nine tribes do not have tobacco compacts with the state and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation signed one earlier this year that is in effect through Aug. 30, 2107.

Steven Mullins, general counsel for Gov. Mary Fallin, announced that he, along with Secretary of State Glenn Coffee, will be the lead negotiators for the state when formal negotiations begin in 2013 and outlined the changes that will be in the state's initial offers to tribes.

"All nations aren't the same," he said. "We will treat each one individually. I am not going to make everyone accept a compact negotiated by 10 powerful tribes."

Among the changes proposed by the state are the elimination of most favored nation clauses and border tax rates. Under the current compacts, lower tax rates are available for tribal smoke shops within 20 miles of Oklahoma's borders with Arkansas, Kansas or Missouri, which have lower tobacco tax rates than nontribal Oklahoma smoke shops.

"We do not want to use border rates," Mullins said. "They create an unfair advantage for some tribes and createanimosity. Having said that, that



**Jacque Secondine Hensley, Native American** liaison, says the meetings are "just to open

See MEETINGS Continued on Page 3



The Oklahoma Historical Society plans to release the 1920 film The Daughter of Dawn starring Esther LeBarre (left) and White Parker on DVD in 2013. The silent picture was filmed in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge near Lawton and starred Kiowa and Comanche actors in all the roles. The film was found completely intact in 2004 in North Carolina

## All Native silent film restored, screened

KAREN SHADE

Native American Times

LAWTON, Okla. - An independent film was screened at Cameron University in Lawton recently. So many people - mostly Kiowa and Comanche – attended that the movie was shown twice so everyone could see it.

Most silent films have not received

this kind of attention since their heyday nearly 100 years ago. But The Daughter of Dawn is different - a 1920 feature filmed entirely in Oklahoma and featuring an all-Native cast. In the hands of the Oklahoma Historical Society, the film is a prize previously considered quite possibly lost forever.

"I think people are going to love this film because it represents an era that has been lost, said Bill Moore, a former archivist with the OHS currently working on the film's preservation. "We're all very proud and pleased to bring it to Oklahomans and around the world."

For years, Comanche and Kiowa families have kept stories about an old movie made around Lawton with

See FILM Continued on Page 8

## **Creek leaders at impasse** over casino construction

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

WETUMPKA, Ala. - Despite concerns from an Oklahoma tribe, the Poarch Band of Creek Indians resumed construction Wednesday on a multi-million dollar casino expansion project.

Since the expansion was announced in July, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, headquartered in Okmulgee, Okla., has opposed the project because of its potential desecration of Hickory Ground, the tribe's last pre-removal capitol and home to ceremonial and burial towards the Oklahoma tribe after

The Poarch Band of Creek



George Tiger, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief

Indians suspended construction on Oct. 17 as a "show of good faith"

See CASINO Continued on Page 2

## Pawnee officials still mum on settlement money

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

PAWNEE, Okla. - Pawnee Nation officials have not yet decided how to divide almost half of a multi-million dollar settlement.

"That decision hasn't been arrived at yet," Vice President Charles Lone Chief said Oct. 31 at a special meeting of the Pawnee Business Council. "It would be premature to comment."

Earlierthisyear, the Pawnee Nation received a \$4.4 million settlement as part of a class action lawsuit against the federal government. In September, the tribe announced that it would distribute a one-time



Marshall Gover, Pawnee Nation President

per capita payment to all of its 3,200 citizens, leaving about \$2 million to go towards tribal programs, such as

See PAWNEE Continued on Page 4

## 1st Native saint stirs pride, skepticism

MARY ESCH Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) - Some traditional Mohawks are treating the naming of the nation's first Native American saint with skepticism and fear that the Roman Catholic Church is using it to shore up its image and marginalize traditional spiritual practices.

They see the story of Kateri Tekakwitha as yet another reminder of colonial atrocities and religious

"I was a recipient of these historical profanities and want to ensure this does not happen again," said Doug George-Kanentiio, a Mohawk writer who left Catholicism to follow traditional longhouse spiritual practices.

The daughter of a Mohawk chief and a Catholic Algonquin woman, Kateri was born in 1656 about 40 miles northwest of Albany and in the heart of the Iroquois Confederacy to which the Mohawks belong. She was orphaned at age 4 when smallpox wiped out her family and much of her village and left her blinded and disfigured.

A Catholic convert at 20, she settled in Kahnawake, a Mohawk settlement south of Montreal where Jesuits had a mission and where

she and other women performed mortification rituals such as selfflogging as part of their faith. At her death at the age of 24, Kateri's smallpox scars reportedly vanished and later she was reported to appear before several people. She is buried at a shrine on Kahnawake.

Speaking in English and French at her canonization last Sunday, Pope Benedict XVI noted how unusual it was in Kateri's culture for her to choose to devote herself to her Catholic faith.

"She's seen very much as a bridge" between native culture

**See SAINT** *Continued on Page 4* 



GRAHAM HUGHES | THE CANADIAN PRESS

A man prays next to the tomb of Kateri Tekakwitha on Oct. 21 on the Kahnawake reserve near Montreal.

Under treaties and a 1908 Supreme Court ruling, the Kickapoo and other tribes have the right to waters that flow through their reservations.

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) -A water board's decadeslong refusal to exercise its power of eminent domain to facilitate the building of a reservoir on the Kickapoo tribal reservation in northeast Kansas shows discrimination, the chairman of the Native American tribe said last week.

The Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas has been planning since the late 1970s to build the 1,200-acre Plum Creek Reservoir to ease water shortages on its reservation about 90 miles northwest of Kansas City. The plan involves damming an area along Plum Creek, which flows into the Delaware River.

In 1998, Congress approved an agreement between the Kickapoo and the Nemaha-Brown Watershed Board to build the dam as part of another watershed program. But some landowners refused to sell their property and the watershed board has since declined to use its power of eminent domain to take the land, according to the Topeka Capital-Journal.

Under treaties and a 1908 Supreme Court ruling, the Kickapooandothertribeshave the right to waters that flow through their reservations, Kickapoo Chairman Steve Cadue said. The reservoir is similar in scope to hundreds of others built in Kansas that relied on eminent domain and yet the board won't help, Cadue told The Associated Press Oct. 30.

"They are reluctant to condemn white man's land for the benefit of Kickapoo



Kansas Governor Sam Brownback

Indian people," he said. Messages left at watershed board offices were

The tribe filed a federal lawsuit in 2006 to try to force the project.

not immediately returned.

During a visit to Topeka on Friday, Cadue delivered a letter for Gov. Sam Brownback asking for his assistance in resolving the dispute.

"We despise the need to file federal lawsuits in order to secure our sovereign treaty water rights and we would believe you feel the same," Cadue said in the letter.

Brownback spokeswoman Sherriene Jones-Sontag said in an email to reporters that both parties rejected the option of the governor's administration mediating in the dispute in formal filings with the federal district court in June. The governor's office "does not have the authority to bind either the Kickapoo Tribe or the Nemaha Brown Watershed Board in this litigation," Jones-Sontag said, adding that Cadue has in the past agreed with this point.

Nonetheless, Cadue said he still expected to hear directly from Brownback, a former U.S. Senator from Kansas, to help ease the stalemate.

"When he was in the U.S. senator's office he said he was very supportive of the water project, he knew its value and its purpose, and he said it was a state issue," Cadue said. "And now guess what, he's the governor."

## Muscogee (Creek) Nation acquires naming rights to Tulsa Fairground's Expo Center

■ Additionally, the tribe gets first right through 2015 to propose a new use for the old Drillers Stadium at the northeast corner of the fairgrounds.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - Tulsa's iconic Golden Driller statue gets a new neighbor in

Starting in January, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will have the naming rights for the Expo Square at the Tulsa Fairgrounds through 2019. In exchange for \$1.44 million annually - or \$200,000 per month - the building currently known as the QuikTrip Center will become the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Center.

"We see this as a win-win," Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger said Nov. 2 at a press conference at the tribe's headquarters in Okmulgee, Okla. "We see this as an opportunity to promote not only events at the fairgrounds, but ourselves as well. This is a tool not only for the tribe, but for the Expo Square as well.

"We're just blessed we can do it. This site is within our original jurisdiction and this can be used as a blueprint for other tribes to do similar partnerships."

Approved unanimously Nov. 1 by the Tulsa County fair board, the agreement also includes a provision that Fair Meadows, a horse racing

track on the fairgrounds' property, will stop conducting live races. Prior to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's new agreement, the track was partially subsidized through a compact with the Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek) and Osage nations, which all have at least one casino within 20 miles of the fairgrounds.

Signed in 2005, the 15-year compact required the three tribes to contribute at least a combined \$2 million to the track's purse fund in exchange for Fair Meadows' management not installing gaming machines. The agreement was also contingent upon the track hosting at least 400 live races annually during its 34-day season.

Principal Chief George Tiger would not comment on how much the tribe paid annually to the fund other than the Muscogee (Creek) Nation paid more into it than the other two and that the overall savings to the tribe would make up for the seven-figure yearly price tag.

"We see it as a savings," he said. "Whatever money we were paying out to them before will be coming back into our coffers."

Over the last seven years, Fair Meadows has lost at least \$695,000 each year thanks in part to dwindling attendance. Under the agreement, the fairgrounds board has the option to repurpose the racetrack if it chooses.

"Horse racing's no longer a spectator sport," Fair Meadows race director Ron Shotts. "It's a participant sport. We're averaging maybe 400 people per day at the track. The facts were what they

The agreement runs through 2019

but will remain in effect beyond that as long as Oklahoma's tribes have a gaming compact with the Remington Park and Will Rogers Downs racetracks in Oklahoma City and Claremore, respectively.

Additionally, the tribe gets first right through 2015 to propose a new use for the old Drillers Stadium at the northeast corner of the fairgrounds. The former home of Tulsa's minor league baseball team, the stadium has not been used since the end of the 2009 season and any repurposing efforts would be subject to approval by the Tulsa County Fair Board. Creek Nation officials did not announce any new plans for the property at a press conference Friday but did rule out one

"I want to say with emphasis that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will not be building a casino on that site," Tiger

Although the tribe will not be putting in a casino at 15th and Yale, revenue from its gaming facilities made the acquisition possible. The tribe's two other multimillion dollar real estate purchases this year - the Riverwalk Crossing shopping center in Jenks, Okla., and the Okmulgee Country Club - were paid for through the capitol improvements portion of the tribe's budget.

"Gaming dollars paid for this (the naming rights)," Tiger said. "Money that was already going to Fair Meadows is paying for this."



COURTESY WWW.EXPOSERVE.NET

Tulsa's iconic Golden Driller gets a new neighbor in 2013 - the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will have naming rights to Tulsa Fairground's Expo Square.

## Obama proclaims Nov. 23 Native American Heritage Day

WHITE HOUSE PRESS **SECRETARY** News Release

WASHINGTON - President Barack Obama released a proclamation Nov. 1 declaring Nov. 23 Native American Heritage Day.

An except of proclamation reads:

"As the first people to live on the land we all cherish, American Indians and Alaska Natives have profoundly shaped our country's character and our cultural heritage.

Today, Native Americans are leaders in every aspect of our society -- from the classroom, to the boardroom, to the battlefield. This month, we celebrate and honor the many ways American Indians and Alaska Natives have enriched our Nation, and we renew our commitment to respecting each tribe's identity while ensuring equal opportunity to pursue the American dream.

In paying tribute to Native American achievements, we must also acknowledge the parts of our shared history that have been marred by violence and tragic mistreatment. For centuries, Native Americans faced cruelty, injustice, and broken promises. As we work together to forge a brighter future, we cannot shy away from the difficult aspects of our past. That is why, in 2009, I signed a bipartisan resolution that finally recognized the sad and painful chapters in our shared history.

My Administration remains dedicated to writing a new chapter in that history by strengthening our government-to-government relationship with tribal nations while enhancing tribal sovereignty and tribal self-determination.

Because we know that the best ideas for tribal nations come from within, my Administration has continued to engage tribal leaders in developing an agenda that respects their expertise on matters affecting American Indians and Alaska Natives. In collaboration with tribal nations, we are making critical investments to improve health and education services, create

jobs, and strengthen tribal economies.

In July, I was proud to sign the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership (HEARTH) Act into law, which will enhance tribal control over the leasing of Indian lands. Last December, I signed an Executive Order to expand educational opportunities for Native American students. It aims to preserve Native languages, cultures, and histories while offering a competitive education that prepares young people to

succeed in college and careers. And under the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Safe Indian Communities initiative, we are continuing to work with tribes to build safer communities. My Administration also supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

As we celebrate National Native American Heritage Month, let us move forward in the spirit of mutual understanding and mutual trust, confident that our challenges can be met and that our shared future is bright."

## CASINO

their leadership met at a neutral site to discuss the situation. Two additional meetings were held during construction suspension: one in Sacramento, Calif., during the annual convention of the National Congress of American Indians and one in Tulsa, Okla., to allow the mekko, or leader, of the ceremonial grounds to attend.

"We have taken great effort to make sure the original Hickory Ground ceremonial site is preserved and the remains that were removed earlier have been reinterred at Hickory Ground Town in a manner previously agreed to by traditional leaders in Oklahoma," Poarch Band Tribal Council member and government affairs officer Robert McGhee said. "The remaining acreage located on the northern part of Hickory Ground will be preserved in a pristine, natural state for posterity."

is in compliance with all applicable federal laws and does not violate the policies associated with the property's status on the National Register of Historic Places. The land has been owned by the tribe since 1980 and is part of its reservation.

through his attorney, George Thompson,

refuted McGhee's comments and expressed his disappointment in the decision.

"From the beginning, it has been our stance that the remains should be put back where they were excavated," he said. "The ceremonial ground remains sacred, so it is not a proper place for a casino. Hickory Ground needs to be restored to nature -- that's what we are striving

Principal Chief George Tiger echoed Thompson's concerns while acknowledging that the two tribes are now back to the proverbial drawing board.

"This has been a sensitive topic," he said. "As a nation, we have facilitated three meetings to try to see if we could come to some kind of conclusion. We knew this would be difficult going in. The biggest thing we see is that traditions as we know it here in Oklahoma are not the same as it is Alabama. We value our culture and how things have been handed down to us. Alabama is still in an educational process.

"It's unfortunate that this is going to continue. The Alabama tribe maintains that the project They had to make a decision and we're going to have to make one, too."

If completed, the casino is scheduled to open in January 2014 with 2,500 gaming machines and will include a 20-story hotel with 285 rooms. It is expected to create an additional 1,000 jobs In a statement issued late Wednesday night for the Wetumpka, Ala., area. The 3,000-citizen Poarch Band of Creek Indians also operates the mekko of Hickory Grounds for 42 years, casinos in Montgomery, Ala., and Atmore, Ala.

## WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment - Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details. \*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com





## Judge denies satellite voting for Montana Indians

MATTHEW BROWN
Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) – A federal judge last week denied an emergency order sought by a group of American Indians who wanted to force officials to provide satellite voting on Montana reservations, effectively putting off resolution of the issue until after Election Day.

Fifteen Indians from the remote Crow, Northern Cheyenne and Fort Belknap reservations argued in a lawsuit filed earlier this month that the long distances they must drive for early voting and late registration leaves them disadvantaged compared to white voters.

But U.S. District Judge Richard Cebull said regardless of whether voting discrimination exists, the plaintiffs did not show they were unable to vote for the candidates of their choice.

"I'm not arguing that the opportunity is equal for Indian persons as it is to non-Indians," Cebull said. "Because of poverty, because of the lack of vehicles and that sort of

thing, it's probably not equal. However, you have to prove ... that they can't elect candidates of their choice."

Plaintiffs' attorney Steven Sandven said there was too little time before the election to appeal Cebull's ruling on the injunction request. But the lawsuit alleging discrimination by county and state officials will continue, he said.

"Now we're in it for the long haul," Sandven said.

The lawsuit targets officials from Rosebud, Blaine and Bighorn counties and the Montana Secretary of State's Office.

Plaintiff and Fort Belknap tribal council member Edward Moore, Jr. said he and his neighbors in the town of Hayes have to travel more than 120 miles roundtrip to vote early in person at the county courthouse in Chinook. That costs money for gas and requires time off from work – hurdles that are magnified in a community with high poverty levels and where many don't have vehicles.

"It's a big burden," Moore said, adding that many people

"may not vote at all" as a

Montanans can vote early absentee ballots by mail or by delivering ballots in person to county offices. Late registration begins at county offices a month before Election Day. Voting on Nov. 6 was not at issue in the case.

U.S. Department of Justice attorneys submitted court filings in support of the plaintiffs. Those included a deposition from a University of Wyoming geography professor who said American Indians from the reservations must drive at least twice as far than whites to vote before Election Day.

American Indians also suffer from much higher rates of poverty, further inhibiting their ability to reach county courthouses that are the only place in the three counties to vote early or register late.

"The practical reality is that Indian voters in Big Horn, Blaine and Rosebud counties do not have the same opportunity as white voters," Department of Justice attorneys wrote in their filings.

But during a two-day hearing before Cebull, there was no testimony from any American Indian who had been prevented from voting. Sara Frankenstein, the attorney for the counties, used testimony from Rosebud County Clerk and Recorder Geraldine Custer and other officials to show that Indians have used the current voting process to elect other Indians.

County officials said there was neither enough time nor workers to set up and staff satellite offices before Nov. 6.

Other county officials pointed to voter advocacy work done on reservations by the group Western Native Voice as an example of efforts under way to increase American Indian voting.

An organizer from the group, Jessie James Hawley, said the lawsuit threatens to sour relations between tribes and their county officials over an issue that she's already working to address.

State and county officials have said that given more time, they might have been able to set up the satellite offices. Two Rosebud County

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.

(AP) - A 21-year-old

Manistee man has been

sentenced to probation,

community service and

a \$2,500 fine for illegally

The Grand Rapids Press

reports Timothy Clinton-

Oleniczak

sentenced last Wednesday

in federal court in Grand

Oleniczak apologized in

selling eagle feathers.

Rapids.

Man sentenced for

selling eagle feathers

commissioners, Douglas Martens and Robert E. Lee, voted last month to deny the request. However, they said they would continue discussions on the issue.

The county's third commissioner, Danny Sioux, a member of the Northern Cheyenne, was in favor of setting up a satellite voting office in Lame Deer but was outnumbered when it came up for a vote.

Tom Rodgers is an enrolled Blackfeet member who previously tried to get the Secretary of State's office to help set up the office on the reservation. He said the state's refusal – coupled with the resistance from county officials – shows the history of racial discrimination against American Indians is repeating itself in Montana.

"It's a more subtle, soft discrimination," he said. If we did not push for this, it would not have happened," said Rodgers, a lobbyist from the Washington, D.C. area who said he does pro-bono work for tribes.

Defense lawyer Ray Kent says

Oleniczak is part American

Indian. He says his client sold

feathers given to him over the

years because he was desperate

for money with the birth of a

Authorities said the feathers

were sold to undercover

officials with the Little River

Band of Ottawa Indians, which

worked with federal authorities

Oleniczak isn't a citizen of

daughter imminent.

on the case.

#### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Pullisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribation
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country -



## Navajo Code Talker George Smith dies

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. (AP) – Flags across the Navajo Nation are flying at half-staff in honor of Navajo Code Talker George Smith, who died Oct. 30 at the age

Navajo President Ben Shelly says the tribe's thoughts and prayers are with Smith's family.

Born in Mariano Lake, N.M., Smith went to school in Crownpoint and Fort Wingate

Smith and his brother

both enlisted with the U.S. Marines in 1943. They were trained as Code Talkers and were assigned to separate units.

Smith served with the 2nd Division in Saipan, Okinawa and elsewhere. He received the Victory Medal as well as the Congressional Silver Medal for his role as a Code Talker.

Funeral services were Saturday at Rollie Mortuary in Gallup. Burial with full military honors followed at the Rehobeth Cemetery.

Look for Native American Times on Facebook and Twitter!
Friends get front page scoops, new features and breaking news.



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

## NATIVE TIMES recycles with Tahlequah

recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

## MEETINGS

Continued from Page 1

doesn't necessarily mean 'no more border rates.' We just won't start with them when we start negotiations."

The state also wants to eliminate some tax rate recipients. Under the current compacts, the \$10.30 tax on each carton is divided among three or four recipients: the state, the tribe, the retailer and, depending on the compact, the customer via reduced rates. In its first offer, the state will eliminate retailers and the reduced rate option, creating a two-tier system in which the tax revenue from each carton will only divided between the tribe and the state.

"We want to agree on a tax rate and what portion we each get," Mullins said. "We will make a base offer on the percentages, but I don't know yet what that will be."

The proposed changes prompted one tribal leader, Chairman Rocky Barrett of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, to ask whether a third party would be getting involved in the negotiations.

"Is a big chain of convenience stores in Tulsa going to dictate the rates?" he asked, referring to QuikTrip Corporation, whose leadership has criticized the different tax rates used by tribal smoke shops compared to non-tribally owned retailers.

Mullins said the Tulsa-based chain was not allowed in to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's compact negotiations earlier this year and would not be part of the 2013 discussions.

"It's fair to say that we respect your sovereignty and ask you to respect the state's," Mullins said. "We have a better relationship now than we've had in the past. It is not ever going to be perfect, but we are making great strides."

Other compact areas were also touched on, including law enforcement and gaming, although the latter is not up for renewal statewide until 2020.

"We are not initiating those discussions,"

Mullins said. "Some tribes are and have approached us about it since they are using eight- and 10-year business plans and that's fine.

"We are willing to talk, but will not enter into negotiations now. We will respect the compacts that are in place and will enforce them."

Like the other five meetings across the state, Tuesday's meeting was held behind quasiclosed doors. The governor's office does not meet the definition of "public body" outlined in the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act. As sovereign nations, federally-recognized tribes do not fall under that law, prompting Gov. Fallin's general counsel to describe the meetings as not secret, but not open.

"This has to do with public business," said Joey Senat, a board member of Freedom of Information Oklahoma, Inc., and an associate professor at Oklahoma State University's School of Strategic and Mass Communications. "This is using the Open Meeting Act to say "Well, we don't have to have it open.' However, nothing prohibits them from having the meetings open to the public."

Members of the public, including the press, could only stay at the compact discussions if all tribal representatives present consented. At last week's meeting, members of the media were allowed to stay for the first 85 minutes before being asked to leave at the request of two unnamed tribes.

"It's a fine distinction: the public knows the meeting is going on, but can't be in there," Senat said. "That's not much consolation. It also allows for favoritism: what if one member of the press or the public is allowed to stay but another is excluded?

"Clearly there's an interest on both sides – both with tribes and the state – in these meetings. There's jobs and money involved; the public on both sides have an interest in that. Having those discussions with the public present helps everyone understand the final agreement, including what made it in and what didn't."

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun.

Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967

Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

### NAJA recognizes Native American Heritage Month, lauds Tim Giago

Giago is the first Native American ever to be inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame.

RHONDA LeVALDO

Native American Journalists

Association

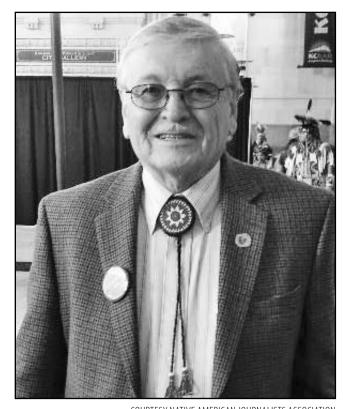
NORMAN, Okla. - The Native American Journalists Association recognizes November as Native American Heritage Month and we are encouraging journalists everywhere to cover a Native American issue. Broader coverage of Native nations by the media means exposure of important topics for Native American people.

In recognition of this month and of NAJA's own unique history, a biography of NAJA's first president, Tim Giago, is below:

Tim Giago was born on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota on July 12, 1934. He attended elementary and high school at the Holy Rosary Indian Mission. He enlisted in the United States Navy during the Korean Conflict in 1951 and was honorably discharged in 1958.

He attended college at San Jose Junior College in San Jose, Calif. in 1960 under the G.I. Bill and transferred to the University of Nevada at Reno. He majored in business with a minor in journalism. He was awarded the prestigious Nieman Fellowship in Journalism to Harvard University for the years 1990-1991

Giago was the founder of the Lakota Times in 1981. The newspaper withstood firebombs, had its windows shot out with shotguns on three separate occasions and Giago received many death threats including one attempt on his life while building the newspaper successfully on the Pine Ridge Reservation. The paper was re-named Indian Country Today in 1992. He served as editor and publisher for 18 years building it into the largest independent Indian newspaper in America before selling the paper in 1998. He started the Lakota Journal in 2000 and served as its



COURTESY NATIVE AMERICAN JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION Tim Giago, the first president of the Native American Journalists Association, is a regular contributing columnist to the Native American Times.

editor and publisher until his retirement in July of 2004.

He was the first president of the Native American Journalists Association in 1984. In 1983 he sent letters to every Indian newspaper he could find asking them if they would be interested in forming a Native American Press Association. He then worked with Journalism Professor Bill Dulaney of Penn State to raise the money to hold the first meeting of Indian journalists at Penn State. He was elected as the first President of the association when it was formally assembled on the Choctaw Nation the next year. He was the recipient of the H.L. Mencken Award for Editorial Writing from the Baltimore Sun in 1985. He holds Honorary Doctoral Degrees from Bacone College in Oklahoma and from the Nebraska Indian Community College at Winnebago, Neb.

Giago was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame in 1994. He became the first Native American ever to be inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame on November 10, 2007.

Giago has received many

professional awards including the University of Missouri School of Journalism's Honor Award for Distinguished Service in Journalism in 1991, The South Dakota Education Association/ National Education Human and Civil Rights Award in 1988, the Golden Quill Award for Outstanding Editorial Writing by the International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors in 1997, and Best Local

Column by the South Dakota Newspaper Association for the years 1985 and 2003 and the Great Spirits Award from the Navajo Institute of Social Justice in September of 2004. The Harvard Foundation honored him in 1991 for his contributions to the growth of American Indian newspapers and Indian journalism.

A column by Giago challenging Republican Governor George Mickelson of South Dakota to proclaim 1990 a Year of Reconciliation to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Massacre at Wounded Knee was accepted by the Governor and 1990 was proclaimed The Year of Reconciliation between Indians and whites.

That same year an editorial by Giago challenged Gov. Mickelson to replace Columbus Day with Native American Day. The legislators voted in favor of it and South Dakota became the only state in the union to celebrate Native American Day as a state holiday.

Giago received the NAJA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

## Prayer group attends ceremony for Kateri Tekakwitha

MICHELLE THERIAULT BOOTS
Anchorage Daily News

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – For years, a group of women gathered in fluorescent-lit Anchorage church basements to sing hymns in Yup'ik, say the rosary and pray for the Catholic church to canonize its first Native American saint.

On Oct. 21, it happened.

Kateri Tekakwitha, a pious 17thcentury Mohawk and Algonquin woman who has long been an emblem for Native American Catholics nationwide, officially became a saint.

In Rome to witness the moment were 56 Alaskans, including some from the Kateri Circle at East Anchorage's St. Anthony Catholic Church.

Francine Bolewicz was one of them. She stood among dozens of other kuspuk-clad Alaskans in a crowd of 80,000 at the Vatican's St. Peter's Square for a ceremony honoring St. Kateri and six other new saints.

It was a moment Bolewicz been hoping for since her mother told her

stories of Kateri as a young girl.

"I wanted to jump but there was too many people," said Bolewicz, originally from Upper Kalskag. "It made me feel so good that a Native American became a saint. My mom would be so happy."

Aimee Aloysius, who grew up in Bethel, said the sainthood of Kateri has a special significance to Alaska Natives, who have long felt a sense of ownership and pride in her story.

"She's our saint," Aloysius said over a Kateri Circle meeting lunch of salmon and pizza Thursday. "Someone from our own people."

More than 100 Native American parishes nationwide hold Kateri Circles, according to the Tekakwitha Conference.

Tekakwitha was born in upstate New York in the 1600s to a Mohawk father and Algonquin mother. She was known for her devotion to the church and ascetic lifestyle. Disfigured from a smallpox outbreak that orphaned her as a young child, she died at age 24.

a young child, she died at age 24.

Her path to sainthood took more

than 300 years

In 2011, she passed the final step when the Roman Catholic Church attributed a miracle necessary for canonization to her.

The miracle had roots in the Pacific Northwest, making it all feel even closer for the St. Anthony's Kateri Circle women, said Gemma Gaudio, who also went on the pilgrimage.

According to the Catholic church, a young Bellingham, Wash., Lummi Nation boy named Jake Finkbonner was cured of a devastating flesheating bacterial infection in 2006 after his parents prayed to Kateri.

The now 12-year-old Finkbonner and his family attended the canonization and met some of the Alaskans.

"A lot of elderly people wanted to shake his hand and he hugged them instead," said Gaudio.

Alaskans on the pilgrimage included archbishops of both the Anchorage and Fairbanks archdioceses, an 85-year-old priest from Kaltag and dozens of faithful from around the state, including many Alaska Natives. A family from Aniak brought salmon strips, said Sister Frances Vista, who works with the Kateri Circle. Some also took a trip to Tekakwitha's birthplace in upstate New York.

The Alaska pilgrims saved and raised money for the trip to Rome for months, she said. Those who stayed home held a special Mass honoring the occasion.

Now that the trip is over, the group will continue meeting at the Kateri Circle on Thursday mornings. They say a prayer honoring St. Kateri rather than one asking for her canonization.

They hope the sainthood of Kateri might help their own children and grandchildren find themselves reflected in modern Catholicism.

Only 3.5 percent of American Catholics are Native American or Alaska Native, according to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"I tell my grandchildren we have a saint that's on our side now," said Aloysius. "Pray to her."

## **PAWNEE**

Continued from Page

education, elder services and economic development. A joint committee with members from the Pawnee Business Council and Nasharo Council, or Chiefs' Council, is supposed to decide how to divide that money. To date, the committee's membership has not been announced, nor has a timeline been given for when programs will be selected to receive funds.

"People should realize that things like this aren't done overnight," President Marshall Gover said. "We have to be frugal and careful with what we get."

In the press release announcing the per capita payment, the tribe also promised a financial statement would be published quarterly in its newsletter, Chaticks Si Chaticks. The report was not included in the newsletter's most recent edition, but Executive Director Dawna Hare said work is already underway on the next issue to include an update on the settlement.

The questions concerning the settlement funds came up during discussion of whether to amend the meeting's agenda to allow the press to stay.

"I have mixed feelings about excluding the press," Pawnee Business Council member Carol Nuttle said. "We have to look at the overall picture and do what's best for all of our people, though."

After voting unanimously to amend its agenda, all seven members of the council voted to exclude the media from the meeting and the administration building.

"This is an internal matter," Pawnee Business Council member Karla KnifeChief said. "Our meetings are open to Pawnee citizens. If they want to know what's going on, they can read our newsletter or come to the council meetings rather than call the press."

The next regular meeting of the Pawnee Business Council is scheduled for Nov. 14.

## \_\_\_\_\_

Continued from Page

and Christianity, said the Rev. Jim Martin, a Jesuit priest. He said the Jesuit missionaries "took great pains to learn the native languages and tried their best to present the Christian faith using words, phrases and ideas from the native cultures."

Traditional Mohawks recognize the reverence their Catholic relatives and friends have for Kateri, said Chaz Kader, a Mohawk journalist who was raised Catholic but follows ancient longhouse traditions now. But many remain troubled by how the church portrays her life.

The story of Kateri told in various

church writings describes her as maintaining her faith despite torment by her people, suffering ostracism and persecution at the hands of her own tribe and eventually fleeing to Canada.

"I disagreewith the characterizations of the 'other Mohawks' in the Jesuit accounts of Kateri," Kader said. "The contrast of good Mohawks and bad Mohawks still is affecting our people."

Traditional Mohawks have struggled to keep their spiritual traditions and

ancient language alive despite pressure from non-Indians to adopt European religion, culture and language.

traditionalists These Mohawk established languageimmersion schools and follow a clanbased government separate from the elected tribal government recognized by the U.S., Canada and New York state. To outsiders, they are associated with an image of "bad Mohawks" who smuggle goods across the border and refuse to collect state taxes on cigarette sales, Kader said, and the "good Mohawks" are the ones who "went to Rome to celebrate Kateri," he added.

It's difficult to gauge just how widespread the feelings are given the factionalism that pervades the nation and the circumspection they favor when dealing with the media. But many Mohawks interviewed downplayed any controversy and joined Catholics who see Kateri as a uniting figure and hope her elevation to sainthood will help heal old wounds.

"It's so nice to see God showing all the flavors of the world," said Gene Caldwell, a Native American member of the Menominee reservation in Neopit, Wis., who attended Kateri's canonization with his wife, Linda. "The Native Americans are enthralled" to have Kateri attain sainthood, he said.

Russell Roundpoint, director of the Mohawk history and cultural center at Akwesasne, said her sainthood is "not a contentious issue by any stretch of the imagination.

"The Mohawk people are very proud of the fact that she has attained such a

high level," he said.

Sister Jennifer Votraw is director of communications for the Ogdensburg Diocese in northern New York, where the Mohawk reservation is located. While the diocese doesn't provide direct pastoral care to the Mohawks, Votraw belongs to the order the Sisters of St. Joseph, nuns who regularly aid the priests who minister to the tribe. She said years of successful interactions between the church and the tribe demonstrate a mutual respect for each other.

Still, she knows there are traditional Mohawks who will never be swayed in their view of the church and may resent Kateri's canonization as a ploy to improve the church's image among Native Americans.

"They believe very firmly in their religion, which is Mohawk," she said. "You just have to respect that."

Orenda Boucher, a Mohawk humanities professor at Kiana Institution, a Native American college near Montreal, said there are "mixed feelings" and no easy answer to the question of what Kateri represents to Mohawks or the rest of the world.

"A lot of my friends who are traditionalists see Kateri as tied into the story of colonization that has deeply affected Kahnawake, and to the atrocities of the church," she said.

Boucher said to understand the complexities of Kateri's life, it's important for people to look beyond the biographies written by clergymen who focus on what they consider her Christian virtues.

George-Kanentiio said traditional Iroquois worry that Kateri's sainthood could be used as way to encourage Native Americans to eschew their ancestral values for Catholic dogma.

"It should never obscure the best elements of our aboriginal spirituality, nor should Kateri's personal behaviors, given their extremities, be endorsed as a model for women anywhere," he said, referring to her self-mutilation with whips, thorns and hot coals.

"Women in particular need not kneel in supplication to any man or any god but to rise to dance and sing in true joy," he said. "We can never accept any institution which actively suppresses women or qualifies their potential."

## MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program.

Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

Available at www.mellenpress.com

 ${\it Order\ yours\ today!\ Great\ textbook!}$ 

#### PEARY L. ROBERTSON ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

INDIAN LAW | PROBATE | CRIMINAL LAW DIVORCE | SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY STATEWIDE REPRESENTATION

1700 N. Milt Phillips Ave., Seminole, Okla.



## COMMENTARY

# Heart disease and diabetes have invaded Indian Country



**Notes from Indian Country** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

One day I was scheduled to go into surgery at the Rapid City Eye Institute for a detached retina and while I was on the gurney hooked up to monitors the nurse attending me called a physician and he studied the heart monitor and suddenly stopped the tests and disconnected me from everything. I was told that my heartbeat was extremely slow and they were taking me over to the cardiac ward.

I was very lucky that my eye exam revealed a deeper problem. I was taken to the emergency examining room and hooked up to a lot of instruments, blood drawn about every hour or so and asked a lot of questions. One doctor was about to listen to my heartbeat when the crew that draws the blood arrived. The doctor said, "I'll be back after the vampires leave." It's funny how you remember mundane things like that when you are facing one of the biggest threats in your life.

I was finally taken to another area of the hospital where a doctor told me he was about to insert an instrument into the vein in my thigh, threading a tiny wire up the artery all the way to my heart to check for the points of blockage. This would allow the doctor to see all of the arteries in my heart. A local anesthetic had been given and there was absolutely no pain associated with the procedure thus far.

After the testing he told me that I had at least six vessels with blockage and that he

would not recommend stents. Instead he recommended open heart surgery to replace the blocked arteries with vessels taken from my arm and leg. Now that did sound a little scary.

The next day I was lying in the preparation room while the anesthesiologist talked quietly and calmly to me while applying an anesthesia through the IV in my arm. My daughter Terri was at my bedside and as I was leaving the world of reality she told me I said to the doctor, "Will I be able to play the piano after this heart operation?" She told me the doctor said, "Yes, of course you will." I replied, just before sinking into total oblivion, "That's great Doctor because I can't play a piano now." I guess the humor released at this particular time relieved some of the stress, or else I was just plain zonked out.

The operation lasted about six hours. I was moved to the ICU ward for the night and I woke up the following day in the recovery ward. The ward I was on was called the Cabbage Pod, a name derived from all of the acronyms associated with cardiology.

The new procedure is to get the patient out of bed and on his feet as soon as possible. Two sturdy male nurses showed up by my bed the day after the surgery and very gently forced me to sit on the edge of the bed and then made me move my feet to the floor. Now that is when I felt a lot of pain. Remember, the surgeons had split my chest down the middle, put their hands inside of my chest cavity and replaced the blocked arteries in my heart with the new arteries from my arm and leg. I was told that my chest would take time to mend itself and that I should not try to lift myself up by pushing with my arms because the effort could cause damage at the operation site.

The male nurses stood on both sides of me and gave me support as I attempted to walk the short course they had chosen for me. That's when I realized that the operation to take the arteries from my legs and arm was also very painful. Now let me tell you,

this is something I would not like to do again. After seven days I was allowed to go home. When I got home my family had found a little black kitten for me that they had named Cabbage Pod after the ward I was on. Pod is now seven years old and he has been my favorite pet since that time and it is amazing what a pet can do to help restore your health.

Open heart surgery is no picnic and heart disease is approaching epidemic proportions on many Indian reservations. All of the years of eating the commodity foods so high in fats and starches that are delivered to the reservations by the United States Department of Agriculture have taken a heavy toll, not only in heart disease, but also in diabetes which contributes greatly to the heart disease.

The Indian Health Service is pressed to its limits and it is facing heavy financial cuts even though Native Americans on reservations like the Pine Ridge in South Dakota have the shortest life expectancy in America. A Lakota friend of mine was facing open heart surgery and I wrote this column to let him know that I survived and so will he. He did just fine.

The Indian Health Service cannot care for the thousands of Indians it serves if its budget is cut again. We (Indians) are asking those people who care about us to let their Congressmen and women know that many lives are at stake if we lose what little funding we now receive.

My friend said that reading about my operation really helped.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. He was the founder of the Native American Journalists Association and was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame for his contributions to journalism. In 2007 he became the first Native American to be inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame. He can be reached at Unitysodak1@knology.net

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465.

To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.



shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations
Professional Construction,
Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint
Tile • Trim • Plumbing

Quality Work • Free Estimates 918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com

Mayes & Cherokee Counties

Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing



Follow Us!





## December 10-13, 2012 Flamingo Hotel Las Vegas, Nevada

You still have time to register for our annual meeting to get the pre-registration rate of \$350.00!

Deadline for the pre-registration rate and the hotel rate of \$79.00 + tax is: November 23, 2012

Please access our website:

www.indianaglink.com

for registration and hotel
 information under

"2012 Member Meeting"
 or call 406.259.3525
 fax: 406.256.9980

HOTEL: Flamingo Las Vegas Code: SFIAC12

RESERVATIONS: 1.888.373.9855 (Cancellation Policy is 72 hours)



## Casket company brings jobs, hope, to reservation

Launching a start-up on a reservation is a struggle. There are no banks on the reservation, and because land is often tribalowned or in trust, outside banks are hesitant to loan to Native Americans with few assets.

**RYAN LENGERICH** 

Rapid City Journal

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - Roby Cottier always wanted to own a woodworking business, but kick-starting any venture on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is like walking up the down escalator.

He had no assets or collateral, so a loan was a long shot. Two months ago, he had nothing to do but spend afternoons on his couch, eating potato chips. Then something happened. He landed a job - a woodworking job - on the reservation.

Now, though he may not be the owner of his own woodworking business, Cottier, 32, is a foreman at Sioux-Preme Wood Products Co., a wood-casket assembly company that opened last month in Manderson.

The company, owned by a group of investors led by the Wounded Knee Community Development Corp., is a landmark in economic development for a reservation where unemployment is almost 80 percent.

Cottier manages 11 employees who assemble and detail solid-wood caskets for Native and non-Native customers across the Black Hills and surrounding states.

"They all have families," Cottier said of his employees. "You know how that makes me feel? It makes me feel good to know I actually accomplish something. We are making history on the reservation as a business."

Up a dirt road just minutes outside Manderson, population 626, sit three white, former school buildings. The view across the plains is spectacular, but as recently as last winter, the structures sat in ruin with damaged siding and shattered windows. They are now a symbol for economic good on the reservation.

"It means a new future. It is a new way of doing things," said General Manager Mark St.

The journey has been arduous for St. Pierre. It took from March to September to redirect a \$99,000 federal grant from a previously approved strip mall project toward the casket company. Had he not realigned the grant money, the deadline to spend it on the strip mall would have expired, St. Pierre said.

Sioux-Preme buys casket kits from a Native American-owned supplier in Colorado. The wood is sanded, assembled, finished in a spray room and lined with custom fabric at the Pine Ridge plant. The final products range from a \$500 pine box with rope handles to a cedar

model that sells for about \$2,500.

St. Pierre aims to build and ship 80 caskets per month by September 2013. He hopes next year to buy precision cutting machines to build the caskets from wood to finished product, without the kits. The current business model eases the learning curve and allows St. Pierre to use his Colorado supplier in an advisory role.

Launching a start-up on a reservation is a struggle. There are no banks on the reservation, and because land is often tribalowned or in trust, outside banks are hesitant to loan to Native Americans with few assets. The high-school graduation rate for Shannon County hovers around 7 percent, making for a largely untrained workforce. Federal subsidy programs for reservation or low-income areas exist, but access can be slow, tedious and complex.

"They have put tribes in very difficult situations," St. Pierre said. "Writing successful grants for infrastructure projects requires talents and skills that don't exist in most reservation communities or don't exist in small, rural, non-Indian communities."

Walter Hillabrant co-founded Native American Capital outside Washington, D.C., 15 years ago. His company helps tribal communities and businesses structure finances and facilitate development.

"If you don't have a job, a meaningful role in your family - and clan and tribe and country - it is hard to feel good about yourself," Hillabrant said. "And it is easy to do things that are not good for your health and good for your family."

He said investors or businesses considering investing on a reservation may want a waiver of tribal sovereignty in order to have access to federal or state courts. Tribal governments may lack a general business infrastructure, such as zoning regulations, tax policies and commercial codes.

"Complicated things and uncertainty are poison to economic development," Hillabrant said.

Sioux-Preme Wood is now a proving ground on Pine Ridge. One of Cottier's relatives, Patrick Cottier, 32, is a shop worker at Sioux-Preme and said friends ask jealously, "You're working?"

"If I work here long enough, maybe my kids can work here," Patrick Cottier said. "To find something close to home, that is

Recently, St. Pierre spent hours with a government auditor affirming he is following the grant terms. He said few people believed his vision would come this far, and he remains determined to succeed.

"The young Native people of western South Dakota are the largest untapped economic possibility that South Dakota has," he said. "People need to start thinking in the long term."

Advertise your Native Owned business in the Native American Times! Special rates through Dec. 31, 2012 for Native Owned Small Businesses. Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

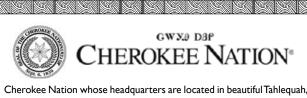
## CLASSIFIEDS

**EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED** 

## TRANSAM

is currently hiring Entry-level Drivers from





Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

Positions Close: 11/06/2012

#6481 Phlebotomist Technician/R/PT #7005 Surgical Technician (Certified)/R/FT

Positions Close: 11/07/2012 #6719 Inpatient RN/PRN/T/PT/OB #6675 Inpatient RN/R/PT/ER

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

Look for Native American Times on Facebook and Twitter! Friends get front page scoops, new features and breaking news.

Kialegee Tribal Town Environmental Protection Agency is seeking an

#### **EPA Director**

MAJOR DUTIES: Plans, directs, and coordinates activities of the Kialegee Environmental Protection Agency staff involved in developing policies, procedures and techniques to solve pollution problems of the Kialegee Tribe.

Organizes and conducts Education and Outreach activities concerning environmental and natural resource issues of the Kialegee Tribe.

Carries out supervisory responsibilities in accordance with the Tribe's policies and applicable laws. Responsibilities Include interviewing, assisted hiring and training employees; planning assigning and directing work; appraising and evaluation performance and rewarding or disciplining accordingly.

KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED:

Four years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination or education and experience. Must be computer literate.

Please submit letter of application and resumé to Kialegee Tribal Town, Attn: Elisha Scott, PO Box 322, Wetumka, OK 74883

Closing Date: Nov. 9, 2012 @ 4:30 p.m.

Kickapoo Tribal Health Center **Vacancy Announcements** 

<u>Accountant</u> (FT Position, Mon.-Fri. only) Kickapoo Community Childcare Center Annual Salary: \$35,360.00

Requirement: Associates Degree acceptable - Bachelor's degree preferred. Previous experience with Pro-care or a related childcare program software such as CCDF.

Benefits include: Health Insurance (PPO), Dental, Vision 401K (4% matching), Life Insurance Closes: October 31, 2012

Behavioral Health Director (FT Position, Mon.-Fri. only) Annual Salary: \$56,160.00 -\$62,400.00 -depending on qualifications

Requirement: At minimum, mental health counselors must hold a master's degree in counseling from an accredited institution.

Benefits include: Health Insurance (PPO), Dental, Vision 401K (4% matching), Life Insurance

Closes: October 31, 2012

**Psychiatrist** On a contract basis, 1-full day per month for medication management Open Until Filled

Send Curriculum vitae to the Kickapoo Tribal Health Center, P.O. Box 1360, McLoud, Oklahoma 74851 or email to cheryl.garcia@kthcmcloud.com. More info call (405) 964-2081.

Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs!

-New jobs posted throughout the week-

#### WANTED

#### NATIVE AMERICAN *INDIAN GOODS*

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S** 

**DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320

Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30

119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

### CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm • Saturday 9am-1pm 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



www.ganica.net

Tulsa Metro Area

#### **HANDYMAN** Painting • Drywall Repair

Odd Jobs Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"



"Changing the culture of waste."

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM



At Osage Casino, we're all about getting bigger and better. We're breaking ground on two brand-new Casinos, one in Ponca City and another in Skiatook. Grand Openings are slated for late 2013. Take a look at all the exciting new features we'll be able to offer!

- New Casino
- Pub/Sports Bar
- Table Games
- Expanded Electronic Gaming Floor
- Casual Restaurant
- Hotel
- Fitness Center
- Business Center
- Outdoor Pool and Spa
- Grab & Go Coffee Bar
- Conference Center
- Banquet and Event Catering
- Convenience Store with Gas Pumps



**TULSA BARTLESVILLE** 

**SAND SPRINGS PONCA CITY** 

**SKIATOOK HOMINY** 

**PAWHUSKA** 



(918) 699-7777 · osagecasinos.com · f Like us on Facebook!

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights

## EVENTS \*Email your powwow or other

event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

#### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance **Abuse and Behavioral Health** Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

#### **SECOND TUESDAY**

**Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

#### THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

#### **EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, **Oklahoma City** 

#### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

#### **THROUGH NOVEMBER**

Kiowa Language Class, Fall semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

#### **THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013**

All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

#### **NOVEMBER 9**

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. – Cherokee Nation

is taking applications for the 2012 Angel Tree. The applications are to be submitted at the W. W. Keeler Complex in Tahlequah. For more information call 918-266-5626 ext. 7720 or 918-458-6900.

10 a.m. – Cherokee Nation **Veterans Day ceremony. Remarks** from Principal Chief Bill John Baker, the Cherokee National Youth Choir and a flyover at the Cherokee Warriors Memorial at the W.W. Keeler Complex in Tahlequah. For more information contact Rogan Noble at 918-453-5695.

#### **NOVEMBER 10**

Seminole Nation/City of Wewoka **Veterans Day Parade and** celebration, downtown Wewoka, 9am-4pm. Parade at 10am. Info call Jodie 405-257-2413 or Judy 405-257-7207 or www.sno-nsn.gov

'Eat What Eagles Eat' benefit dinner for Grey Snow Eagle House, 6:00 at the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma **Powwow Grounds in the Chena** building. Tickets are \$50. Info call 405-334-7471

#### **NOVEMBER 10-11**

Veteran's Day Celebration, at **Chickasaw Cultural Center, 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Drive** in Sulphur, Okla. A special stomp dance and a special salute to honor all Veterans on Saturday. Veterans receive free admission to the **Chikasha Poya Exhibit Center and** a discount in the Aaimpa Café and gift shops.

#### **NOVEMBER 11**

**Pawnee Indian Veterans Day Dance** at Round House, Pawnee Tribal Reserve. Noon meal War Dance

to follow. Lewis Only A Chief, U.S. Army, Flag will be flown. Free Admission BYOC/D. Contact: David D. Echo Hawk Pawnee Indian Veterans President 918-873-0499 or email ddeh82@hotmail.com for information. Check us out on **Facebook Pawnee Indian Veterans** Organization

#### **NOVEMBER 16-17**

Tahlequah Holiday Bazaar Arts & Crafts show to raise awareness and donations for Leukemia/ Lymphoma Society, 10 am to 6 pm, Fri & Sat, Cherokee Cty Comm Bldg, 908 S. College. Contact Linda @ 918-694-3349 for more information.

#### **NOVEMBER 17**

**OKC Public Schools Native American Student Services** Powwow at Douglass High School, 988 Martin Luther King Ave, OKC. Info call 405-587-0359.

2nd Annual Josh Williamson Memorial All Indian Men's **Basketball Tournament sponsored** by the Sac & Fox Powwow Committee. \$150 entry fee, 10 man roster, double elimination. Stroud 66 Coliseum. More info call Graham Primeaux, 405-886-9451 or gprimeaux@shawnee.k12.ok.us

#### **NOVEMBER 23-25**

**Thanksgiving Celebration at** Chickasaw Cultural Center, 867 **Charles Cooper Memorial Drive in** Sulphur, Okla. Guided tours of the Traditional Village, complete with hot chocolate, will be conducted throughout the day. A miniature holiday ornament class and a children's Christmas tree workshop are planned. A Stomp Dance

demonstration will be conducted at 11 a.m. in the Traditional Village Friday and Saturday.

#### **NOVEMBER 24**

Native American Christmas Market, Sapulpa Elks Lodge, 24 S. Poplar, Sapulpa. Featuring artists Dana Tiger and Tom Barnett. Info call 918-852-0017

#### **DECEMBER 1**

4th Annual Native American Craft Show sponsored by the OKC Chickasaw Elders, at Graceway Baptist Church, 1100 SW 104th in Oklahoma City from 9:00 - 3:00. For vendor information contact Pat Bartmess, 405-703-09889.

Shawnee & Tecumseh schools Indian Education powwow at **Shawnee Expo Center** Contest powwow!

#### **DECEMBER 5**

**VA Enrollment Fair at Claremore** Indian Hospital to help veteran patients apply for eligibility for health care services at the VA hospitals and clinics. Bring your DD214 or military discharge papers to Conference Room #1, 9am-3pm. Representatives will be on hand to help with the application process and answer questions. Please RSVP at the Claremore Indian Hospital 918-342-6240 or 918-342-6607 by Dec. 4

#### **DECEMBER 31**

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow.

American Indian actors. In 1999, a history teacher and former curator at the Museum of the Western Prairie in Altus, Leo Kelley, wrote an article for the OHS publication Chronicles of Oklahoma based on a collection of 36 photos he found in the museum's archives. The photos were production still images from The Daughter of Dawn. When he found the original script in the Library of Congress, he wrote about how a Virginia man named Norbert Myles began a film career by directing and writing a handful of action thrillers beginning in 1916. By the 1920s, Myles was in California looking for projects. With Richard E. Banks and the Texas Film Company, he filmed six-reel movies in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge near Lawton. It was a love story, an action flick and a drama with epic ambitions that starred men and women from the Comanche and Kiowa people living on the nearby reservations.

By Oct. 17, 1920, the film was screened at College Theatre in Los Angeles and called an "original and breath-taking adventure" by one critic, according to the article.

a private detective in North Carolina had the complete film and was looking for a buyer. He had received it as payment for a job and wanted about \$30,000. The OHS couldn't afford it, Moore said, and had to pass. A few more years passed, though, and the seller came down to \$7,000. efforts include along with the transfer With donations from the Lawton to 35 mm safety film, scan and Community Foundation and the standard definition DVD copy both McMahon Foundation of Lawton, the negative and positive prints of the film was purchased and left the garage it had been housed in temporarily.

when it arrived," Moore said. "We knew it was a six-reel film, but when it arrived there were only five reels. It was assumed that one was lost over the years."

Like almost all films of its period The Daughter of Dawn was shot on 30 Daughter of Dawn (Esther LeBarre), mm nitrate film base, a medium that chemically breaks down over time and has even been known to combust Sankadota, wants to marry Daughter under certain conditions in film and become the next chief, but she music to accompany silent films as today just as it was for the lucky few



The Oklahoma Historical Society plans to release the 1920 film The Daughter of Dawn on DVD in 2013. The silent picture was filmed in the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge near Lawton and starred Kiowa and Comanche actors in all the roles. The film was found completely intact in 2004 in North Carolina.

the National Film Preservation Foundation (NFPF), which referred it to a restoration lab for estimates to save the film and its contents. Then, OHS applied for a NFPF grant to fund the project.

During the process, restorers found In 2004, the society was notified that the "lost" sixth reel. Inter-titles, the text cards which explain the scene or quotes spoken by the characters placed throughout the film, were taken out of the version acquired by OHS. Added back in, the film is brought up to its 87-minute run time.

Provisions required that restoration frames.

When composer David Yeagley "We didn't know what to expect signed on to compose a music score to accompany The Daughter of Dawn, he watched it without any music. The images stayed with him.

> "I was kind of stunned by it," Yeagley said of viewing it for the first time.

The story centers on a girl named daughter of the Kiowa chief Hunting Horse. Black Wolf, played by Jack

vaults. Opening the film canisters, is in love with White Eagle, played they played in theaters. Sometimes who saw the film in 1920 (the film was the film was tacky to the touch and by White Parker. To make it more the music was live but many times had some water damage. OHS called complicated, pretty Red Wing the music was recorded. Music could (Wanada Parker) pines for Black Wolf, but he ignores her in his pursuit of the chief's daughter. Both Parkers are children of Chief Quanah Parker.

> The two warriors each ask for the hand of Daughter of Dawn and the chief, unable to decide between Black Wolf's material offerings and White Eagle's good heart and spirit, tells them they must pass a test that will decide which will be her husband. Throw in acts of betrayal, a battle with the Comanche and a buffalo hunt bonded with intimate scenes between the main characters, and The Daughter of Dawn becomes a challenge for any composer.

> Robert Blackburn, executive director of the OHS, commissioned Yeagley to do the job in 2007. The following summer, he gave Blackburn and the society a composition of 80plus minutes of nonstop music, which had to printed into sheet music for each part of the orchestra.

> "It wasn't really my decision to write symphonic music for this film, it was his," Yeagley said. "I didn't think people think of this?"

enhance the action on screen or help set a desired mood.

With The Daughter of Dawn, Yeagley said he wanted to use harmonies and chords that were both familiar and strange to the ear. Excepting an Indian flute played as the character Daughter's theme, Yeagley did not use any instrument heard in traditional American Indian music. Other characters have their musical themes. To Red Wing he gave a piano solo. To Yeagley, she is perhaps the most meaningful character in the

"Her love is most pure in the story," he said.

To the film preservationists and historians at the OHS, The Daughter of Dawn is as important a testament of culture as it is a piece of Oklahoma art treasure. Costumes were not made for the film, and set pieces and stage props were not constructed as far as anyone knows. The Kiowa and Comanche people playing the roles wore their own special regalia, brought their own horses (usually sans saddle) too much about it, but the hanging and towed in their teepee lodges for question was what would Indian the film. These objects were made by them, and to see these full pictures It was common for instrumental in motion is a wonder for audiences

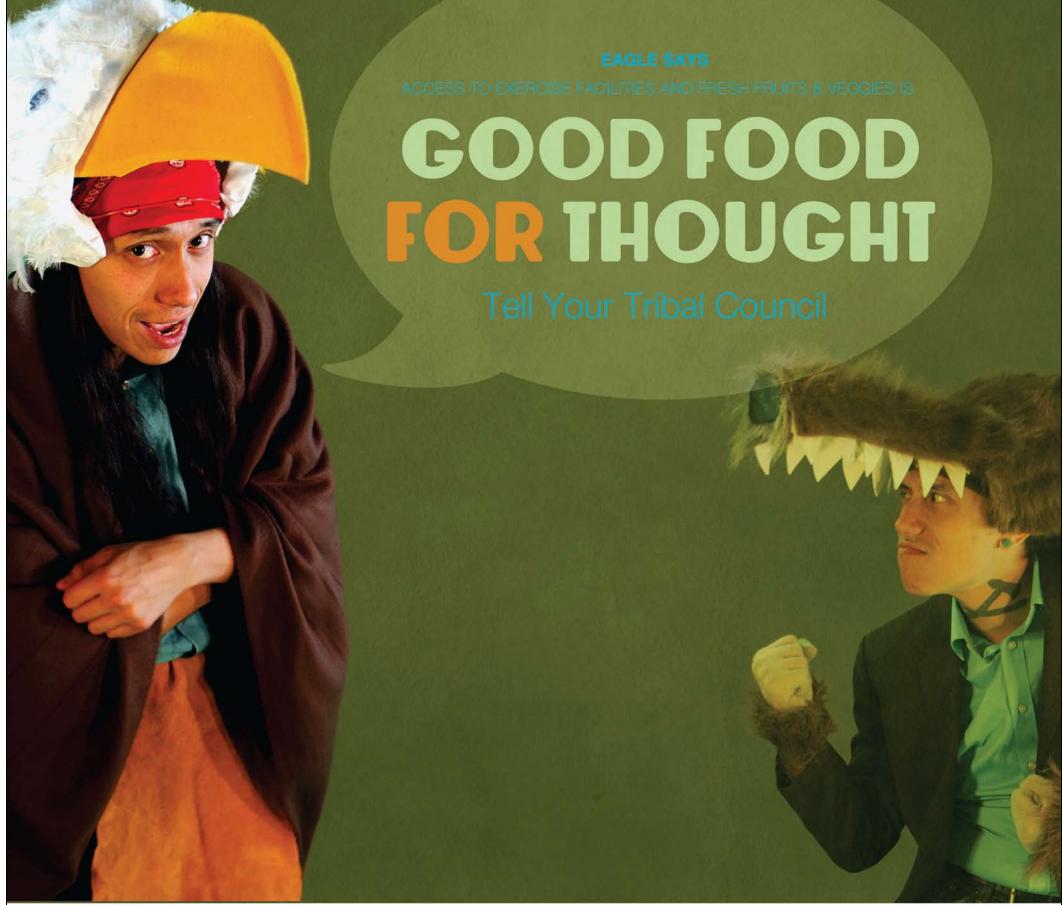
never released).

"How many of us have footage of our parents or our great-grandparents?" asked Jeff Moore, project director of the proposed Oklahoma POP Museum.

The film was shown during the deadCENTER Film Festival in Oklahoma City in June and was presented in Lawton on Oct. 11. The society is now applying for grants to scan the film into a 2K digital format that improves on even the HD (high definition) format. It is this version the society hopes to show at theaters, screen at film festivals and release to DVD next year with added features.

The Daughter of Dawn is exactly the kind of element Jeff Moore said the Oklahoma POP Museum will feature to demonstrate the influence Oklahoma and the Midwest have had on American and international culture. As a hall of that preservation, "orphan films" (films that no longer have a parent company - there are no remnants of the Texas Film Company) have a place for safekeeping.

"Outside of Hollywood produced films, less than 2 percent of all independent films still exist," Jeff Moore said. "This is 87 minutes, and it's all there. It's a pretty significant story."





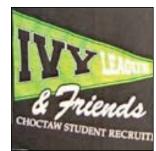


#### **Inside this issue:**

- Otoe-Missourias swear in new council members
- Tim Giago: An Indian voted Republican
- College recruitment event aims high









WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

TODAY'S INDEPENDENT TRIBAL NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 45

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**NOVEMBER 16, 2012** 



In this Dec. 17, 2009 file photo, Elouise Cobell, right, looks on as Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Hayes testifies during a Senate Indian Affairs Committee hearing in Washington, D.C. on the multi-billion dollar Cobell v Salazar lawsuit regarding decades of mismanagement of Indian lands.

## Appeal of Indian land trust settlement rejected

HELENA, Mont. (AP) – The U.S. Supreme Court won't consider a Colorado woman's challenge of a \$3.4 billion settlement between the federal government and Native American land trust beneficiaries.

The settlement was reached in 2009 following years of litigation in which Montana resident Elouise Cobell, who is now deceased, argued government officials mismanaged billions of dollars in land royalties held in trust for Native Americans.

Court records show Kimberly Craven's petition asking the Supreme Court to review the settlement was denied Oct. 29. She had argued the settlement enriched the attorneys and the named plaintiffs led by Cobell.

The named plaintiffs' attorneys said Wednesday that three other people have agreed to dismiss their appeals in exchange for having their attorneys' fees and expenses paid, so settlement funds are closer to getting distributed.

## Native candidates win big in Okla.

■ On Thursday, Chickasaw Nation citizen Rep. T.W. Shannon (R-Lawton) was officially elected Speaker of the House.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

OKLAHOMA CITY - Several Native American candidates won big in the race to the Oklahoma legislature.

Among the winning incumbents was Rep. Skye McNiel (R-Bristow), who defeated Democratic challenger David Narcomey for the second

straight election in the only house race contested by two tribal citizens.

McNiel, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, earned more than 76 percent of the votes cast in District 29 to defeat Narcomey, a citizen of the Seminole Nation.

"This speaks well for Natives," she said about her district's all-Indian ballot. "This shows that we're out there, we're productive and we want to contribute."

Will Fourkiller, a Cherokee Nation citizen from Stilwell, Okla., was elected to another term from District 86, defeating Republican challenger Russell Don Turner by more than 4,000 votes. With 14,352 Native

American residents, District 86 has the highest percentage and overall number of Native Americans of any state house district.

Seneca Scott, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation, was re-elected to represent District 72, which starts at the University of Tulsa and stretches north to the community of Turley. Scott received 5,996 votes - more than twice that of his Republican challenger, Randall Reese.

Seminole Nation citizen and fellow incumbent Anastasia Pittman (D-Oklahoma City) was re-elected by an even wider margin, defeating

See CANDIDATES Continued on Page 3

## NCAI touts success of Native vote push

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) -Organizers of a massive get-out-thevote campaign that targeted Native American communities across the country are considering their efforts a success.

The National Congress of American Indians led the push. The group pointed Thursday to U.S. Senate races in Montana and North Dakota, as well as a voter identification ballot initiative in Minnesota, where it says the Native American turnout made



a difference. The Minnesota voter ID requirement failed.

NCAI Executive Director Jackie Johnson Pata says the best indicator

was the fact that President Barack

Obama mentioned Native Americans during his victory speech Tuesday night. She called that a "huge leap" for Indian Country.

It's difficult to say at this point exactly how many American Indians and Alaska Natives showed up to the polls. But NCAI officials say Native Americans in New Mexico and Montana were registered to vote at higher rates than any other racial or ethnic group in those states heading into Election Day.

## Judge rebuffs Northerr Arapaho in eagle case

**■** The Eastern Shoshone Tribe is satisfied the judge ruled that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has an obligation to support the practices of both tribes.

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - A federal judge has ruled that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acted properly in prohibiting the Northern Arapaho Tribe from killing bald eagles for religious purposes on its central Wyoming reservation.

Tribes, Western Delaware, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, Kiowa, Comanche and Apache tribes.

The federal wildlife agency earlier this year granted the Northern Arapaho the nation's first permit allowing it to kill up to two bald eagles a year for religious purposes. But the Arapaho challenged the agency's requirement that the eagles couldn't be killed on the Wind River Indian Reservation because of objections from the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, which shares the reservation.

U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne entered his ruling against the Northern Arapaho Tribe Nov. 5. The judge said the Northern Arapaho could pursue further legal

action against the federal government claiming that restrictions against killing eagles on the reservation violates the tribe's religious rights.

Johnson wrote that allowing the Northern Arapaho Tribe to take eagles within the reservation wouldn't advance the Fish and Wildlife Service's "compelling interest in fostering and protecting the Eastern Shoshone's culture and religion and would throw the balance between the Fish and Wildlife Service's compelling interests out of whack."

The Northern Arapaho Tribe sued

See EAGLE Continued on Page 2



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service earlier this year granted the Northern Arapaho the nation's first permit allowing it to kill up to two bald eagles a year for religious purposes.

Chickasaws expand

gaming west of I-35

POCASSET, Okla. - About a mile off a ribbon of state highway that drivers mainly use to avoid a nearby toll road, the Chickasaw Nation is leveling dirt for the Salt Creek Casino. A large swath has been cut to make room for this Grady County casino that marks the tribe's 18th gaming site. It looks like a typical gaming expansion but the site is located farther northwest than the

Native Times Special Correspondent



GINA YANNARELL | KOCH COMMUNICATIONS

38,000-citizen tribe has ventured in Oklahoma. When complete, the facility will have 500 electronic games and six table games and is expected to create about 150 jobs. Chickasaw Nation Enterprise (CNE) officials

Casino location.

S.E. RUCKMAN

said the move to expand westward on the 190acre plot had been in the works for about two years. Bill Lance, CEO of CNE, said that other factors played into the Chickasaws' Salt Creek

"Several Chickasaws have asked us to expand

See GAMING Continued on Page 4

Officials say the Chickasaw Nation's Salt Creek Casino is expected to be finished in early December 2012. It will draw from an area market shared by tribal casinos owned by the Cheyenne & Arapaho

COURTESY | OTOE-MISSOURIA TRIE

The winners of the Otoe-Missouria Tribal Council elections took their oath of office on Friday, November 9 at the Tribal Complex. New Vice Chairman Ted Grant and Treasurer Courtney Burgess won their respective races in the November 3 election, as did incumbent Alvin Moore. The Otoe-Missouria Tribal Council Members are (L to R) First Member Wesley Hudson, Vice Chairman Ted Grant, Chairman John Shotton, Treasurer Courtney Burgess, Second Member Melanie Harader, Secretary Barbara Childs-Walton and Third Member Alvin L. Moore.

### Otoe-Missouria Tribe swears in new council members

**HEATHER PAYNE** Otoe-Missouria Tribe News Release

RED ROCK, Okla. – Otoe-Missouria Tribal members and staff gathered in the historic Tribal Council Building on Friday to watch the winners of the recent tribal elections take the oath of office.

Incumbent Alvin Moore was reelected to the office of Third Member, while Ted Grant was elected to the office of Vice Chairman and Courtney Burgess was elected to the office of Treasurer.

Third Member Moore won his race with 45.74% of the votes against Rosella DeRoin and David Lane. Newly installed Vice Chairman Grant

won the tribal election with 33.33% of the vote in a four-candidate race that included incumbent Charles Moncooyea, Michael Gawhega and Darrell Kihega. Treasurer Burgess won her office with 54.59% of the vote against Treasurer Appointee Jim Hopper.

Of the 2,235 registered voters, 25.41% voted in the recent election

with a nearly 50/50 split between absentee and in-person votes.

New tribal election board member Jade Roubedeaux and re-elected board members Tina Youker, Linda Francis and Ranae Kihega also took the oath of office. Together, they are charged with the duty of conducting all tribal elections.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe has

more than 3,000 members located throughout the United States. The tribe was relocated from Nebraska to Indian Territory in 1881. Today, they are one of the largest employers in Kay and Noble County with four casinos, two convenience stores and gas stations, propane company, hotel, entertainment center and cattle ranch.

## UKB announces unofficial results in its 2012 election

M. THOMAS JORDAN United Keetoowah Band News Release

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. – Out of nine seats up for grabs in the United Keetoowah Band's 2012 general election Nov. 5, voters sent seven incumbents back into office and two more to run-off elections Dec. 3.

Chief George Wickliffe beat out Donna McIntosh-Shockley and Dallas Proctor 749-294-256 with 57.66 percent of the vote for chief.

Joyce Fourkiller-Hawk defended her seat against Juanita "Kristene" Scraper and Carl Hornet 647-523-96 with 51.11 percent of the vote for secretary.

Incumbent Ella Mae Cooksey Worley held on to her seat against Vanessa Hansen 689-557 with 55.3 percent of the vote for treasurer.

In Cooweescoowee District, The run-off el Clifford Wofford defeated Josiah 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thorne 74-17 with 81.32 percent of the vote to retain his seat. All of the res of press time.

In Saline District, Charles Smoke defeated Adalene Smith 126-56 with 69.23 percent of the vote to retain his

In Tahlequah District, Betty Holcomb defeated Joe Reese, Jerry Henson and Perry Proctor 200-81-68-35 with 52.08 percent of the vote to retain her seat.

Two races failed to provide a clear winner with 50 percent plus one vote as required in the UKB election codes.

Incumbent Charles Locust faces off against Joe Bunch in a run-off election after eliminating Woodrow "Woody" Proctor 545-462-288 for the assistant chief's race.

Incumbent Tom Duncan faces off against Frankie Still in a run-off election after eliminating Arthur Ross, Beverly Leach and Wiki "Joe" Squirrel 141-105-67-35-26.

The run-off election is Dec. 3 from

All of the results are unofficial as of press time.

## OSSAA rules Sequoyah to forfeit wins, title and berth

■ Under OSSAA recommendations, Sequoyah is prohibited from conducting spring football practice during next semester. The team cannot conduct team clinics during summer 2013 and players are not allowed to participate in any 7-on-7 passing league teams.

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

OKLAHOMA CITY – The athletic eligibility of 11 Sequoyah High School football players was restored Wednesday after questions of improper benefits led to forfeitures and court hearings.

In October, the Oklahoma Secondary Schools Activities Association announced 12 Sequoyah High School football players were ineligible to compete because the school paid for them to attend athletic camps. Under OSSAA policy, schools, coaches, booster clubs and non-family members are prohibited from paying for student-athletes to attend camps or the associated costs, such as travel.

Despite a Cherokee County judge granting an injunction to allow the student-athletes to compete in the season's final weeks, the board ultimately ruled that they were ineligible. The school forfeited the football team's nine wins, its district title and berth in the Class 3A playoffs.

Wednesday's decision allows 11 of the students to participate in other sports during the 2012-2013 school year, including basketball, baseball, track and wrestling.

 $Senior\,quarter back\,Brayden\,Scott$ 

was the lone exception. No reason was given during Wednesday's hearing as to why he was singled out. Scott is the the son of Sequoyah coach Brent Scott, who is currently on administrative leave.

Represented by former Cherokee Principal Chief Chad Smith, Scott's legal challenge filed in Cherokee County District Court was denied Thursday. The Oklahoma Supreme Court declined to hear his appeal Friday.

"Sequoyah is not a stand-alone charter school," former Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith said. "It is a program of the Bureau of Indian Education and the Department of Interior.

"Looking at this policy, governments are not prohibited from paying camp fees."

Cherokee Nation operates the school through a contract with the Bureau of Indian Education.

Along with the eligibility reinstatement of 11 students, the board also approved seven recommendations for the school's athletic department effective immediately.

Under the recommendations, Sequoyah is prohibited from conducting spring football practice during next semester. The team cannot conduct team clinics during summer 2013 and players are not allowed to participate in any 7-on-7 passing league teams.

The team is not allowed to participate in any inter-school scrimmages before the start of the 2013 season.

Sequoyah High School is now on warning status for two years. If additional serious rule violations are committed during the next two years, the school could be placed on probation or suspended from OSSAA membership.

The school is required to complete an operational audit by Jan. 14, 2013, of all sports programs

to determine whether any other students are ineligible, whether coaches are knowledgeable and complying with policies and what institutional policy changes are necessary to ensure compliance with OSSAA rules.

The school is asked to reimburse OSSAA attorneys' fees up to \$25,000.

The board also requested that coach Scott be formally suspended from all coaching duties for a year from all OSSAA member schools. His individual appeal has been deferred to the board's December meeting.

Former athletic director Larry Grigg is also formally suspended from holding any athletic director responsibilities for a year from all OSSAA member schools.

Either would have to seek reinstatement from the OSSAA board.

Additionally, all current students whose individual camp expenses were paid by the school are now required to repay the school or show documentation of their financial inability to do. Payment plans and waivers can be considered but have to be discussed with the OSSAA before being implemented.

"I don't like to punish kids," OSSAA board member Mike Kellogg said before a standing room only crowd at the board's headquarters. "However, life is not always fair. This is not any fun."

"In light of all the circumstances, this was a very fair hearing," Sequoyah athletic director Marcus Crittenden said. "They have been more lenient than they could have been."

## Delaware Tribe holds swearing in of newly elected officials

STAFF REPORTS

BARTLESVILLE, Okla. – Five Delaware Tribe officials were sworn in Saturday afternoon.

On Nov. 3, Assistant Chief Chester Brooks was re-elected to a four-year term on the Delaware Tribal Council, as were current councilor Nathan Young and former council member Annette Ketchum.

First elected to the council in 2008, Brooks also serves on the Delaware Tribe's Trust Board. He is a graduate of Oklahoma State University.

Young was appointed to the council in December 2011 and will be serving his first full term. A former research analyst with the Delaware Enterprise Authority, he is a graduate of the University of Tulsa law school.

Ketchum previously served on the council from 2006-2010. She has served on tribal committees for more than 25 years.

Two judiciary candidates ran unopposed. Donald Mason, the general counsel for the tribe's Indian Child Welfare office, was sworn in as the new chief justice.

Charles Randall was elected to serve a full term as a tribal court judge after being appointed in June 2011 to fill a vacancy on the bench.

Of the almost 400 votes cast in the tribe's election, about two-thirds of the votes cast were submitted by mail. Based in Bartlesville, the Delaware Tribe has more than 10,000 enrolled citizens.

TRIBAL COUNCIL CANDIDATES

X – Chester Brooks (i): 246

X – Annette Ketchum: 241

X – Nathan Young (i): 203

John W. Sumpter: 150

Marilyn Cole: 103 X – elected i - incumbent

#### **HUD honors Choctaw, Absentee Shawnee tribes**

DURANT, Okla. – Two Oklahoma Tribes have been awarded prestigious recognition from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) from the Native American Programs

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma-Housing Authority was honored for "Pioneering and Implementing a Paperless System Utilized in the Administration of Housing Programs" and the Absentee Shawnee Housing Authority was recognized for the tribe's "Creativity and Innovation to Implement Electronic Data Filing Systems." InterTribal Software Consultants

in Durant, an Native American woman owned company, assisted and consulted with the tribes on their software.

## **EAGLE**

Continued from Page 1

the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service last year, saying the federal agency had delayed too long in acting on its application for a permit to kill eagles. The Eastern Shoshone Tribe intervened, saying it has an undivided interest in all the eagles on the Wind River Indian Reservation and wanted them alive.

The federal permit the Northern Arapaho received this year specified that they could only kill eagles off the reservation. However, the State of Wyoming prohibits anyone from killing eagles off the reservation and tribal members said the situation left them empty-handed.

Andy Baldwin, lawye

Andy Baldwin, lawyer for the Northern Arapaho, told Johnson at a court hearing in September that tribal members' religious beliefs require them to kill eagles for their Sun Dance. He said they need "clean eagles," and that it would be unacceptable to use eagle carcasses or body parts available from a federal repository, which collects birds killed by power lines or other causes.

Attempts to reach Baldwin for comment Tuesday on Johnson's ruling were unsuccessful.

Kimberly Varilek, attorney general for the Eastern Shoshone Tribe and a member of the tribe, said Tuesday that she expected the Northern Arapaho Tribe to appeal Johnson's ruling.

"I think that the most important thing that the judge ruled on, obviously not just upholding the permit in its current form, but recognizing the difficulty of trying to find a least-restrictive solution that can accommodate both tribes," Varilek said. "The judge pointed out again that it is the United States' responsibility to consider both tribes' interest here."

Varilek said the Eastern Shoshone Tribe is satisfied that Johnson ruled that the federal agency has an obligation to support the practices of both tribes. "I would have to say that when the two tribes can't find resolution, we end up going before a third party and they try to apply the laws in the best way possible, and I think that they did that in this case," she said.

## High court to take fresh look at voting rights law

MARK SHERMAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) – The Supreme Court will consider eliminating the government's most potent weapon against racial discrimination at polling places since the 1960s. The court acted three days after a diverse coalition of voters propelled President Barack Obama to a second term in the White House.

With a look at affirmative action in higher education already on the agenda, the court is putting a spotlight on race by re-examining the ongoing necessity of laws and programs aimed at giving racial minorities access to major areas of American life from which they once were systematically excluded.

"This is a term in which many core pillars of civil rights and pathways to opportunity hang in the balance," said Debo Adegbile, acting president and director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

In an order Nov. 9, the justices agreed to hear a constitutional challenge to the part of the landmark Voting Rights Act that requires all or parts of 16 states with a history of discrimination in voting to get federal approval before making any changes in the way they hold elections.

The high court considered the same issue three years ago but sidestepped what Chief Justice John Roberts then called "a difficult constitutional question."

The new appeal from Shelby County, Ala., near

Birmingham, says state and local governments covered by the law have made significant progress and no longer should be forced to live under oversight from Washington.

"The America that elected and re-elected Barack Obama as its first African-American president is far different than when the Voting Rights Act was first enacted in 1965. Congress unwisely reauthorized a bill that is stuck in a Jim Crow-era time warp. It is unconstitutional," said Edward Blum, director of the not-for-profit Project on Fair Representation, which is funding the challenges to the voting rights law and affirmative action.

But defenders of the law said there is a continuing need for it and pointed to the Justice Department's efforts to block voter ID laws in South Carolina and Texas, as well as a redistricting plan in Texas that a federal court found discriminated against the state's large and growing Hispanic population. "What we know even more clearly now than we did when the court last considered this question is that a troubling strain of obstructing the path to the ballot box remains a part of our society," Adegbile said.

Since the court's decision 2009, Congress has potential addressed problems identified by the court. Meanwhile, the law's opponents sensed its vulnerability and filed several new lawsuits.

Addressingthosechallenges, lower courts have concluded that a history of discrimination and more recent efforts to harm minority voters justify continuing federal oversight.

The justices said they will examine whether the formula under which states are covered is outdated because it relies on 40-year-old data. By some measures, states covered by the law are outperforming some that are not.

Last week's election results also provide an interesting backdrop for the court's action. Americans re-elected the nation's first African-American president. Exit polls across the country indicated Obama won the votes of more than 70 percent of Hispanics and more than 90 percent of blacks. In Alabama, however, the exit polls showed Obama won only about 15 percent of the state's white voters. In neighboring Mississippi, the numbers were even smaller, at 10 percent, the surveys found.

The case probably will be argued in February or March, with a decision expected by late June.

The advance approval, or preclearance requirement, was adopted in the Voting Rights Act in 1965 to give federal officials a potent tool to defeat persistent efforts to keep blacks from voting.

The provision was a huge success, and Congress periodically has renewed it over the years. The most recent occasion was in 2006, when a Republican-led Congress overwhelmingly approved and President George W. Bush signed a 25-year extension.

The requirement currently applies to the states of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. It also covers certain counties in California, Florida, New York, North Carolina and South Dakota, and some local jurisdictions in Michigan and New Hampshire. Coverage has been triggered by past discrimination not only against blacks, but also against American Indians, Asian-Americans, Alaskan Natives and Hispanics.

Before these locations can change their voting rules, they must get approval either from the U.S. Justice Department's civil rights division or from the federal district court in Washington that the new rules won't discriminate.

Congress compiled a 15,000-page record and documented hundreds of instances of apparent voting discrimination in the states covered by the law dating to 1982, the last time it had been extended.

Six of the affected states, Alabama, Arizona, Georgia, South Carolina, South Dakota and Texas, are backing Shelby County's appeal.

In 2009, Roberts indicated the court was troubled about the ongoing need for a law in the face of dramatically improved conditions, including increased minority voter registration and turnout rates. Roberts attributed part of the change to the law itself. "Past success alone, however, is not adequate justification to retain the preclearance requirements," he said.

Jurisdictions required to obtain preclearance were chosen based on whether they had a test restricting the opportunity to register or vote and whether they had a voter registration or turnout rate below 50 percent.

A divided panel of federal appeals court judges in Washington said that the age of the information being used is less important than whether it helps identify jurisdictions with the worst discrimination problems.

Shelby County, a well-todo, mostly white bedroom community near Birmingham, adopted Roberts' arguments in its effort to have the voting rights provision declared unconstitutional.

Yet just a few years earlier, a town of nearly 12,000 people in Shelby County defied the voting rights law and prompted the intervention of the Bush Justice Department.

Ernest Montgomery won election as the only black member of the five-person Calera City Council in 2004 in a district that was almost 71 percent black. The city redrew its district lines in 2006 after new subdivisions and retail developments sprang up in the area Montgomery represented, and the change left his district with a population that was only 23 percent black.

Running against a white opponent in the now mostly white district, Montgomery narrowly lost a re-election bid in 2008. The Justice Department invalidated the election result because the city had failed to obtain advance approval of the new districts.

The case is Shelby County v. Holder, 12-96.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** TIMES

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON Brenda Slaughter

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

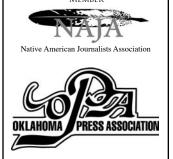
Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country



## Murder charge filed in boy's death

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich. (AP) - A grand jury indicted a central Michigan man Nov. 7 in the death of a 4-year-old boy, more than four months after the badly burned remains were discovered outside the victim's

Anthony Bennett has been in custody on another charge since Carnel Chamberlain's remains were found in June at a home on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian reservation, about 70 miles north of Lansing. He was living with Carnel and the boy's mother.

Bennett is charged with first-degree murder, assault of a child, assault with a dangerous weapon, animal cruelty and witness tampering.

"We're not surprised," defense attorney

Anthony Chambers said. "We'll go forward and defend the case."

Carnel was last seen alive on June 21 when his mother went to work and left him in Bennett's care. A weeklong search on the reservation ensued until the remains were found buried outside the home.

Bennett was subsequently charged with an earlier assault on the boy, a key step that kept him in custody while authorities developed the murder case against him. The FBI and federal prosecutors investigate crimes committed on Indian land.

"The tribal community has waited for quite some time for this to occur and now we can Council member Louanna Bruner said.

#### begin our journey toward justice," Tribal

States, tribe unite on sex offender registry

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - The states of South Dakota and North Dakota have reached an agreement to work with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe to crack down on sex offenders.

The states and tribe will share offender and conviction data, process DNA samples, and advise each other of offenders moving across jurisdictional boundaries.

South Dakota Attorney General Marty

Jackley, North Dakota Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem (STEHN'-juhm) and Standing Rock Tribal Chairman Charles Murphy announced the agreement on Friday. It will enable the tribe to put data from its sex offender registry on a national database.

The Standing Rock reservation straddles the North Dakota-South Dakota border.

## **CANDIDATES**

Continued from Page 1

Willard Linzy 10,641-2,104.

In addition to the large victories for several incumbents, two citizens of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will take office at the capitol in 2013 alongside Veterans and Military Affairs Committee chairman Rep. Paul Wesselhoft (R-Moore).

With 57 percent, Citizen Potawatomi Nation citizen Jason Smalley, a Republican from Stroud, Okla., defeated Chandler, Okla., Democrat Keith Kinnamon to represent District 32, which covers Lincoln County and a portion of Logan County. The seat opened up earlier this year when Rep. Danny Morgan (D-Prague) announced his retirement.

Democratic With no challengers, Mark McBride defeated three Republicans this summer to represent District 53 in Cleveland County, adjacent to Wesselhoft's district.

Several members of the legislature's Native American caucus ran unopposed this year, including Cherokee Nation citizen Rep. Chuck (D-Vinita), Hoskin Chickasaw Nation citizen Rep. T.W. Shannon (R-Lawton), and Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens Rep. Dan Kirby (R-Tulsa) and Rep. Jerry McPeak (D-Warner).

On Thursday, Shannon was officially elected Speaker of the House.

"I am truly honored and, frankly, humbled by the support of my colleagues," he said. "We face many challenges in the upcoming session, but I view challenges as opportunities to lead and make our state better for every Oklahoman."

Newly elected representatives will be sworn in Wednesday at the state capitol.



918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

> Native TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling Incorporated...

shouldn't you?

## SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY

**Wholesale items for Pow Wow Vendors** 

Bone chokers \$20 per dozen

Handmade lamp worked glass bead bracelets \$1.00 each Glass bead stretch bracelets 5 for \$2.50

12 Necklaces: Chain w/ pendant and display pad \$13.50 36 inch gemstone chip strands Reg. 3.95 now \$2.00 36 inch turquoise chip strands Reg. 7.95 now \$4.00

Always our regular stock of seed beads from 16/0 to 8/0, findings, leather, hackles, fluffs and thousands of other supply items.

Remember we've moved around the corner 109 North Broadway, Skiatook, OK 74070

New Dealers Cash or Credit Card Only.

Open Noon-6pm Mon. thru Fri. • 10am-5m Sat. • Closed Sun. Local: 396-1713-Countrywide Toll Free 1-888-720-1967 Website: www.supernaw.com • Email: Supernaw@flash.net

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:	
Address:	
City:	_ State: Zip:
Phone:	
■ \$65.00 for 52 issues	■ \$32.50 for 26 issues

■ \$16.25 for 13 issues ■ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## American Indian Veteran's National Memorial to be dedicated Nov. 14 at Heard Museum

■ Large-scale outdoor plaza features life-size sculpture and descriptive panels on up to 15-foot concrete walls

MARK SCARP Heard Museum News Release

PHOENIX – Service and sacrifice spanning more than three centuries will be honored in the first and only known national memorial to American Indian veterans of many conflicts to be dedicated at a public ceremony Nov. 14 at the Heard Museum in Phoenix that will feature remarks by the only living American Indian recipient of the Medal of

The American Indian Veterans National Memorial contains 120 feet of concrete walls up to 15 feet tall bearing several panels describing the devotion of American Indian warriors to their country. The panels will include a special tribute to American Indians who received the Medal of Honor.

The memorial is being completed while two exhibits on the contributions of American Indian code talkers – one from the Smithsonian Institution – are on display inside the museum.

Medal of Honor recipient Lt. Michael Edwin Thornton (Cherokee), a retired Navy SEAL who served in the Vietnam War, and retired Army Lt. Col. Joey Strickland (Choctaw), director of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services, are among several speakers scheduled to address the 5 p.m. gathering at the monument.

Thornton received the medal in 1973 for the lifesaving rescue of his senior officer the previous year. He is one of only 15 U.S. Navy personnel to have received the Medal of Honor for heroic conduct during the Vietnam War. Strickland, awarded the Legion of Merit, was appointed director in July 2008. He served in the Vietnam War in 1967-1968 with the 1st Air Cavalry Division, and in a second Vietnam combat tour in 1970-1971 with the First Aviation Brigade as a crew chief and door gunner on a UH-1H helicopter.

The American Indian Veterans National Memorial has been a longtime dream of many American Indian veterans' groups. According to the Department of Defense, in 2010, 22,569 enlisted service members and 1,297 officers on active duty were of American Indian heritage. While 1.4 percent of the U.S. population is American Indian, 1.7 percent of the military is American Indian, making it the highest per-capita commitment of any ethnic population to defend the United States.

The project, designed by Scottsdale-based John Douglas Architects, is being funded by a gift from TriWest Healthcare Alliance. Construction services are provided by Kitchell Construction. The ceremony is funded by APS.

#### MEMORIAL COMPONENTS

The memorial is a permanent large-scale outdoor plaza located on the west-facing edge of the museum's gift shop next to the Berlin Gallery. It consists of sculptures by two Native artists, Chiricahua Apache sculptor Allan Houser (1914-1994)

and Michael Naranjo (Santa Clara Pueblo), a Vietnam War veteran who suffered an injury that rendered him blind. Naranjo has been carving his meant-to-be-touched sculptures by feel ever since.

Several bronze-colored panels detail the story of American Indians in conflicts from the 17th century to the 21st century and pays tribute to American Indians who received the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military decoration.

The panels' descriptions begin with these words:

"The story of American Indian Warriors begins before there was a United States of America, and the Warrior Tradition continues rich and strong today. Honoring Warrior leaders is also a tradition that is an integral part of the story. In this spirit, the Heard Museum joins with those who keep the honoring tradition and tell the stories of bravery and sacrifice."

A water feature will complete the memorial, which is designed to be a long-term exhibit at the Heard.

One panel contains a poem, "Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep,"written by Mary Elizabeth Frye in 1932 and has endured for 80 years. It has been translated into many languages and set to music by many composers. It has comforted people around the world and did so at a memorial service for Lori Piestewa. Her family offers it to the American Indian Veterans National Memorial:

Another panel contains a drawing and accompanying poem, "The Fear of Bo-talee," by author N. Scott Momaday (Kiowa), from his 1992 book, In the Presence of the Sun: Stories and Poems, 1961-1991.

#### OTHER SPEAKERS

Other speakers at the Nov. 14 ceremony include American Indian veterans George Blue Spruce Jr. (Ohkay Owingeh/Laguna Pueblo) and Wayne Mitchell (Dakota Sioux/Mandan), both members of the Heard Museum's Board of Trustees and of the museum's American Indian Advisory Committee. David J. McIntyre, president and CEO of TriWest Healthcare Alliance, will also make remarks, as well as Heard Museum Board of Trustees Chair Mark Bonsall and board Vice-Chair Lee Peterson, the museum's interim

Besides Blue Spruce and Mitchell, a third American Indian veteran serves on the Heard Museum Board of Trustees. Chris Deschene (Navajo), a U.S. Naval Academy graduate, served in the U.S. Marine Corps in several overseas tours to Southeast Asia and the Middle East in the 1990s before retiring with the rank of captain. Deschene was also the 2010 Democratic nominee for Arizona secretary of state.

The Heard is displaying Native Words, Native Warriors, a Smithsonian exhibit about the contributions of American Indians of several tribes whose use of their native languages enabled the United States to safely transmit military messages in World Wars I and II. With this exhibit is another, Navajo Code Talkers: Photographs by Kenji Kawano, a pictorial series documenting the lives of Navajo veterans who were World War II code talkers.

## **GAMING**

ontinued from Page 1

our operations into this area of the state," Lance said. "After careful consideration we decided expansion into this area would enable us to offer more job opportunities and entertainment options that would benefit everyone concerned."

While there is no real boundary marking the east side of Oklahoma from the west, Interstate 35 is regarded as a black top dividing line separating the state's 38 federally recognized tribes in two broad categories. Pocasset marks one of the western-most boundaries on lands given to the tribe after relocation to Oklahoma from their homelands in Mississippi during the 1830s, officials said.

Prior to Pocasset, the tribe developed in decidedly eastern Oklahoma with casinos sitting as far south as their evergreen WinStar Casino in Thackerville, Okla., near the Texas border and skirting the metropolitan Oklahoma City area with their Riverwind Casino. The 37,000-sq.ft. Salt Creek development reflects the Chickasaw's effort to solidify their presence within every direction of their original jurisdiction, officials said.

"This new enterprise will offer new entertainment options which could significantly increase tourism in the area," said Chickasaw governor, Bill Anoatubby. "We are pleased to be part of the communities in Grady County and are happy about increasing that presence."

Chickasaw officials point out that the tribe has run a senior nutrition site in nearby Chickasha for several years. They consider the new casino to be in investment for their tribal business portfolio, officials said.

The city of Pocasset is laying out the welcome mat for the tribe's new gaming site. Christie Rainey, Pocasset's mayor, said her small province (pop. 158), has a convenience store, truck bed manufacturer and an oilfield company division and that's about it. She views Salt Creek as an opportunity, she said.

"This way, folks won't have to drive," the mayor said, referring to the casino's two planned restaurants."It offers opportunities to get employed and they pay for the skills training."

The state's Indian gaming behemoth continues to flex its economic muscles and not just on the home front. Chickasaw recently made bids to purchase two bankrupt casino properties in Louisiana and Mississippi through the tribe's gaming arm, Global Gaming Solutions. Additionally, Global Gaming Solutions operates Remington Park, a non-Indian racetrack in Oklahoma City.

Grady County is on cue to be the tribe's next locale for tribal gaming. The Salt Creek Casino will draw from an area market shared by tribal casinos owned by the Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes, Western Delaware, Wichita and Affiliated Tribes, Kiowa, Comanche and Apache tribes.

Salt Creek Casino is expected to be finished in early December 2012, officials said.

Pocasset is roughly an hour drive southwest of Oklahoma City, 25 miles south from El Reno on state Highway 81.

## Tribal nursery focuses on state's native plants

**GALE FIEGE** *Everett Herald* 

ARLINGTON, Wash. (AP) – Banksavers Nursery is the state's only tribal-owned native plant nursery, and one of the few around that focuses solely on plants native to Western Washington.

Operated by the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Banksavers evolved from educational and social efforts to engage tribal members in learning about native plants and their traditional uses. Then it became a program in which the tribe grew native plants for its own salmon habitat projects, establishing wetlands and forests to mitigate for the tribe's development in the county.

After other jurisdictions began contracting for Banksaver plants and landscaping services, the tribe decided to step out as a wholesale and retail operation.

A few years ago, the tribe bought a former alpaca farm north of Arlington and moved its greenhouses up from the tribe's property along the Stillaguamish River. The business is located at 25525 Dahl Road, which runs along

the east side of I-5 just south of the Stanwood exit.

The 135-acre farm overlooks the Pilchuck Creek canyon on one side. Banksavers has four large greenhouses, potting sheds, landscaping materials and equipment and acres of 63 species of native plants potted up in neat rows. At full capacity, the pesticide-free, organic nursery has space for a half million plants. The operation, which gives preference to tribal members, employs 14 people.

Stillaguamish tribal member Martin Allen has worked at the nursery for about four years.

"It's great to work for the tribe and great that the tribe owns this nursery," Allen said. "And sometimes the work is more than just work. It's heartfelt when we plant cedar trees."

Western red cedars are one of the most important plants to Coast Salish tribes, who depended on the trees for canoes, clothing, homes and spiritual uses.

Banksavers director Mike Simpier and his assistant manager Steven Huntley are focusing now on the promotion of the retail and landscaping side of the business. Autumn is a good time to plant natives in residential gardens, Simpler said.

"Summer isn't the best time, and it especially wasn't during that long stretch we just had without rain," Simpier said. "But now is a great time, with high rates of longevity and plant health. The thing about native plants is that eventually you won't have to water them. And they're good for the birds."

Plants sold in one-gallon or two-gallon pots go for from \$5 to \$10, with less expensive prices for wholesale orders. Historically, the Stillaguamish Tribe's nursery focused on salmon habitat restoration, which the tribe has done voluntarily throughout the Stillaguamish River watershed in partnership with regional nonprofits. Riverbanks have been saved from erosion, stabilized with the use of native plants.

Jeff Payne, the nursery's mitigation specialist, has spent the past seven years with Banksavers learning about restoration of clearcut areas, drainage, salmon habitat and natural beauty.

"Our focus is to emulate nature and restore places to their native

beauty and purpose," Payne said.
"Washington state has strict
wetland legislation and we can help
ensure that the laws are satisfied."

Currently, Banksavers is doing some mitigation work for the state Department of Transportation, which plans to replace the one-lane bridge across Pilchuck Creek on Highway 9, work that can't be done without disturbing some of the creekside habitat.

Christine Woodward, director of natural resources for the Samish Tribe in Anacortes, praised Banksavers for its hard work and healthy plants, which can be found throughout the Samish property on Fidalgo Island.

Her sentiment was echoed by Mike Baden, property manager for the Pierce Conservation District in Puyallup.

"They do good restoration work. The conservation district bought an old dairy farm down here so we could buffer a creek and provide for riparian habitat," Baden said. "Banksavers was the only business who could provide all the plants we needed and travel to us to get the work done."



Do you know how to speak Cherokee, but cannot read and write the language?

Do your children have difficulty grasping the language?

Are you new to the Cherokee language and looking for a quick and effective way to learn?

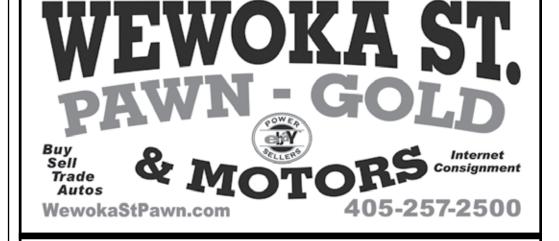
Our Cherokee Syllabary workbook is the first building block in Simply Cherokee's catalogue of tools for learning to read, write, and speak the Cherokee language. Inside these pages you will find the fastest - and most effective! - way to learn the Cherokee Syllabary. Each syllabary has a simple story containing a word with the syllbary's unique sound. After completing the workbook, you will remember the story and the key word whenever you see a syllabary. Cherokee Syllabary is designed for fast assimilation. And when you are done, just move on to the next book. You'll be fluent as simply as that!

Flash cards available too!

## www.simplycherokee.com

(918) 708-5008 • info@simplycherokee.com

American Indian Owned & Operated
Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK "Where every day is Indian Day"

## COMMENTARY

## An Indian voted Republican? The sky is falling!



**Notes from Indian Country** 

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Holy GOP! I did the unthinkable! I'm Native American and I voted for a Republican!

No, I didn't vote for Mitt Romney. Now that would have been unthinkable. But to read the criticism I got from my fellow Native Americans one would have thought I committed a mortal sin.

I was very concerned about the lackadaisical approach to economic development on the Indian reservations of South Dakota by Matt Varilek, the Democrat who ran against the incumbent for the lone seat in Congress, Kristi Noem.

Varilek served on the staff of Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD) and one of his responsibilities was to work with Native American tribes in the area of economic development. About one year ago I spoke at length with Varilek because South Dakota is notorious for having four counties in America's top ten poorest counties. In the 1980 Census, Shannon County, in the heart of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. was proclaimed the "poorest county in America."

With the economic fate of South Dakota's nine Indian reservations in the hands of elected Democrats in the House and in the Senate for the past 40 years I had to ask myself, and Varilek, why is this so?

Varilek never ran a business. As far as I know, neither have any of the elected Democrats serving the reservations for the past 40 years. I questioned Varilek about why he thought he was getting a handle on business development and jobs on the Indian reservations when all he was doing was getting funds put into the accounts of non-profit organizations with leaders

who also never ran a business in their lives.

He became very defensive when I pointed out to him that none of this was working. Since the death of the "earmark" South Dakota's Congressional delegation has not been able to direct funds to any worthwhile project on the reservations.

President Bill Clinton had the right idea when he declared that the Pine Ridge Reservation was in an Empowerment Zone. This would give the tribal leaders the opportunity to find investors by offering incentives conducive to getting a foothold on the reservation. With certain tax incentives Clinton believed that major corporations would see this as a business opportunity. Since the unemployment rate on this reservation of nearly 40,000 people was at about 80 percent, an investor would find plenty of readily available employees.

The Empowerment Zone was handed \$10 million over a 10 year period that should have been used to entice established businesses to relocate to the reservation. Instead the tribal leaders put a man in charge that had never run a business in his life and the results of this experiment were predetermined. The \$10 million evaporated and not a single business was enticed to build on the reservation and worse yet, not a single business was constructed internally. Instead the money was handed out in loans and grants without accountability. individuals got loans that were never repaid and others were given grants that simply disappeared. My space here is limited, but it got worse.

The same can be said of the multitude of non-profit organizations supposedly designed to assist in the establishment of small businesses. Most of the money is eaten up in administrative costs and again, there is no accountability. I asked Varilek to tell me how many businesses were started by the non-profit organizations he supposedly helped to fund and he had no answer.

I then spoke to our lone member of Congress, Kristi Noem. Now Noem is an experienced business woman. She and her husband have run successful farm and ranch operations and she knows how a business is run. I have also run successful businesses.

my newspaper operations without a single government grant. Early on I got a loan from the Small Business Administration as a military veteran and paid back every penny of that loan. I also worked with our local banks to secure loans as they were needed for growth and paid back all of those loans. I am Native American and was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. All many prospective Lakota entrepreneurs need is the opportunity.

Rep. Noem understood immediately what I was saying and was determined to make things happen. She has been criticized, by Democrats mostly, for having the audacity to accept farm and ranch subsidies from the United States government, but then so have thousands of other ranchers. But she knew how to make those subsidies work and she also knew that the one source of money that could be available to Native businesses should come from the local

As a rule most Indians do not have the collateral or the credit rating to secure loans from banks and they cannot use the land they own as collateral because it is held in trust by the Department of the

Interior.

Rep. Noem and I discussed the possibilities of moving in a different direction than the stagnant methods used by the Democrats who had been in power for so many years. As two people who have built successful businesses (I started my first business on the Pine Ridge Reservation) we have some good ideas and once the dust has settled from the past election, we will meet to discuss them.

So why did I vote for a Republican? Because the reservations are ready for a change and I felt Rep. Noem could provide it. And incidentally, I am a registered Independent.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He was the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association, a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, and he was inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame in 2007 and is the recipient of the H.L. Mencken Award.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465.

To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.



918-316-5856
"Changing the culture of waste." TM

NATIVE
TIMES
recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations
Professional Construction,
Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint
Tile • Trim • Plumbing
Electrical • Solar Panels
Windmills • Winterizing
Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com – Mayes & Cherokee Counties –



Follow Us!



918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com Equal Housing Lender Native American Owned

TERO Certified



## December 10-13, 2012 Flamingo Hotel Las Vegas, Nevada

You still have time to register for our annual meeting to get the pre-registration rate of \$350.00!

Deadline for the pre-registration rate and the hotel rate of \$79.00 + tax is: November 23, 2012

Please access our website:

www.indianaglink.com

for registration and hotel
 information under

"2012 Member Meeting"
 or call 406.259.3525
 fax: 406.256.9980

HOTEL: Flamingo Las Vegas Code: SFIAC12

RESERVATIONS: 1.888.373.9855 (Cancellation Policy is 72 hours)



## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

#### **TRAINING**



#### Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

#### **Life Skills and Transition Teacher**

Oaks Indian Mission is looking to recruit a Life Skills and Transition Teacher. Residents of Oaks Indian Mission need direction in developing post-graduation goals to ensure their continued success in life. The Transition Teacher will develop programs to ensure that the residents are connected to colleges, vocational education institutions, and training to develop personal competency to live healthy successful lives.

#### **DUTIES TO INCLUDE:**

- Developing a sustainable program that will link residents with continuing education needs.
- · Developing training to ensure that the residents can live independently after graduation.
- Provide training to ensure active vocational counseling for post-graduation needs. • Walking residents through college admission process. Serving as the liaison with
- multiple colleges for the residents. • Teaching residents how to apply for jobs.
- Teaching residents how to apply for health care services.
- Teaching residents how to develop a personal budget.
- Teaching residents how to develop personal achievable goals. • Teaching residents how to take the ACT as well as how to study to improve their
- academic goals through life. • Tutoring and monitoring after school at the recreation center on campus is an
- essential component of the position. · Attending school events to support students as well as being present at IEP
- meetings.

The position includes health and dental as part of salary package. Housing is available. Starting Salary at \$21,000. Teaching license a plus.

Oaks Indian Mission P.O. Box 130 Oaks, OK 74359 Fax (918) 868-3804 Or email resume as pdf to trygve.jorgensen@oaksindianmission.org

Position closes Nov. 27, 2012



is currently hiring Entry-level Drivers from

**CALL TODAY** 405-254-5556

**Tribal assistance** available

(to those who qualify)



**CNA & HOME HEALTH AIDE SCHOOL!!** 

Did you know your Tribe will pay for you to become a CNA?

Call our office to schedule an appointment In addition to the CNA & HHA training we offer:

 Resume and Interview Workshops Job Assistance and resume marketing • Free computer classes available

Get Certified in less than 3 weeks! "Meet us at the GOLD DOME"

NW 23rd and Classen



Go online to nativetimes.com for more jobs! -New jobs posted throughout the week-

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** of Oklahoma

Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

#### **Chief Executive Office State Of Oklahoma**

**Oklahoma Health Care Authority** \$133.5K- \$152K/+ Incentives & State Benefits!

The selected candidate for this position will be responsible for managing and directing the operations and activities of a 500 person State Agency with an operations budget of 5.2 billion dollars in the pursuit of the primary stated mission:

To purchase all State-funded health care in the most efficient and comprehensive manner possible, and to study and recommend strategies for containing costs and optimizing the delivery of health care in State programs.

The desired candidate will have an advanced degree (MA) or equivalent in a field substantially related to the public delivery of health care, including but not limited to: Medicine, Law, Public Health, Health Care Administration, Business Administration, Public Administration, Finance, Economics; and 6 to 10 years directly related experience including managed care administrative experience. Preferred experience will be in the area of management and administration related to the delivery of Medicaid funded health care.

Please submit a resume and cover letter no later than Monday, December 3, 2012 to the following address:

> Oklahoma HealthCare Authority 2401 N.W. 23rd St., Suite A-1 Oklahoma City, OK 73107 **Equal Opportunity Employer**

Or by email to: howard.pallotta@okhca.org

Native American Owned Business? Let the Native American Community know! The Native American Times is the most widely circulated weekly newspaper in Oklahoma. Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838



**CUSTOM SEWING & ALTERATIONS RIBBON SHIRTS • TEAR DRESSES FORMAL WEAR • COSTUMES** 

#### **Gracie Cox**

Retired Oklahoma Teacher

918-906-9025 gracie.cox@suddenlink.net



**True American Indian** 

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

#### WANTED

#### NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN GOODS

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

#### **DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP**

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

#### SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### Metal Roofing & Siding

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

#### CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm • Saturday 9am-1pm 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



⊩www.ganica.net

#### Tulsa Metro Area HANDYMAN Painting • Drywall Repair

Odd Jobs Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"



## Choctaw college program continues to aim high

■ Among the new schools attending this year's Ivy League and Friends event are UCLA, Bowdoin College, University of Maryland law school and Gonzaga law school.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

DURANT, Okla. - It started in 2006 with a simple directive: open some college doors for Choctaw high school students.

Deciding to go big, Jo McDonald, the senior director of the Choctaw Nation's Scholarship Advisement Program, aimed high and talked a recruiter from Harvard University's Native American Program into coming to the Red River valley for the first Ivy League and Friends event in 2007. The Cambridge, Mass., school was the only institution to attend.

"He (the recruiter) took a chance and came to Durant," she said. "To my knowledge, Harvard had never been that far south. That's how successful things happen - you take risks."

The risk paid off.

"We were hoping for maybe 25-30 students, which would have been a huge crowd," she said. "We had more than 150 that first year. We thought we would have been there for a couple of hours. Instead, we were there until after midnight.

"From that, we were pretty sure we were on to something."

Fast forward five years, and Harvard had company at the Choctaw Casino Resort Saturday at this year's Ivy League and Friends.

"Among the new schools attending this year are UCLA, Bowdoin College, University of Maryland law school and Gonzaga law school,"

Choctaw SAP college coordinator prep Stephanie Gardner said. "Participation is by invitation only. We put a lot of thought into the schools we extended invites to." As of Nov. 8, almost

400 Choctaw and Chickasaw students were registered for this year's event, which featured breakout sessions on applying for college, entrance exams such as the SAT, and finding and applying for financial aid. Originally only for Choctaw citizens looking into undergraduate programs, event opened up to Chickasaw students and potential graduate professional degree candidates last year. Among the other

schools participating

are Yale, Dartmouth, the University of Pennsylvania, Johns Hopkins, Duke and Emory.

"This is going to help Native Americans across the board," McDonald said. "If we can do the right thing and get our people educated, even better."

Along with the tribe's career services office, the Scholarship Advisement Program co-hosts a second college fair each year for students considering less competitive schools, such as Oklahoma's regional universities, the University of Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University. Those students are still encouraged to come to the Ivy League and Friends event to get a better grasp on the application process and to plan ahead for graduate school.

"It's important to show our kids that they're wanted," Gardner said. "They're striving higher now that they know that this is an option. Harvard isn't quite as intimidating when they can put a face to it."

And the school that started it all - Harvard - came back for a fifth consecutive year Saturday, as representatives for undergraduate admissions and five graduate programs made the trek.

"Absolutely, we've undergraduate students through the program (Ivy League and Friends) who got in," said Dr. Dennis Norman, faculty chairman of the Harvard University Native American Program. "I've met other students who got into graduate or professional school because of it. I can't remember the stats, but considering it is very competitive, this event has been very successful. We get on average about 20 Native students in per year and the Choctaws have always been in the

### Depp gives \$25K to Navajo **Nation for** scholarships

FARMINGTON, N.M. (AP) - Actor Johnny Depp filmed scenes in New Mexico for an upcoming movie and now has given the Navajo Nation \$25,000 for scholarships.

Tribal president Ben Shelly accepted the donation and the Navajo Nation's Health **Education and Human Services** Committee voted to accept the money so it can be appropriated for vocational scholarships.

Depp's spokesperson says the donation is supposed to be private and no further statement will be released on his behalf.

Depp will play Tonto in the movie version of "The Lone Ranger," which is expected to be in theaters in June.

The Farmington Daily Times reports that the Shiprock monument in New Mexico can be seen in the movie's recently released trailer and Monument Valley near the Arizona-Utah border also is featured.

#### New at nativetimes.com

Enter your powwow info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select **Powwow Entry** 



COURTESY | CHOCTAW NATION

Choctaw student recruiters talk with attendees during last year's lvy League and Friends college recruitment event in Durant.

## EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

**EVERY THURSDAY** 

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

**SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE - from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, **Oklahoma City** 

**YOUTH COUNCIL** 

The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH NOVEMBER** Kiowa Language Class, Fall semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

**THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

**NOVEMBER 16-17** Tahlequah Holiday Bazaar Arts & Crafts show to raise awareness and donations for Leukemia/ Lymphoma Society, 10 am to 6 pm, Fri & Sat, Cherokee Cty Comm Bldg, 908 S. College. Contact Linda @ 918-694-3349 for more information.

**NOVEMBER 17 OKC Public Schools Native American Student Services** Powwow at Douglass High School, 988 Martin Luther King Ave, OKC. Info call 405-587-0359.

2nd Annual Josh Williamson Memorial All Indian Men's **Basketball Tournament sponsored** by the Sac & Fox Powwow Committee. \$150 entry fee, 10 man roster, double elimination. Stroud 66 Coliseum. More info call Graham Primeaux, 405-886-9451 or gprimeaux@shawnee.k12.ok.us

**NOVEMBER 23-25** Thanksgiving Celebration at Chickasaw Cultural Center, 867 **Charles Cooper Memorial Drive in** 

Sulphur, Okla. Guided tours of the Traditional Village, complete with hot chocolate, will be conducted throughout the day. A miniature holiday ornament class and a children's Christmas tree workshop are planned. A Stomp Dance demonstration will be conducted at 11 a.m. in the Traditional Village Friday and Saturday.

**NOVEMBER 24** 

Native American Christmas Market, Sapulpa Elks Lodge, 24 S. Poplar, Sapulpa. Featuring artists Dana Tiger and Tom Barnett. Info call 918-852-0017

**DECEMBER 1** 

4th Annual Native American **Craft Show sponsored by the OKC** Chickasaw Elders, at Graceway Baptist Church, 1100 SW 104th in Oklahoma City from 9:00 - 3:00. For vendor information contact Pat Bartmess, 405-703-09889.

**Shawnee & Tecumseh schools** Indian Education powwow at **Shawnee Expo Center** Contest powwow!

**DECEMBER 5** 

**VA Enrollment Fair at Claremore** Indian Hospital to help veteran patients apply for eligibility for health care services at the VA hospitals and clinics. Bring your DD214 or military discharge papers to Conference Room #1, 9am-3pm. Representatives will be on hand to

help with the application process and answer questions. Please RSVP at the Claremore Indian Hospital 918-342-6240 or 918-342-6607 by Dec. 4

**DECEMBER 20** 

**Annual Bykes 4 Tykes Community** Children's Christmas Party The party will be at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 22 at the Pawnee Nation **Roundhouse on the Pawnee Nation** Reserve in Pawnee.

There will be a drawing for bicycles for children of the community. Also, all children receive candy sacks and Santa hats. Santa and Pawnee Bill and his horse will be at the party. Bring a camera to have your pictures taken with both and join in the carols. For more information, call Al

Thayer at (918) 399-9041. \*Want to make a donation to Bykes 4 Tykes? Call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041 or reach him by mail at the address: 812 Granite St.,

Pawnee, OK, 74058. Bykes 4 Tykes will accept donations up to the day of the Dec. 22 Christmas party for the purchase of additional children's bicycles.

**DECEMBER 31** 

12th Annual New Year's Eve **Sobriety Powwow, In Memory** and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call

#### MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

#### **Learn the Entire Cherokee Syllabary: In Just 2 Days Simply Cherokee Syllabary Course** Sat. & Sun. – December 8-9, 2012



Ho Chee Nee Chapel, **Cherokee Heritage Center** Tahlequah, Oklahoma

(918) **708-5008** • info@simplycherokee.com

## Reeves Renovations

Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint • Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels • Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

918-637-6736

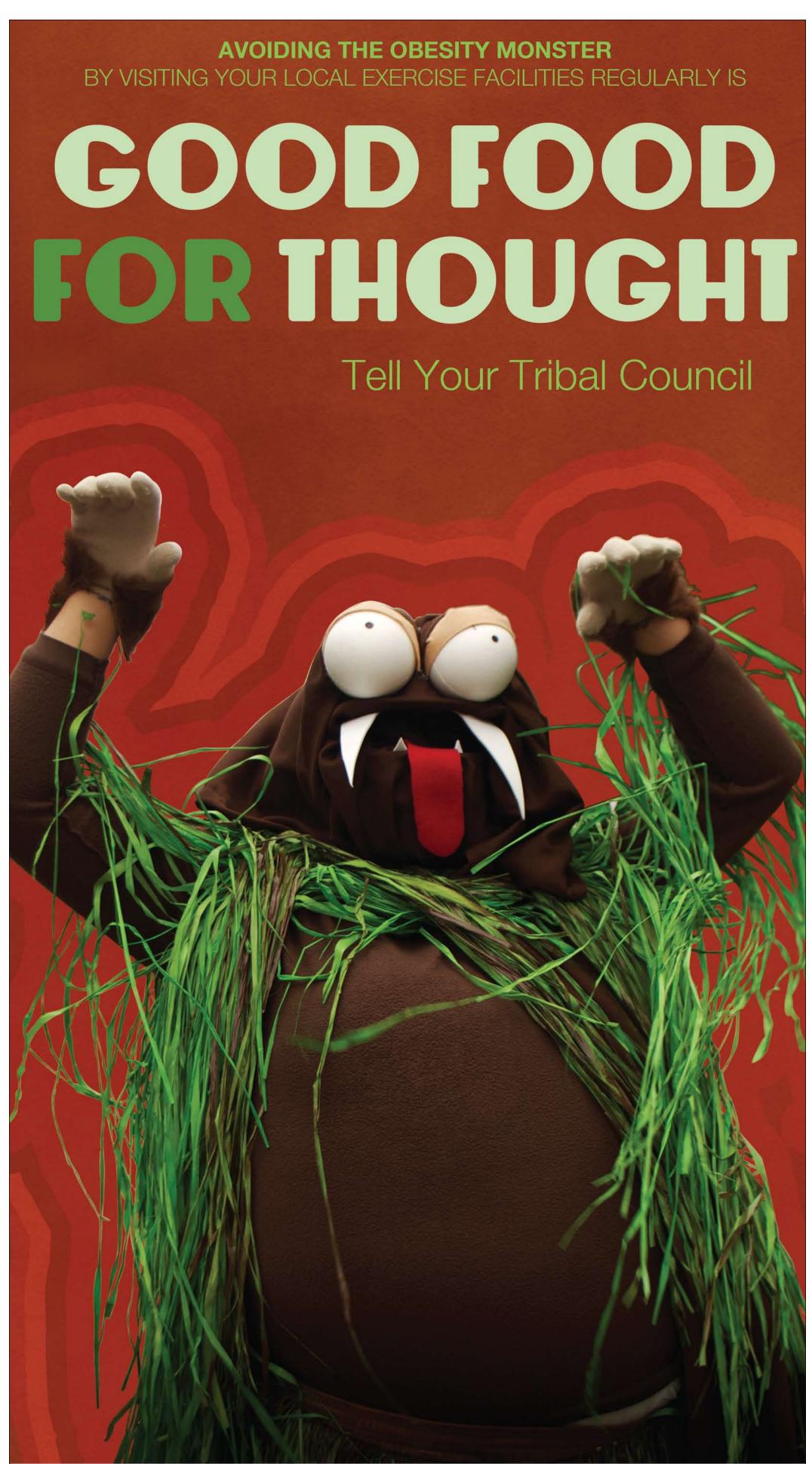
johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Serving Mayes & Cherokee Counties

## Quality painting at a reasonable price

**Interior & Exterior** 

Brush / Roll / Spray Ted Bear 918-718-4120

- Serving the Tahlequah Area -







#### **Inside this issue:**

- Failing school turns it around to succeed
- AISES honors Oklahoma educator
- NCAIED holds first regional event in Catoosa









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT TRIBAL NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

## NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 46

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**NOVEMBER 23, 2012** 

AMANDA SCHWAB | AP PHOTO/STARPIX

This Nov. 7, 2012 photo released by Starpix shows model Karlie Kloss wearing an Indian headdress during the taping of The 2012 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show in New York. Victoria Secret has apologized for putting a replica of a Native American headdress on a model for its annual fashion show.

## Victoria's Secret apologizes for use of headdress

FELICIA FONSECA Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Arizona (AP) – Victoria's Secret has apologized for putting a Native Americanstyle headdress on a model for its annual fashion show, after the outfit was criticized as a display of ignorance toward tribal culture and history.

The company responded to the complaints by saying it was sorry to have upset anyone and that it wouldn't include the outfit in the show's television broadcast next month, or in any marketing materials.

"We sincerely apologize as we absolutely had no intention to offend anyone," the company said.

Historically, headdresses are a symbol of respect, worn by Native American war chiefs and warriors. For Great Plains tribes, for instance, each feather placed on a headdress has significance and had to be earned through an act of

**See HEADDRESS** *Continued on Page 4* 

## Actor helps tribes trying to buy sacred land

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP)

- Native American tribes have received some celebrity support in their effort to raise \$9 million by the end of the month to buy land in South Dakota that they consider sacred.

Ezra Miller, who stars in the recently released film "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," and hip-hop producer Sol Guy appear in a short documentary-style film with Standing Rock Sioux tribal member Chase Iron Eyes as part of an effort to raise the final \$2 million needed for the land deal.

Tribes of the Great Sioux

Nation hope to buy nearly 2,000 acres in the Black Hills that they call Pe' Sla. The property is important to their creation story, and tribal members have long held ceremonies there. When the land was put up for sale, tribal members worried it would be developed because of its proximity to Mount Rushmore.

The 1,942 acres of pristine prairie grass is the only sacred site on private land currently outside Sioux control.

"I came out here with the intention of being an observer ... I felt kind of removed from the story. But now, it's fairly clear to me that nobody is removed from this story," Miller says in the film. A

not-yet-completed mountain carving of the Lakota warrior Crazy Horse can be seen in the background. "This story is central to all of our history and this struggle also cannot be removed. We are all inherently involved in what is going on out here."

Land owners Leonard and Margaret Reynolds cancelled a public auction of the property earlier this year after tribal members expressed outrage. The Reynolds then accepted the tribes' bid to purchase the land for \$9 million if they have the money by Nov. 30.

The couple has not spoken publicly about the land sale and did not return a message left Wednesday seeking

comment.

Iron Eyes said the tribes have raised more than \$7 million so far, and he hopes Miller's and Sol Guy's involvement will help bring in another \$1 million or more through a new online campaign. An earlier online campaign raised more than \$300,000.

"Last time, it was real grassroots, it just sort of grew on its own fire, its own energy," Iron Eyes said. "But this time we're adding some extra voices to broaden the network."

The 9-minute film was shot over three days in Rapid City and other locations

See ACTOR Continued on Page 3



WWW.EZRA-MILLER.NET | COURTE

Ezra Miller (far right), who stars in the recently released film "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," and hip-hop producer Sol Guy (left) appear in a short documentary-style film with Standing Rock Sioux tribal citizen Chase Iron Eyes (center) as part of an effort to raise the final \$2 million needed for the land deal.

## Fort Sill Apache place sign, make public commitment to return to N.M. homeland

S.E. RUCKMAN

Native Times Special Correspondent

DEMING, N.M. – The sign is right out there for all to see. Tagged by matching cross motifs, the Fort Sill Apache's reservation marker proclaims who owns these 30 acres. Although traffic is not heavy here, the sign serves a purpose; to announce the arrival, or re-arrival, of the Fort Sill Apache to

their former territory.

To cue the occasion, Fort Sill Apache tribal members and leaders alike gathered Nov. 16 to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the tribe's reservation designation granted by the U.S. Dept. of Interior. Attendees also watched Apache ceremonial dancing and singing while hearing an update on their return-to-New-Mexico plans.

A year ago, the Fort Sill Apache

reservation declaration barely fit a onepage notice in the Federal Register, but to the tribe the official public designation was huge. It symbolized getting their own back, officials said. They decided to put up a literal sign to reflect the solid commitment to return to New Mexico, said Jeff Haozous, Apache chairman.

"Without the sign, people could

See APACHE Continued on Page 4



LIZ ANDERSON | COURTESY

A sign proclaims 30 acres in New Mexico as home of the Chiricahua/Warm Springs Apache. The sign was placed by the Fort Sill Apache Tribe Nov. 16 to mark the one-year anniversary of their official reservation designation.

### Former Wyandotte Chief walks on

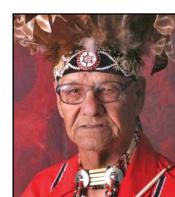
STAFF REPORTS

Native American Times

WYANDOTTE, Okla. – Services were held Thursday for former Wyandotte Nation chief Leaford Bearskin.

Bearskin died Nov. 9 in his home at age 91. He served as chief of the Wyandotte Nation from September 1983 until his retirement in June 2011. His successor as chief, Billy Friend, conducted the traditional rites at the Wyandotte Cemetery with the tribe's color guard serving as pallbearers.

One of 13 children, Bearskin was born Sept. 11, 1921, on his



Chief Leaford Bearskin

parents' allotment in Ottawa County, Okla. Bearskin was a decorated World War II

See CHIEF Continued on Page 3

#### Feds detail takeover of tribe's programs

FARGO, N.D. (AP) – The federal Bureau of Indian Affairs said it has handled more than a hundred reports of suspected child abuse or neglect on the Spirit Lake reservation since taking over social services in October.

The bureau assumed control of the tribe's social service programs after criticism that the tribe has failed to protect vulnerable children.

Forum Communications reports that the bureau has new procedures for placing children in foster homes, including ensuring there are documents

showing the placement was ordered by a tribal judge.

The bureau also informed the North Dakota congressional delegation on Friday that it has hired a social worker to manage the Spirit Lake Tribe's social services program.

"It's important that the BIA continue to be engaged, and that they keep the public informed about efforts to ensure child safety on the reservation," delegation members said in a statement.

Last week, some members of

See FEDS Continued on Page 3

## **Comanche Nation College gains accreditation**

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

LAWTON, Okla. — An Oklahoma tribal college is now one step closer to independent accreditation.

On Tuesday, officials with the Comanche Nation College announced via social media that the school is now officially a candidate to receive independent accreditation from the North Central Association of the Higher Learning Commission. It will be eligible to apply for full accreditation in two years and could receive it as early as 2016.

Currently, the college operates a memorandum understanding with Cameron University and a license from the Oklahoma Department of Private Vocational Schools for its CLEET courses. Once it receives full independent accreditation, course

credit earned at Comanche Nation College can be transferred to other schools.

In addition to a GED program, the school offers associate's degrees in English, mathematics, natural sciences, American Indian studies, linguistics and Comanche. Degree programs for tribal gaming management, tribal management and business administration are currently in development.

journey has Comanche Nation College four years to accomplish and indeed is an accomplishment to celebrate," president Consuelo Lopez wrote in a letter to the school's community. "This will indeed provide us independence to meet the needs of our community and better serve or people."

Comanche Nation College is the oldest of Oklahoma's four tribal colleges. Courses and degrees offered by the College of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Okmulgee, Okla., are accredited through Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology. The Pawnee Nation College in Pawnee, Okla., offers its degrees through Bacone College in Muskogee, Okla. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College offers associate's degrees through Southwestern Oklahoma University in Weatherford, Okla.

## Tribal college program teaching Lakota language

■ It is an experimental program at Sitting Bull Community College, a hybrid of specialized day care and a language immersion project. Lunch, playtime and a nap are part of the deal.

LAUREN DONOVAN The Bismarck Tribune

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) - Tom Red Bird is 61 years old and he eats macaroni and cheese with Elmer's Glue on his fingers, just like a 3-year-

Red Bird is one of the remaining people in the world who can speak Lakota, an indigenous language spoken by Hunkpapa Sioux since time unknown. He spends his days in a large airy room with green plants in the windows among 10 boys and girls, speaking to them only in the ancient language of their ancestors.

Outside the classroom door is a sign with the word "English" stamped out in a red circle.

Other than the English they jabber among themselves, these little ones hear and speak Lakota with Red Bird and the three instructional aides in the room.

Red Bird speaks it fast and fluently since his own childhood on the Cheyenne Indian Reservation in South Dakota. The aides speak it slowly. They, too, are learning as they go.

The children speak it enthusiastically, aided with flash cards or art projects made with glue and cotton balls to learn words for rain and lightning. Their success wrapping their tongues around these new words is applauded and happiness shows on their faces when they

It is an experimental program at Sitting Bull Community College in the Kids Kampus building on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation, which straddles the North Dakota-South Dakota border.

It is an interesting hybrid of specialized day care and a language immersion project. Lunch, playtime and a nap are part of the deal.

"The reason I came here is I want to save my language. It's precious to me. When there came a chance to teach, I jumped at this," Red Bird

He estimates maybe one-third of the reservation is fluent in Lakota. The death of each elder diminishes that number; 10 years ago 80 percent were fluent, he said.

The Lakota language is well documented from the early work of missionaries and later revisions by linguistic experts and tribal members.

Red Bird participated in a Lakota dictionary project, a massive tome with entries both in Lakota to English and English to Lakota. He said he and other Lakota speakers regularly gather to add new words to make it a living,

contemporary language.

A recent addition, for example: "Wounspe omnaye;" the words mean "stored language" in Lakota and describe a laptop computer.

Those new words can be a challenge, he says. One suggestion among the group was to describe venetian blinds, in Lakota.

In the classroom, the children are far from the subtleties of window coverings. They have been immersed since September and now have a Lakota vocabulary of about 50 words. They are basic words for the primary colors, the elements of water and clouds, simple foods and

Sacheen Whitetail Cross, who earned a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks, is director of the language immersion program. Federal grants fund the project and the initial training for the classroom instructors.

She said the program is licensed as a day care. Parents pay \$88 a week - just as they would with day care - to have their child enrolled.

As a student, it was her dream to incorporate language into her work back home on Standing

"It's who we are and it's how we know each other," she said.

Ideally, kids would start even younger and stay immersed for at least several more years.

The project is new and could expand, depending on success and funding, Whitetail

Children in a language program do better in school because their brains are more fully utilized and they have more self-confidence,

Sarah Jumping Eagle and Chase Iron Eyes live in Bismarck and enrolled their daughter, Azilya Iron Eyes, in the program. Jumping Eagle said it's worth whatever it takes to get their daughter

"I really see in her hope, now. We have a drugand alcohol-free home and she's learning the language and the ceremonies. We're breaking the cycle; that's the hope. We're willing to get up at the crack of dawn to get her there," she said.

Red Bird said Lakota is a language and a way of life lost. Its speakers would be different people if it were their only language.

"They would be more respectful. The language is more sacred with core values. There are no curse words. In the language, it all revolves around the family," he said. He said his own great-grandson, 4, listens and behaves when spoken to in Lakota; to English he closes

For now, Red Bird is pleased to spend days among these pint-sized Lakota learners with their bright eyes and shiny dark hair, helping both the instructors who have prepared lessons and language materials, as well as the children.

"These little ones we've got here, they're the new breed, filling the gap between my age and people in their 40s and 50s who are not fluent," he said.

## Unified effort transforms failing school into succeeding program

Cross said.

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

ARAPAHOE, Wyo. - Not long ago, the city of Arapahoe's schools were added to a list of institutions considered floundering because of low standardized test scores. Today, the students have boosted their scores enough to remove Wyoming's Fremont County School District No. 38 elementary and middle schools from the category of "school improvement status."

"We're no longer considered that, said Jonathan Braack, the district superintendent. "The district for many years has struggled to meet AYP for different reasons, but the Fremont County School District 38 went into 'improving district status."

That's because the district made efforts to turn around a downward trend in testing scores.

Fremont County is comprised of more than 9,200 square miles of land in the west central part of Wyoming and has a population of more than 40,000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The county extends northwest into both Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Teton National Park. Fremont County is also the historical home of the Wind River Indian Reservation, home of the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho tribes. The reservation was established in 1868. In 2011, the population was 8,177 Arapaho and 3,737 Shoshone on 1.8 million acres of tribal land.

In 2011, the county's population is estimated to be 20 percent Native American. In school district No. 38, that percentage is even greater about 98 percent of Arapahoe school's students enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade (435 of them) are citizens of the Arapaho tribe.

Six years ago, Arapahoe Elementary School, Arapahoe Middle School and Arapahoe Charter High School - comprising the 38th school district - acted to boost testing scores of all students, especially those with the lowest scores, said Braack.

"Our schools are in what's called Safe Harbor, it's a holding status," he

Safe Harbor is a provision of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 that gives a sort of "pass"

to schools and districts that are not making targets for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) but are making progress in student achievement nonetheless. NCLB requires states to test students annually to measure basic skills in order to receive federal education funding. Scores are used to measure progress and indicate areas where improvement is needed. Accountability and meeting set standards are the hallmarks of NCLB's approach to better education, but Safe Harbor was put into place to help "subgroups," including minority populations and the poor, reach goals.

In Wyoming, schools use the Proficiency Assessments Wyoming Students (PAWS) exam to gauge public education in the state and AYP.

About eight years ago, Braack said, the school district began to decline. Standardized test scores in math, reading and other basic skills dipped. It was the beginning of trend that lasted into the 2010-11 school year when the district was given the

NCLB district improvement status. A high employee turn-over rate, inconsistent leadership and "professional isolation" - instructors and individual schools operating with insufficient guidance as to materials and curriculum – are some of the factors that brought about the decline in achievement in reading, writing and math, Braack said.

"Before the turnaround, we didn't have a set curriculum for kindergarten through eighth grade," said Sarah Stoll, an instructional facilitator reading coach who has taught at Arapahoe Elementary for more than 20 years. "There wasn't a consistent base and programs. They were fragmented programs. Kindergarten was doing something different from fourth and fifth grades."

The schools brought their curriculum and materials into alignment by selecting books by the same publisher following a methodology carried through each grade level, making it easier to train instructors and academic coaches when a position was vacated, said Victoria Sherman, principal of Arapahoe Elementary School, which covers grades kindergarten



Arapahoe Schools' students celebrate achievement earlier this year after Wyoming's Fremont County School District No. 38 kindergarten through eighth grades made improvements to its Proficiency Assessments for Wyoming Students test scores from the previous school year. Arapahoe's elementary and middle schools have been removed from district improvement status.

through eighth.

With the addition of supplemental and intervention programs, students needing extra individual attention in basic skills such as reading and math get it from reading and math

As a result of these efforts, the students in Arapaho's K-8 classes have made sufficient improvement, Sherman said.

In Wyoming, most schools previously followed their own curriculum and course standards, but like Fremont County School District No. 38, many have adopted the state's standard, the Common Core State Standards, an initiative adopted by 45 states (Oklahoma included) and three U.S. territories.

"When I came here 22 years ago," Stoll said, "there was no standard."

Math coach David Holbert is in his first year at Arapahoe Schools. When students struggle in class, he works with them during library time during the school day.

"With the interventions going on, we have had tremendous growth," he

Students are making improvement of half a grade level or better, and those gains carry over with students as they graduate from third to fourth and fifth grades and beyond.

"It is very evident that we're not having to dig as deep with kids as we

have in the past," Holbert added. These improvements are good for the district, but they also impact students' self esteem, Sherman said.

U.S. Census data shows the city of Arapahoe had a population of 1,656 at the 2010 Census. It is estimated that more than half of the population 18 and under live below the poverty

Sherman said the district has a high instance of mobile and transient students moving because they live in foster homes or with grandparents and relatives. Sometimes, families move to look for work and return. There are many reasons.

"Anytime there's poverty, you're going to have an instance (of mobile students). You have alcoholism and everything involved with a high poverty area - a lot of the so-called social ills," Sherman added.

The school and its students have been looked down on by some people, Braack said, because of racial barriers and beliefs among some in the area that Native American students are not as intelligent as their non-Native peers. Freemont and other schools have had a bad reputation unfairly given to them.

"Arapaho culture has so much that is sacred and attention placed on teaching children respect, kindness and forgiveness," Braack said. "It's time to teach people to have pride in Araphoe. We want our children to be proud."

With further efforts to include more of the Arapaho language and culture into classrooms and inviting parents to become more involved with the schools, Arapahoe's schools are on the path to making that

At the beginning of the school year, the K-8 grade students enjoyed a day of ice cream, face painting, tugof-war and other fun and games to celebrate achievement on the 2011-12 PAWS Test. The event was an open house event that later hosted a powwow with activities open to everyone. The district celebrates achievement, Sherman said.

"My goal is that we be the top elementary school in the state in the future. I think that's very possible," she added. "Our staff is willing to go to any lengths to make sure our students get a quality education."

## Woman says extra charge for dental procedure wrong, launches Native Citizens Health Care Alliance group

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

PRYOR, Okla. – It started with a toothache.

Earlier this year, Cherokee Nation citizen Ruth Fallon went to the dental clinic for a root canal and crown. After her root canal was completed, she was informed that there was a \$200 charge for a crown – something she said she was not appraised of before her appointment.

"In order to charge a fee, there has to be a bilateral agreement," she said. "You can't just impose it after the fact."

In response, Fallon wrote letters to officials with Indian Health Services and launched the Native Citizens Health Care Alliance. The organization

veteran, earning the Distinguished

Flying Cross, the National Defense

Medal and the Air Force Reserve

Medal, among other awards. After

retiring from the U.S. Air Force in

1960, he worked another 19 years

in the federal civil service program

During his 28 years as chief of

the Wyandotte Nation, Bearskin

oversaw the reinstitution of

the tribe's annual powwow and

participated in the formation of

the Indian Heritage Program at

Northeastern A&M College in

Miami, Okla. During his tenure,

the tribe also obtained grant

funding for its first economic

development project, the Turtle

Stop Convenience Store. The

tribe's clinic and wellness center

He is survived by his wife,

Barbara, two children, nine

grandchildren and 11 great-

tribal headquarters before a

general assembly called by the

tribal council, holding signs with messages such as, "Who is looking

out for the kids of Spirit Lake?" and

"I'm not seeing any progress,"

Theresa Brien, a tribal member

who lives in Grand Forks, said in a

phone interview while picketing on

Nov. 5. "They're not letting people

know what they're doing. They're

basically blowing smoke. We have a

right to know what they're doing."

Brien, one of the organizers of

the protest, said she hopes the

demonstration will motivate other

tribal members to speak out to

demand better and more open

government from tribal leaders.

"Justice for the victims of abuse."

are named for him.

grandchildren.

Continued from Page 1

before retiring in 1979.

is hosting a march outside the Three Rivers Dental Clinic at 1001 S. 41st Street East in Muskogee, Okla., on Nov. 27 at 11 a.m.

"My family has a long history of service to the tribe," she said. "My great-great-grandfather was the first Cherokee Nation Supreme Court justice in both the east and west. This is the first time I've gone to the tribe for health care and I am not impressed."

Amanda Clinton, director of communications for Cherokee Nation, said that according to IHS policy, root canals and crowns are considered two separate procedures for billing and insurance coverage. Normally, the tribe's clinics won't offer a procedure unless it can cover the cost for patients who do not have Medicaid, Medicare

or private insurance. However, crowns are an exception.

"Three Rivers started a pilot program less than a year ago in which they make their own crowns," she said. "They (crowns) are optional, but are suggested for root canal patients.

"They (the Three Rivers Dental Clinic) had never done crowns before this program. The \$200 fee is to cover the costs of the materials used for making the crowns because they're pretty expensive to make."

In late 2011, the Cherokee Nation enacted legislation to allocate an additional 5 percent of casino profits to contract health services, which covers specialty medical needs that might not necessarily be available at IHS facilities. However, those additional

funds are listed in the tribe's 2013 budget as specifically for dentures and eyeglasses. Clinton confirmed that the additional 5 percent does not cover crown costs at Three Rivers and said the tribe is looking for a way to cover those expenses for citizens who do not have Medicaid or Medicare.

In the meantime, Fallon is preparing to make her case known outside the dental clinic and has been reaching out to other groups whose members use Three Rivers Dental Clinic, including the Descendants of Freedmen Association.

"Someone needed to speak up about this," she said. "The Creator might just have picked me."

#### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
CHERYL GOUGE
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM
- News from the crossroads of Indian Country



– MEMBER –



## Tahlequah Recycling

tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

NATIVE
TIMES
recycles with

recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

#### AISES gives highest award to Oklahoma educator

KRYSTAL HARLOW

American Indian Science

American Indian Science and Engineering Society News Release

The Ely S. Parker Award is the highest honor bestowed by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society and is given in honor of the first recognized American Indian scientist/engineer. This award, selected by the AISES Board of Directors, recognizes high achievements and contributions to STEM and educational communities. The Ely S. Parker Award acknowledges innovative contributions, the ability to overcome obstacles facing minorities in their fields, the recipient's scope and level of responsibility, and his/ her potential as a role model. The 2012 Ely S. Parker Award Recipient is Dr. Henrietta Mann.

Henrietta Mann (Whiteman) earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in American Studies from the University of New Mexico, a Master's degree in English from Oklahoma State University, and a Bachelor's degree in Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She is a Cheyenne enrolled with the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, and has served on their tribal government.

Dr. Mann is currently the first President of the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal College, serving as the Special Assistant to the President of

Montana State University – Bozeman, and the Endowed Chair in Native American Studies at Montana State University, Professor Emeritus. She also was director/professor of Native American Studies at the University of Montana, Missoula and a deputy to the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs/Director of the Office of Indian Education Programs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and U.S. Department of the Interior. She is the author of Cheyenne-Arapaho Education, 1871-1982.

Dr. Mann has been awarded many

- Cheyenne Indian of the Year
- National American Indian Woman of the Year
- Rolling Stone magazine's Leading Professors in the NationThe National Women's History
- The National Women's History
   Project's 20th Century Women
   Educator
- Induction into the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame of Southwestern
- Oklahoma State University
   University of New Mexico Alumni
  Association's Bernard S. Rodey Award
- Association's Bernard S. Rodey Award
   The National Indian Education
  Association's Lifetime Achievement
- Working Mother Media's Legacy
   Averd

Dr. Mann serves on several boards and councils:

• NATIVE ACTION



Dr. Henrietta Mann

- American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)
- National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution & Museum
- Native Lands Institute and the Seventh Generation Fund
- National Commission on Head Start Fellowships of the Head Start Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- American Indian Religious Freedom Act Coalition

About AISES: Founded in 1977, AISES is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to substantially increase the representation of American Indian and Alaskan Natives in science, technology, engineering and math fields. More information is available at the AISES website: www.aises.org.

## the Spirit Lake Tribe complained that visible progress was not being made. Protesters gathered outside

ACTOR

throughout the Black Hills. The film highlights the contentious relationship between the tribes and the area's white settlers.

An 1868 treaty set aside the Black Hills and other land for the Sioux, but Congress passed a law in 1877 seizing the land following the discovery of gold in western South Dakota. A 1980 U.S. Supreme Court ruling awarded more than \$100 million to the Sioux tribes for the Black Hills, but the tribes refused to accept the money, saying the land has never been for sale. There are Sioux tribes in the Dakotas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska and Canada.

The video online: http://vimeo.com/53404606 Advertise your
Native-Owned
business in the
Native American Times.

Ask about special rates for Native Owned Small Businesses.
Call Lisa 918-708-5838 or email Lisa@nativetimes.com

# SUPERNAW'S ANNUAL SALE Begins the day after Thanksgiving November 23 10% OFF ON PENDLETON PRODUCTS AND BROADCLOTH

20% OFF ON EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE STORE

HACKLES, SPIKES, FLUFFS, SKINS, BEADS, SHELLS, NEEDLES, THREAD, BLANKETS, SAGE, CEDAR, BROOCHES, LOTS OF JEWELRY EVERYTHING! HURRY!

CASH OR CREDIT CARD ONLY
PURCHASES MUST BE MADE IN THE STORE

OPEN NOON TO 6:00 PM WEEKDAYS - SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM  $\,$ 

SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY 109 NORTH BROADWAY, SKIATOOK, OK 74070 COUNTRYWIDE TOLL FREE 1-888-720-1967 EMAIL: SUPERNAW@FLASH.NET

NATI		<b>A A A</b>	$\mathbf{r}\mathbf{p}$		TT	AATC
INALI	VC/	<b>7 // I</b>		LAN		MITS

Name:	
Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐	<b>1</b> \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues	☐ \$1.25 single copy

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

LISA SNELL | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Gary Davis, President and Ceo; Margo Gray-Proctor, Chairwoman; Urban Giff, Director; Raymond Brown, Treasurer and John Echohawk, Director, joke with the crowd as they ceremonially cut the ribbon Thursday morning, Nov. 15 and officially open the RES OK Procurement & Business Expo at the Hard Rock Casino and Hotel in Catoosa.

## NCAIED hosts first regional conference in Catoosa

■ In addition to the two days of shows, panels and speakers, the organization presented its national awards during RES Oklahoma, including college scholarships, the Jay Silverheels award, the First American Entrepreneurship awards, the First American Corporate Leadership award and recognition of the center's 2012 "40 Under 40" list.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

CATOOSA, Okla. – The National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development hosted its first regional Reservation Economic Summit Nov. 14-15, choosing Oklahoma for its inaugural event.

Since 1980, the organization has hosted an annual national RES event in Las Vegas, featuring speakers, panels, a trade fair and networking opportunities for Native American entrepreneurs, tribal economic and business development decision-makers, tribal leaders, government and corporate executives and buyers seeking Native American suppliers and contractors.

"At our last RES event, more than \$1 billion in contracts were signed in one day," said Margo

Gray-Proctor, chairwoman of NCAIED's board of directors. "That kind of impact is power. It also means opportunity and a chance to combat our social ills."

A piece of that action came to the Hard Rock Casino and Hotel, with two days of panels and networking opportunities for attendees from across the country.

"We've had a turnout that has exceeded our expectations," NCAIED Chief Executive Officer and President Gary Davis said. "It has been phenomenal to see folks come together to our first regional summit. It has been humbling.

"Altogether, the total number of attendees somewhere around 400. We would have been completely happy with 250 and set our projections at that number. To have it exceed it by that much, we just wanted to make sure we had the content and we had the type of event where people literally had an incredible takeaway."

Among the speakers during the two-day event were Lance Morgan, the president and CEO of Ho-Chunk, Inc., former Osage Nation chief Jim Gray and David Hinson, the national director of the United States Minority Business Development Agency. The event also featured a trade show with more than 60 Native-owned businesses and an art market.

In addition to the two days of shows, panels and speakers, the organization presented its national awards during RES Oklahoma, including college scholarships, the Jay Silverheels award, the First American Entrepreneurship awards, the First

American Corporate Leadership award and recognition of the center's 2012 "40 Under 40" list. More than one-fourth of the 2012 "40 Under 40" recipients either live in Oklahoma or are originally from the state.

A second regional RES event is in the planning stages for summer 2013. Although a return trip to Oklahoma is not on the calendar just yet, Davis would not rule out a second RES Oklahoma, in part because of the number of tribally-owned and tribally-operated facilities that could host the event, compared to the number in the Las Vegas area. Due to RES Vegas' growth, only two properties in Las Vegas are now big enough to accommodate attendees and all of the event's sessions at one location. If NCAIED were to move it to a tribally-owned property in the area, the trade show, breakout sessions and other professional events would have to be at a separate convention center, which could create some lodging inconveniences for attendees.

"You can not argue the fact that the state of Oklahoma has an incredible population of Native people and we've had a tremendous support," he said. "Having said that, we have an equal amount of support nationally in attendance from a registrant...and exhibitor point of view.

"We would love to come back in Oklahoma. The facilities at Hard Rock have been very accommodating, but I know there are other tribal facilities in the state of Oklahoma. It would be something we would need to move around and be at other properties."

### **APACHE**

Continued from Page

think that it is just a restaurant and smokeshop because that's all that is there now, but it's much more than that to us," Haozous said. "It is the first step in the repatriation of our tribe to its rightful home."

A lot of thought went into what to put on the sign, officials said. Adding on "Chiricahua Warm Springs Apache," reflects a shift in their identity from Fort Sill Apache back to their original name. The 697-member tribe is the successor to the Chiricahua Warm Springs Apache bands, who were removed to Oklahoma after Geronimo's capture in the 1880s.

An unconditional claim to their former reservation area has been elusive for the Apache band. After buying the land, a Fort Sill Apache smokeshop/restaurant was shifted into a Class II casino that was shut down in 2009 by then New Mexico governor, Bill Richardson, who said the land was not eligible for gaming. The tribe is seeking a two-part determination on the matter from the U.S. Department of Interior, officials said.

Their reservation anniversary ceremony also unveiled a new flag without the words Fort Sill and with the words, Chiricahua/Warm Springs. An official tribal name change is also in the works.

The steps they are taking to regain their place in their original territory don't mean every tribal member is all in for going west (their smokeshop/restaurant is named Apache Homelands). Tribal business committee member, Loretta Buckner, said she sees the tribe's affiliation with New Mexico as historical but has divided loyalties.

"When we were set free in all those years ago, some of us chose to stay," she said. "Oklahoma is home. I was born here. My mother was born in 1913. She was the last allottee and the youngest prisoner of war."

Over the course of a century (the Apache band celebrates the centennial of their release in 2013) the tribe arrived by train in Fort Sill from St. Augustine, Florida to be prisoners of war and later received land allotments in the early 1900s. They eventually established a land claim that paved the way for them to open a small but profitable gaming site in Lawton,

After opening a hotel at their Lawton casino in August, the tribe has turned its full attention and efforts toward New Mexico. They continue lobbying support for a Deming casino among various New Mexico politicians, a mix of pro and anti Fort Sill Apache/ Chiricahua Warm Springs interests.

New Mexico's governor, Susana Martinez continues to oppose the Apaches casino plans although the tribe hopes to find a booster for their cause in newly elected New Mexico Sen. Martin Heinrich, who replaced Sen. Jeff Bingaman, a staunch opponent to their plans. Sen. Heinrich was unavailable for comment, according to his representative, Whitney Potter.

Local Luna County Manager Kelly Kuentsler, said while she can't advocate for other entities, they regard the Fort Sill Apaches favorably.

"Luna County supports economic development in the Akela area," she said.

For them to return a measure would have to be OK'd by the tribe's general counsel (voting tribal members) before it could be realized. In the meantime, the tribe is doing what it can to reacquaint itself with their former territory while pushing for a way to make it happen.

"The problem with returning to the land is that we have no way to finance it," Haozous said. "That's why we are seeking to open a casino here, to provide opportunities for our members to move to the homeland with a job..."

## **HEADDRESS**

Continued from Page 1

compassion or bravery. Some modern-day Native American leaders have received war bonnets in ceremonies accompanied by prayers and songs.

"When you see a Lakota chief wearing a full headdress, you know that he was a very honorable man. He was a leader. He did a lot of honorable things for his people," said Michelle Spotted Elk, a Santa Cruz, California, woman of mixed heritage whose husband is Lakota. "It also has religious significance. With them, there's not a division between spirituality and their leadership."

Victoria's Secret model Karlie Kloss walked onto the runway last week wearing the floor-length feathered headdress, leopard-print underwear and high heels. She also was adorned with fringes and turquoise jewelry during a segment meant to represent the 12 months of the year – fireworks in July, rain gear for April and a headdress for November.

Kloss herself posted on Twitter that she was "deeply sorry if what I wore during the VS Show offended anyone."

Thousands of people have commented about the outfit on the company's Facebook page. Some praised Kloss' attire as artistic and urged those offended by it to "get over it." Several expressed appreciation to Victoria's Secret for halting its marketing approach for the clothing, and others reached back in history to explain their feelings.

"We have gone through the atrocities to survive and ensure our way of life continues," Navajo Nation spokesman Erny Zah said in an interview Monday. "Any mockery, whether it's Halloween, Victoria's Secret – they are spitting on us. They are spitting on our culture, and it's upsetting."

The Victoria's Secret stir follows a string of similar incidents. Paul Frank Industries Inc. and the band No Doubt ran into criticism earlier this year for their use of headdresses in clothing and parties, and in a cowboys-and-Indians-themed video, respectively. They offered apologies as well.

Last year, Urban Outfitters Inc. set off a firestorm of criticism with its line of Navajobranded clothing and accessories – particularly underwear and a liquor flask, which the tribe said was "derogatory and scandalous."

Abaki Beck was among a handful of Native American students who hosted a discussion last week at a private liberal arts college in St. Paul, Minnesota, on Native American culture in fashion and sports. She said companies first must learn from the mistake of ignoring Native American history and then make an effort to engage with Indian Country.

She wanted more than a short apology from Victoria's Secret instead of what she said sounded like an automated response.

"But perhaps that is an unrealistic hope," said the 19-year-old member of the Blackfeet Nation of Montana. "It is all about business, after all."

Jennie Luna, who is Chicana and Caxcan, said society largely is ignorant toward indigenous spirituality and doesn't understand what should not be marketed commercially. She and others say more education about Native American cultures is needed.

"We are people; we're not a fashion statement," Luna said. "We are people who are facing serious issues, and for them to further perpetuate the type of stereotypes and disregard for a community's way of life is unacceptable."

ReGina Zuni's advice to companies looking to market Native American culture is to hire Native Americans who have knowledge of tribal traditions, cultures and customs.

However, her reaction to hearing about the Victoria's Secret headdress wasn't outrage about the clothing itself, but about the lack of attention on health care, education, housing and other issues in Indian Country.

"To each his own," said Zuni, of Isleta Pueblo in New Mexico. "But seriously, if people want to grab media attention on Indian issues, this is not the issue to advance and place in the spotlight."

#### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program.

Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

#### Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!

#### PEARY L. ROBERTSON ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

INDIAN LAW | PROBATE | CRIMINAL LAW DIVORCE | SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY STATEWIDE REPRESENTATION

1700 N. Milt Phillips Ave., Seminole, Okla.



## COMMENTARY

## Open Carry a fact for Oklahoma, but not Indian Country



S.E. RUCKMAN

At midnight of the first day of the eleventh month, a different day dawned in Oklahoma. A new law went into effect that will undoubtedly change a few things around here. The "Open Carry" statute allows gun holders (who are trained and licensed) to publicly carry their guns. Make no mistake it signals a return to a time when this kind of gun-toting dress was de rigueur.

Advocates of this law cite that openly carrying (and swaggering) with the weight of one's gun is the hip and trendy thing to do among states. One news source cites that 14 other states have similar laws (all located in the west and even Connecticut). At the same time, Oklahoma's gubernatorial office puts it at 22 states with like statutes. This must be a reminder that if all of our friends are willing to jump off a cliff, we here in Oklahoma will start looking for a suitable launching point.

The law brings me no comfort. I have travelled to some of the states where similar Open Carry season exists and I don't recall seeing a firearm brandished yet. As the brainchild of Oklahoma state senator Anthony Sykes (a Republican attorney from Newcastle), the successful

Senate Bill 1733 prevailed with the assertion that responsible gun-owning behavior in Oklahoma thrives. Incredibly, the sight of a gun brandished by qualified gun toters may even be a deterrent to the irresponsible ones.

Somewhere in all this is bound to be room for contradiction. Let's talk tribal here. Like a tree falling in the forest, does it makes a sound if no one is there to hear it? Likewise, does a state law have substance in Indian Country where it has no legal heft? The answer here is even murkier when it is a non-Indian on federally sanctioned tribal lands carrying said firearms that he might use against an

One tribal law enforcement officer said that they have been told that the new law cannot apply blindly in Oklahoma mainly due to jurisdictional

complications. Despite a long ago era where our warriors were elegant Open Carriers, the issues at stake here move us past ordering a cool gun holster so we can imitate our forefathers.

Open any door to an Oklahoma tribal casino and look for sign. I mean the one marked by a tiny gun with a line drawn through it, a symbolism that one can interpret as a ban against all guns. Gun enthusiasts will have to suppress themselves or seek their gambling fix elsewhere.

In a place with 38 federally recognized tribes, crisscrossing jurisdictions is a legal reality and not an imaginary state (no pun intended). Open Carry is an issue that tribes will likely have to address individually since each tribal jurisdiction is a separate territory in the eyes

of the federal government. And make no mistake, tribes guard their sovereignty.

Absurdly, the law also restricts gun carrying on property where privately ownedbusinesseshavedeemed it unfit. This also lends to the argument that Oklahoma's new open carry law borders on being superfluous, kind of like putting a tail on a snake. But if a gun owner wants to brandish their gun, the choice now exists.

The irony of this situation must be pointed out here. Over a century after Oklahoma came into being in 1907, the mindset has evolved to resurrect a questionable mentality that was once accepted without question. Indeed, urbane citizens in Oklahoma wonder what kind of message the new law sends

to the rest of the country. I offer outsiders will view Oklahoma as a throwback to the Wild West. Only in these parts, it's the law.

In November the legal reality of Oklahoma's Open Carry became a fact. But one clear point is that the newly liberated gun carriers will not be able to carry their weapons in Indian Country, unless each tribe allows it in their respective jurisdiction.

S.E. Ruckman is a citizen of the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes in Anadarko, Okla. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma's School of Journalism and has written for the Tulsa World and is currently a special contributor to the Native American Times. She is a freelance writer who is based in Oklahoma.

## Sweating a little blood in Indian Country



**Notes from Indian Country** 

**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

A famous columnist once wrote, "It is easy to write a weekly column. All you have to do is sit in front of your typewriter until you sweat blood."

Of course the typewriter has long since been replaced by the computer, but that concept of writing a weekly column still holds true.

I bring this up for a variety of reasons. First off, this year will mark my 34th year of writing a weekly column. In those 34 years I have written somewhere in the neighborhood of 1, 768 columns. Some were good enough to win prestigious awards, some were mediocre, and others just plain awful, but over the years I persisted.

There are sources one can go to in researching facts and figures for a column, but at other times, especially when writing about the distant past, one has to rely entirely upon a good memory. I don't know if it is just a cliché or a medical fact, but one does lose a certain amount of recall when reaching a certain age.

When one writes a weekly column for as long as I have, it should go without saying that there will be critics of all stripes. But it is a realism that comes with the territory.

One critic took exception to an article I wrote about the massacre at Wounded Knee because I wrote that my grandmother, Sophie, was a student at Holy Rosary Mission, about 15 miles from

Wounded Knee, when the massacre occurred. The critic called me, and in a backhanded way, my grandmother, liars. I have a copy of a year book published by the priests at Holy Rosary Mission that points out the irrefutable fact that my grandmother was on the grounds of the mission school on December 29, 1890, the day of the massacre. I also have my grandmother's word.

As the years have passed I find that this particular critic takes exception to everything I write and speaking to other columnists I find that many of them have one critic in particular who never ceases to criticize them at every turn.

If one writes anything that is open for public scrutiny one can expect feedback, sometimes good sometimes horrible. I always taught the reporters that worked for me at my weekly newspaper not to be afraid of criticism and not to censor letters to the editor that were critical of the newspaper, the reporters or the management.

There were letters that came into my newspaper calling me an SOB and worse. Without hesitation they were published, but there were times we had to clean up the language a bit in order not to offend our readers. Sadly this is not true of many of the Indian owned newspapers and magazines published today. Indian Country Today magazine, which was a newspaper when I sold it to the Oneida Nation of New York State, will not print letters to the editor.

consensus newspapers and magazines owned by tribal governments seems to be that tribal governments are criticism. Some of the criticisms they receive would be valid and others just so much political palaver, but it shouldn't matter because every member of the tribe should have the freedom to criticize. The Oneida Nation and several other tribal governments do not believe this is so. Freedom of the press and of expression is not always

available in Indian country.

As long as I continue to write my weekly column I know that there will be those I will offend, there will be those that will nit-pick each word and paragraph, and there will be those with legitimate complaints of errors I may have committed. And there will be those who would criticize every column I write.

Criticism can hurt and threats oftentimes come with the criticism and since I am only human, there will be times when I will err and the criticism is well deserved. There are also racists out there that tear into anything I write and, I am proud to say, there are those who truly appreciate the things I write about and some have even gone so far as to say some of the things I have written over the years has affected and even changed their very lives.

Over these 34 years of writing I have spoken to Native Americans that pursued careers in journalism, movie directing, publishing their

own newspapers, and become professors of journalism or write books because of something I wrote that inspired them.

In the long run, this should be the real test of any writer. To bring about change simply through the written word has proven to me that the pen is mightier than the sword. So after 34 years I can say thank you to my fans as well as to my critics. Both have made me a better writer and a better person. And every week, I'm still sweating a little blood.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He was the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association, a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, and he was inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame in 2007 and is the recipient of the H.L. Mencken

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465. To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.



Do you know how to speak Cherokee, but cannot read and write the language?

Do your children have difficulty grasping the language?

Are you new to the Cherokee language and looking for a quick and effective way to learn?

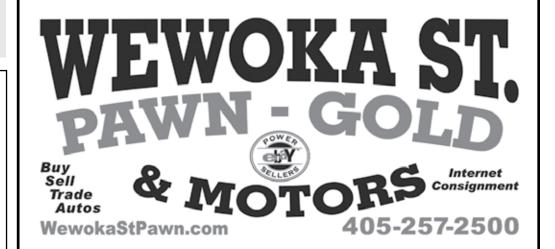
Our Cherokee Syllabary workbook is the first building block in Simply Cherokee's catalogue of tools for learning to read, write, and speak the Cherokee language. Inside these pages you will find the fastest - and most effective! - way to learn the Cherokee Syllabary. Each syllabary has a simple story containing a word with the syllbary's unique sound. After completing the workbook, you will remember the story and the key word whenever you see a syllabary. Cherokee Syllabary is designed for fast assimilation. And when you are done, just move on to the next book. You'll be fluent as simply as that!

Flash cards available too!

## www.simplycherokee.com

(918) 708-5008 • info@simplycherokee.com

American Indian Owned & Operated Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK

"Where every day is Indian Day"

### NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to: *lisa@nativetimes.com* 

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

#### **Development Director**

Denver/Boulder Metro or Albuquerque Area

The Notah Begay III Foundation seeks a Development Director to create. implement and manage fundraising activities for our Native youth health and wellness organization. The director will oversee a major donor program, annual campaign, foundation grants, sponsorships marketing/communications. Significant fundraising experience and previous management of development team is required. Background in Native American issues and/or youth sports/ wellness desired.

For a full job description and to apply, please visit: http://nb3foundation. org/development-director.html Tuesday, December 18, 2012.

#### **NATIVE AMERICAN** HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

#### Surveillance Director – Comanche Nation Gaming Commission

The Surveillance Director is responsible for managing activities of all CNGC Surveillance operations and personnel. Maintains communication between the Executive Director and the Casino Management regarding compliance issues. Regulates adherence to all regulatory, departmental, and casino policies and procedures, including the tribal internal controls system (TICS) and minimum internal control system (MICS). Responsible for developing & managing the departmental budget. Must possess ability to manage multiple large projects. Develops RFP's for quoted bids for Surveillance system & equipment. Must possess ability to effectively present detailed written reports and oral presentations. Required 2 years tribal gaming experience. Conditions of employment with the CNGC include passing a pre-employment drug test, a background investigation to secure a gaming license and successfully completing a three-month introductory period. Candidates for this position will be required to have dependable transportation available to them. CNGC is an at-will employer. Send all resumes to tabitham@comanchegc.com or contact Tabitha at (580) 595-3300.

MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS EVERY DAY. VISIT ONLINE AT NATIVETIMES.COM



is currently hiring Entry-level Drivers from

**CALL TODAY** 405-254-5556

**Tribal assistance** available

(to those who qualify)



#### **Life Skills and Transition Teacher**

Oaks Indian Mission is looking to recruit a Life Skills and Transition Teacher. Residents of Oaks Indian Mission need direction in developing post-graduation goals to ensure their continued success in life. The Transition Teacher will develop programs to ensure that the residents are connected to colleges, vocational education institutions, and training to develop personal competency to live healthy successful lives.

#### **DUTIES TO INCLUDE:**

• Developing a sustainable program that will link residents with continuing education

- · Developing training to ensure that the residents can live independently after
- Provide training to ensure active vocational counseling for post-graduation needs. Walking residents through college admission process. Serving as the liaison with
- multiple colleges for the residents. • Teaching residents how to apply for jobs.
- Teaching residents how to apply for health care services.
- Teaching residents how to develop a personal budget. Teaching residents how to develop personal achievable goals.
- Teaching residents how to take the ACT as well as how to study to improve their academic goals through life.
- Tutoring and monitoring after school at the recreation center on campus is an essential component of the position.
- Attending school events to support students as well as being present at IEP meetings.

The position includes health and dental as part of salary package. Housing is available. Starting Salary at \$21,000. Teaching license a plus.

#### TO APPLY:

Oaks Indian Mission P.O. Box 130 Oaks, OK 74359 Fax (918) 868-3804 Or email resume as pdf to trygve.jorgensen@oaksindianmission.org

Position closes Nov. 27, 2012

## **Big Brothers Big Sisters** of Oklahoma

Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · **Beadwork** Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

#### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers

License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

#### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

#### **Chief Executive Office State Of Oklahoma**

**Oklahoma Health Care Authority** \$133.5K- \$152K/+ Incentives & State Benefits!

The selected candidate for this position will be responsible for managing and directing the operations and activities of a 500 person State Agency with an operations budget of 5.2 billion dollars in the pursuit of the primary stated mission:

To purchase all State-funded health care in the most efficient and comprehensive manner possible, and to study and recommend strategies for containing costs and optimizing the delivery of health care in State programs.

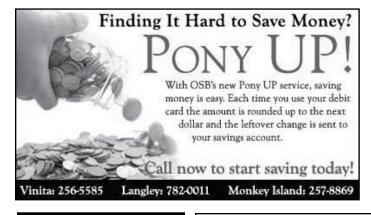
The desired candidate will have an advanced degree (MA) or equivalent in a field substantially related to the public delivery of health care, including but not limited to: Medicine, Law, Public Health, Health Care Administration, Business Administration, Public Administration, Finance, Economics; and 6 to 10 years directly related experience including managed care administrative experience. Preferred experience will be in the area of management and administration related to the delivery of Medicaid funded health care.

Please submit a resume and cover letter no later than Monday, December 3, 2012 to the following address:

> Oklahoma HealthCare Authority Attn. Human Resources 2401 N.W. 23rd St., Suite A-1 Oklahoma City, OK 73107 **Equal Opportunity Employer**

Or by email to: howard.pallotta@okhca.org

Native American Owned Business? Let the Native American Community know! The Native American Times is the most widely circulated weekly newspaper in Oklahoma. Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838





**True American Indian** www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

**Learn the Entire Cherokee Syllabary: In Just 2 Days Simply Cherokee Syllabary Course** Sat. & Sun. – December 8-9, 2012



Ho Chee Nee Chapel, **Cherokee Heritage Center** Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Tulsa Metro Area

HANDYMAN

Painting • Drywall Repair

Odd Jobs

Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks

(918) **708-5008** • info@simplycherokee.com

#### WANTED

#### *NATIVE AMERICAN* INDIAN GOODS

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

## SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

### **Metal Roofing & Siding**

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

## CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** 

Loans up to \$500.00 918-696-0407

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm • Saturday 9am-1pm

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

#### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



⊩www.ganica.net

918-857-3983 nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"

ecycling tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856

ahlequah

"Changing the culture of waste."



At Osage Casino, we're all about getting bigger and better. We're breaking ground on two brand-new Casinos, one in Ponca City and another in Skiatook. Grand Openings are slated for late 2013. Take a look at all the exciting new features we'll be able to offer!

- New Casino
- Pub/Sports Bar
- Table Games
- Expanded Electronic Gaming Floor
- Casual Restaurant
- Hotel
- Fitness Center
- Business Center
- Outdoor Pool and Spa
- Grab & Go Coffee Bar
- Conference Center
- Banquet and Event Catering
- Convenience Store with Gas Pumps



**TULSA BARTLESVILLE** 

**SAND SPRINGS PONCA CITY** 

(918) 699-7777 • osagecasinos.com •

**SKIATOOK HOMINY** 

**PAWHUSKA** 

Like us on Facebook!



©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights

## EVENTS

#### **EVERY THURSDAY** The Otoe-Missouria Substance

**Abuse and Behavioral Health** Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

#### **SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association**

meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

#### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee **Indian Health Center to enroll all** Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724. **EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales – from 4:00 – 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** 

**Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530. **EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320

S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City

www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, **Oklahoma City** 

#### YOUTH COUNCIL

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

#### THROUGH NOVEMBER Kiowa Language Class, Fall

semester, every Wednesday, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor: Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337, e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

#### **THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part

exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche Nation. Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www.

#### comanchemuseum.com

**NOVEMBER 23-25 Thanksgiving Celebration at Chickasaw Cultural Center, 867 Charles Cooper Memorial Drive in** Sulphur, Okla. Guided tours of the Traditional Village, complete with hot chocolate, will be conducted throughout the day. A miniature holiday ornament class and a children's Christmas tree workshop are planned. A Stomp Dance demonstration will be conducted at 11 a.m. in the Traditional Village Friday and Saturday.

#### **NOVEMBER 24**

Native American Christmas Market, Sapulpa Elks Lodge, 24 S. Poplar, Sapulpa. Featuring artists Dana Tiger and Tom Barnett. Info call 918-852-0017

#### **DECEMBER 1**

4th Annual Native American **Craft Show sponsored by the OKC** Chickasaw Elders, at Graceway Baptist Church, 1100 SW 104th in Oklahoma City from 9:00 - 3:00. For vendor information contact Pat Bartmess, 405-703-09889.

#### **DECEMBER 1**

**Shawnee & Tecumseh schools** Indian Education powwow at **Shawnee Expo Center** Contest powwow!

#### **DECEMBER 5**

**VA Enrollment Fair at Claremore** Indian Hospital to help veteran

patients apply for eligibility for health care services at the VA hospitals and clinics. Bring your DD214 or military discharge papers to Conference Room #1, 9am-3pm. Representatives will be on hand to help with the application process and answer questions. Please RSVP at the Claremore Indian Hospital 918-342-6240 or 918-342-6607 by Dec. 4

#### **DECEMBER 7**

The Life and Art of T.C. Cannon- An hour discussion beginning at 6:30 pm about T.C. Cannon, renowned Kiowa/Caddo artist by his friends. This event is open to the public with museum admission. Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium, Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, Univerisity of Oklahoma, Norman. Info call (405) 325-4938

#### **DECEMBER 20**

**Annual Bykes 4 Tykes Community Children's Christmas Party** The party will be at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 22 at the Pawnee Nation Roundhouse on the Pawnee Nation Reserve in Pawnee. There will be a drawing for bicycles for children of the community. Also, all children receive candy sacks and Santa hats. Santa and Pawnee Bill and his horse will be at the party. Bring a camera to have your pictures taken with both and join in the carols. For more information, call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041.

\*Want to make a donation to Bykes

4 Tykes? Call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041 or reach him by mail at the address: 812 Granite St., Pawnee, OK, 74058. Bykes 4 Tykes will accept donations up to the day of the Dec. 22 Christmas party for the purchase of additional children's bicycles.

#### **DECEMBER 31**

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999 **JUNE 29, 2013 Murrow Indian Children's Home Benefit Powwow at Bacone College** Palmer Center, 2299 Old Bacone Rd, Muskogee. Contest powwow, free admission. All Royalties, **Drums, Singers and Dancers Invited** Info contact Betty R Martin / Stella Pepiakitah (918)682-2586 murrowhomedirector@gmail.com

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

> New at nativetimes.com Enter your powwow info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select **Powwow Entry**

### AAIP offering antiobesity campaign toolkit, materials

AAIP News Release

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) has recently employed a new media campaign aimed to raise awareness of the obesity epidemic in Indian Country.

According to the Center for Disease Control, obesity rates in America have tripled in the past 30 years and one in every three children in the United States is obese. Those numbers are even more astronomical for the American Indian and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) – where citizens are 1.6 times as likely to be obese than Non-Hispanic whites. A separate national study of 4-year-olds shows that tribal youth are twice as likely to be obese as their peers.

"To help bring awareness to these troubling numbers, AAIP created a media campaign that we hope will be both informative and humorous. We wanted to tap into the generation using and sharing social media," said AAIP Executive Director Margaret Knight. "There are changes we can make to prevent the chronic diseases and mortality rates associated with obesity. And we are hoping this message is fun but also accessible and reaches tribal citizens on the media outlets they use daily."

Oklahoma-based Buffalo Nickel Creative created the videos and accompanying posters for AAIP.

AAIP Program Director Noelle Kleszynski said the look is fun but the message is serious for Native families. She said the campaign offers some ideas about creating better access for healthy eating and exercise

"Creating real changes that are systemic, environmental, and policy driven will improve and extend the lives of treasured elders and growing children," Kleszynski. "We must address the obesity issue head-on and replicate successful programs that build environments conducive to physical activity and increase access to nutritious food."

Kleszynski said grassroots solutions are possible with an inspired community.

"We hope the media campaign is something people will share and create a domino effect with its message that we can develop and offer healthier food choices for families at the local level, that we can build physical activity into everyday life and that we can work with tribal leaders to generate policies that promote these ideas," Kleszynski said.

For more information or to order the AAIP's anti-obesity media campaign toolkit, visit www. aaip.org or call (405) 946-7072.

# Learning to love bison as the other red meat

J.M. HIRSCH
AP Food Editor

Nothing says "Yum!" like a bit of nomenclatural confusion... Especially with a side of near extinction.

But that's what you get once you venture down the culinary path with bison, an alternative red meat that is showing up at more and more grocers nationwide. And these massive shaggy creatures are such a delicious – and good for us – meat, it's worth sorting it all

So let's start with the name. The critter you know as the American buffalo (yes, of rolling plains and Native American fame) really isn't a buffalo at all. Turns out there are only a few types of buffalo in the world (including the Asian water buffalo and African Cape buffalo). The American buffalo (technically a bison) is more closely related to your run-of-the-mill cow.

Still, people tend to use the terms interchangeably and we're not going to get too bent out of shape over it.

Once, bison were hunted to near extinction. But they've made a pretty good turnaround and these days are raised primarily for consumption. Why do you care? Because bison meat (which is raised without hormones or antibiotics) can be incredibly tender and flavorful, with a sweet, rich beefy flavor.

It also happens to be amazingly lean, packing fewer calories and less fat than beef and even skinless chicken.

That low-fat profile comes with a price, however. Like any lean meat, bison has a tendency to cook quickly, so quickly that it's easy to overcook it. And that is why bison has a reputation for being tough. It isn't. If you have bison that is tough, that just means it was overcooked.

Though bison is available in most of the same cuts as traditional beef, the most common varieties at grocers are ground and steaks. We'll stick with those.

You can use bison much as you would beef. The trick is to modify the cooking method (rather than the flavors or other ingredients) to account for the leanness.

When cooking ground bison, it's best to work in some sort of liquid flavor to keep the meat moist. This might mean eggs or tomato paste for a meatloaf, or some sort of pan sauce or gravy if you are browning it in a skillet. That also makes it ideal for meatballs simmered in sauce or for using in chili.

For bison steaks, think fast and furious. Season them, then pop them under the broiler or on the grill for just a few minutes per side.

### SEARED BISON WITH SAGE AND GNOCCHI

Start to finish: 15 minutes | Servings: 6

- 1 pound package gnocchi pasta
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced

Direction of the second of the second

Pinch red pepper flakes

1 1/2 pounds bison steak, thinly sliced across the grain

1/4 cup chopped fresh sage 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese Salt and ground black pepper

Bring a large saucepan of salted water to a boil. Add the gnocchi and cook according to package directions. Reserve 1/4 cup of the cooking water, then drain the gnocchi and set aside.

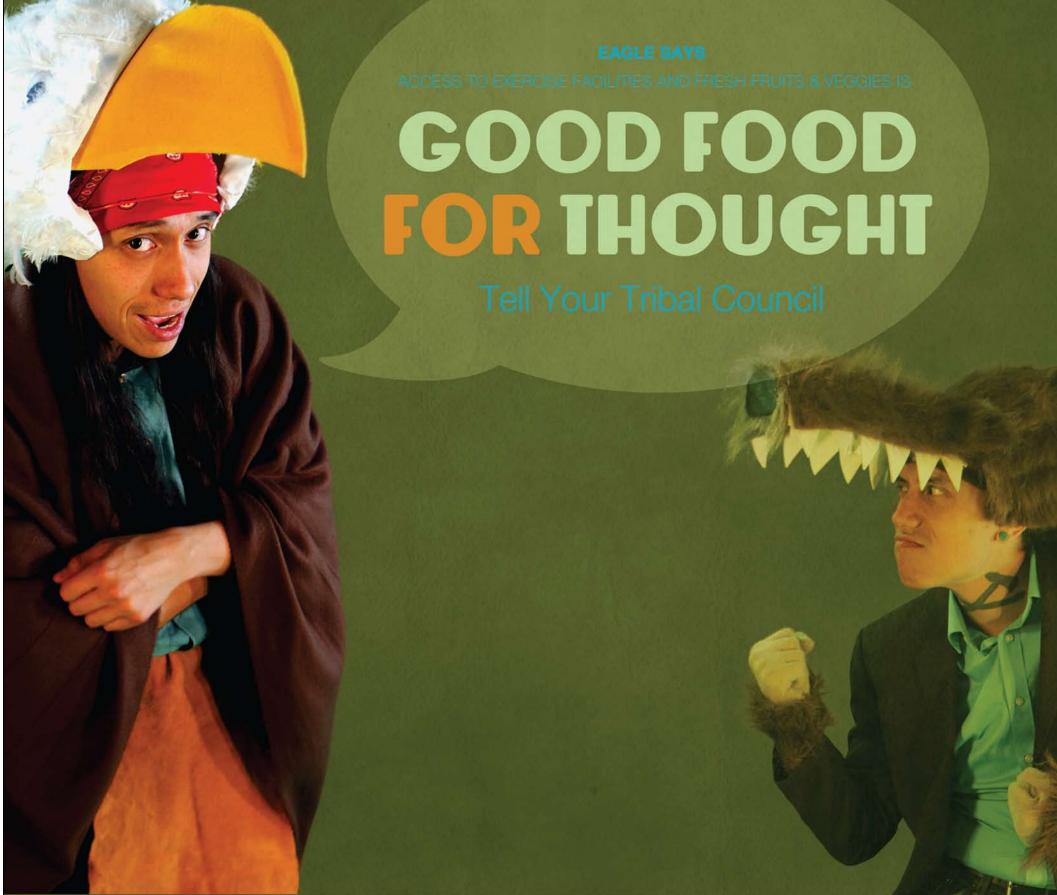


In a large skillet over medium-high, heat the oil. Add the garlic and red pepper flakes, then saute the garlic for 30 seconds.

Add the steak and sear on each side for about 1 minute. Don't crowd the pan or the steak with steam rather than sear. If needed, work in batches.

Once the steak is seared, add the sage and cooked gnocchi. Cook for 30 seconds, then add the Parmesan. Drizzle in just enough of the reserved cooking water to form a sauce with the melted cheese. Toss, then season with salt and pepper.

**Nutrition information per serving** (values are rounded to the nearest whole number): 360 calories; 90 calories from fat (26 percent of total calories); 10 g fat (4 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 80 mg cholesterol; 32 g carbohydrate; 34 g protein; 2 g fiber; 640 mg sodium.





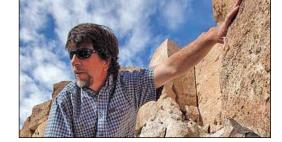
For more information, visit www.aaip.org



### **Inside this issue:**

- Ancient rock carvings stolen
- Tribe employs aggressive culture program
- Giago: Playing both sides

TODAY'S INDEPENDENT TRIBAL NEWS







- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 47

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**NOVEMBER 30, 2012** 

# Okla. legislator raising stink over Muscogee (Creek) naming rights deal



Rep. Don Armes, R-Faxon

■ Don Armes, R-Faxon, calls the tribe's investment "an obvious effort to circumvent terms of a compact."

**LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON** *Native American Times* 

OKLAHOMA CITY - An Oklahoma legislator has requested an investigation into a tribe's recent transaction with Tulsa County officials.

Rep. Don Armes (R-Faxon) announced Nov. 19 that he asked Gov. Mary Fallin and Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt to look into the proceedings surrounding the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's acquisition of the naming rights to the Expo Square at the Tulsa County Fairgrounds, citing concerns over the Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority's transparency and the potential economic impact the deal's stipulations may have.

Earlier this month, officials with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation announced

the \$1.44 million purchase, which will remain in effect at least through 2019. The agreement, which was approved unanimously without comment by the Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority, included a provision that would end live horse racing at Fair Meadows, a track located on the eastern edge of the fairgrounds, thus cutting out millions of dollars in gaming compact funds that were used to supplement race purses at tracks across Oklahoma.

"This is about greed and the willful and blatant disregard of the rule of law and should not be allowed to stand," Armes said. "This job-killing, industry-terminating deal does not pass the smell test.

"What appears to be an obvious effort to circumvent terms of a compact needs to be exposed before

See NAMING Continued on Page 4

# Tribe seeks to turn corner in its history

MATTHEW BROWN
Associated Press

BILLIINGS, Mont. (AP) – Montana's Little Shell tribe appeared poised to fade from history in recent years after it was denied federal government recognition, lost its financial support from the state and saw its elected leadership splinter.

But the past year has brought a sharp turnaround for the 4,500-member landless tribe that long has existed on society's fringe.

Tribal enrollment is on the rise. Government grant money is flowing again. A Little Shell cultural and visitor center opened this month in Great Falls. And a new council, sworn in Sunday, is considering launching future

business enterprises to make the tribe self-sufficient – even as the battle for government recognition grinds on.

"We're starting to operate as a tribe once again," said Gerald Gray, incoming chairman for the Little Shell Chippewa Tribe.

Hard times and misfortune are familiar to the Little Shell, who struggled to stay together through more than a century of poverty and dislocation.

Gray and others from the tribe said they are determined to shape a more hopeful future. That includes using the cultural center to strengthen their shared heritage and creating employment opportunities through business ventures and the tribal office.

See TRIBE Continued on Page 4

# Judge declines access to frozen C&A funds

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

ARAPAHO, Okla. – A Custer County District Court judge denied an application last week to access frozen Cheyenne and Arapaho tribal funds.

Citing an appeal pending before the Oklahoma Supreme Court, judge Doug Haught declined to allow three tribal programs access to frozen contract funds.

"I don't know how long it will be until the (Oklahoma) Supreme Court rules, but I will not grant any requests until then," Haught said during Monday morning's hearing. "When and if they take action, then that will obviously change."

The appeal comes on a previous decision by Haught to place the tribes' bank accounts under the supervision of the Custer County District Court due to an ongoing leadership dispute between Janice Prairie Chief-Boswell and Leslie Wandrie-Harjo. Officials from either government attempting to withdraw funds must contact the court and the other government in writing before any removals are

allowed. Prairie Chief-Boswell's administration has filed the Supreme Court appeal and maintains that the district court does not have the jurisdiction to hear the bank's suit since it involves as sovereign nation.

Using figures from the tribes' 2008 budget, Thomas Ivester, a Sayre, Okla.-based attorney representing the Wandrie-Harjo recognized legislature, filed the request last month to access federal contract funds for the tribes' elder nutrition program, emergency youth shelter and Indian Child Welfare office using figures from the tribes' 2008 budget.

"These three programs were chosen in part because we thought they would be universally accepted," he said. "The 2008 budget was chosen because that was the last universally accepted budget.

"These are all programs funded by federal contracts and are monitored by the BIA."

Had the application been allowed, Ivester also asked that the Western Oklahoma regional office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Anadarko, Okla., be notified so the office can closely monitor the drawdowns.

Although Haught acknowledged that he opened the door for the legislature's appeal through comments in a previous hearing, he also declined to take action on whether the legislature from either administration has the legal standing to request access to the funds. In the lawsuit, filed by the Clinton, Okla.-based First Bank and Trust, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Wandrie-Harjo and Prairie Chief-Boswell are all named as defendants, but neither legislature is specifically

"I know we need to set a hearing to determine whether either legislature has legal standing," Haught said. "However, I won't just yet until the Supreme Court gets a look at this case"

Excluding the workers at their five western Oklahoma casinos, the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes employ about 500 people. More than 12,000 people are enrolled in the constitutionally-bound tribes, including about 5,000 who live within the tribes' nine-county jurisdictional



RION SANDERS | AP PHOTO/THE GREAT FALLS TRIBUN

In this Saturday, Nov. 3, 2012 photo, Henry Anderson delivers a prayer during the grand opening of the Little Shell Chippewa Cree visitor center in Great Falls, Mont.

# More celebs help tribes' push for sacred land



P Diddy and Bette Midler are the latest big names to throw their support behind a fundraising effort to buy nearly 2,000 acres (800 hectares) of pristine prairie grass in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, South Dakota (AP) – More celebrities are backing an online campaign to raise money so that Native American tribes in South Dakota can purchase land they consider sacred.

P Diddy and Bette Midler are the latest big names to throw their support behind a fundraising effort to buy nearly 2,000 acres (800 hectares) of pristine prairie grass in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Three days after the campaign began, P Diddy tweeted: "Help save the Sioux Nation! Click here," and linked to the website. Midler also lent her voice, tweeting: "Incredible story re the Sioux Sacred Grounds. Donate what you can."

More than \$18,000 had been raised as of Sunday afternoon – \$6,000 flowed in immediately after P Diddy's tweet. The campaign will

last through Nov. 30, when the tribes of the Great Sioux Nation must have \$9 million in order to purchase the land.

The tribes have raised \$7 million

so far for the 1,942 acres (786 hectares), which they call Pe' Sla (pay shlaw), or "old baldy." There are Sioux tribes in the Dakotas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska and Canada.

The property is important to their

The property is important to their creation story, and tribal members have long held ceremonies there. When the land was put up for sale, tribal members worried it would be developed because of its proximity to Mount Rushmore.

Landowners Leonard and Margaret Reynolds canceled a public auction of the property earlier this year after tribal members expressed outrage. The Reynolds then accepted the tribes' bid to purchase the land for \$9

See LAND Continued on Page 3

# **Snag in church abuse** lawsuit negotiations

**MATT VOLZ Associated Press** 

HELENA, Mont. (AP) Settlement negotiations between hundreds of alleged sex abuse victims and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Helena may have hit a snag with the church's insurers refusing to cover the claims.

The insurers and the diocese are locked in a dispute over the terms and conditions of the diocese's insurance policies that date back to the 1970s - and whether some policies even existed. The sides disagree on how policies apply to the 324 claims of sex abuse stretching back decades by priests and nuns in homes, churches and school across western Montana.

The claims are from two combined lawsuits filed last year against the diocese and the Ursuline Sisters of the Western Province. The plaintiffs, many of them Native Americans, say the diocese and the sisters knew or should have known about the abuse, but covered it up instead of stopping it.

Attorneys for the alleged victims filed a legal complaint in state court on Nov. 14 asking for a declaratory judgment determining the scope and extent of the policies issued by the insurers.

Later that day, three of the diocese's insurers led by Travelers Casualty and Surety Co. filed a separate complaint in federal court asking for a ruling that they have no obligation to defend or indemnify the diocese.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs said Tuesday they object to the federal filing because the original lawsuit is in state court and that is the proper venue to decide state law.

"If the issues become an obstacle

to settlement, then it's before a Montana court," attorney Gary Zadick said.

The negotiations with the diocese are still progressing, but the purpose behind the filing is to ensure there is enough money, including insurance money, available to compensate the plaintiffs, attorney Milt Datsopoulos said.

Travelers spokeswoman Jennifer Wislocki said she could not comment on pending litigation.

The alleged victims' complaint says the 13 named insurance companies all issued policies covering the diocese or the Ursulines, and the insurers are now obligated to defend them against the claims.

The complaint by three insurance companies led by Travelers says the insurers have no obligation to defend the diocese or pay out any claims. In a complex legal argument, the insurers claim the dioceses' insurance policies did not actually exist, or else were canceled or lost.

But if the policies actually exist, the insurers go on, they did not include liability coverage unless liability forms were included by mistake - a mistake the insurer did not discover until after the sex-abuse lawsuit was filed.

And even if a judge rules the policies included liability coverage, the insurers' argument concludes, the diocese breached its contract because it did not notify the insurers the abuse was happening.

As a result, evidence has been lost, and victims, witnesses and perpetrators have died, and the diocese forfeited any right to coverage as a result of its breach of policy, the insurers claim.

# Woman, 3 grandkids killed on N. Dakota reservation

**JAMES MACPHERSON** Associated Press

NEW TOWN, N.D. (AP) - A wellkept northwestern North Dakota home teemed with FBI investigators Monday as they tried to piece together evidence in the grisly weekend shooting deaths of a woman and three negligent manslaughters occurred. of her grandchildren.

described only as a "person of interest" in the killings apparently killed himself just hours after their deaths.

grandchildren – Benjamin Schuster, 13, Julia Schuster, 10 and Luke Schuster, 6 - were gunned down in the home friendly neighbor. Sunday afternoon, Mountrail County Sheriff Ken Halvorson said. Johnson's husband was out hunting. A fourth grandchild, a 12-year-old boy, was in the home but wasn't hurt and called 911, the sheriff said.

New Town is on an American Indian reservation called Fort Berthold. The suicide that followed occurred in Parshall, a reservation community about 20 miles from New Town. The man, in his 20s, killed himself with a knife in front of a deputy and a highway patrolman, Halvorson said.

Authorities declined to identify the "person of interest," but did say he was an enrolled tribal member. Neither Johnson nor her grandchildren were members, Halvorson said.

into the deaths because the federal government has jurisdiction over crimes on reservations. FBI spokesman apparently took the four lives, only Kyle Loven declined to release details, citing the ongoing investigation.

He said late Monday that the name of the man who killed himself and what role – if any – he played in the deaths would not be released until authorities pieced together what happened.

they didn't think there was any surrounds the Johnsons' beige-colored a community of fewer than 2,000 residents, remained on edge Monday. Slayings are relatively rare in North Dakota, which is home to fewer than 700,000 people. FBI statistics show that in 2011, only 24 murders and non-

Megan Hale, 22, lives across the street In a nearby community, a man from the Johnsons' home. She said that the youngsters seemed to have moved in with Martha and Harley Johnson recently. She never saw the children's Martha Johnson, 64, and three of her mother, whom authorities declined to identify.

Hale knew Martha Johnson as a

danger to the public, but New Town, ranch-style home, which sits on a corner lot. The local school cancelled classes, and the community planned to hold a nighttime prayer vigil. The home is about 150 yards from an elementary

FBI agents were in the home Monday, while crime-scene cleaners in white coveralls and breathing masks worked into the evening.

Tex Hall, the Three Affiliated Tribes chairman, called the killings the "worst tragedy" to happen on the reservation that he could remember.

"It's a terrible loss, especially when young kids are involved," he said. "It's a sad, sad day."



US CENSUS MAP IMAGE

New Town, marked in red, is located in the northwestern quarter of North Dakota.

"She was a nice lady. She was always The FBI is leading the investigation out in the yard working," she said. "It's 21-year-old coffee shop worker who very sad. It's unreal."

> learning of the tragedy when police arrived Sunday, she said. After that, Mendoza said. "Now this is the usually quiet street was blocked off for nearly 12 hours as investigators gathered evidence.

holding a note with a heart painted on to this report from Bismarck, N.D., and Both Halvorson and the FBI said it stuffed in the white picket fence that Sioux Falls, S.D.

Newcomer Maddie Mendoza, a moved from Arizona in August, said Hale never heard the gunfire that everyone she has talked to is shocked and saddened by the killings.

> "This is a nice little quiet town," happening."

- Associated Press writers Blake On Monday, there was a teddy bear Nicholson and Kristi Eaton contributed



LOS ANGELES TIMES | COURTESY

Greg Haverstock, the Bureau of Land Management archeologist for the area, tells the LA Times this is "the worst act of vandalism ever seen" on the 750,000 acres of public land administered by the BLM field office in Bishop.

# Ancient rock carvings stolen in Sierra Nevada

BISHOP, Calif. (AP) - Rock carvings that graced a sacred American Indian site in California's Sierra Nevada for thousands of years have fallen prey to modern thieves armed with power saws.

At least four petroglyphs - some 2 feet wide and located 15 feet above the ground - were hacked from lava cliffs in the Eastern Sierra, the Los Angeles Times reported Sunday.

Visitors to the area, known as Volcanic Tableland, discovered the theft and reported it to the federal Bureau of Land Management on Oct.

"This was the worst act of vandalism ever seen" on the 750,000 acres of public land administered by the BLM field office in Bishop, BLM archaeologist Greg Haverstock told the newspaper.

The thieves must have used ladders, electric generators and power saws. In addition to the four carvings that were stolen, one was defaced with deep saw cuts on three sides, and another was removed but apparently broke during the theft and was left propped against a boulder near a

visitor parking lot. More than 3,500 years ago, Native Americans carved pictures of hunters, deer and other animals, and geometric and other designs into a half-mile-long volcanic escarpment. The images adorn hundreds of lava boulders.

The petroglyphs are probably

worth only about \$500 to \$1,500 on the illegal art market but are priceless to American Indians, authorities

"We still use this sacred place as a kind of church to educate tribal members and children about our historical and spiritual connections," Paiute tribal historic preservation officer Raymond Andrews said. "So, our tribal elders are appalled by what happened here."

Volunteers have stepped up

surveillance at the site, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The BLM is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to arrests. A first-time felony conviction for damaging or removing petroglyphs can carry a one-year prison sentence and a \$20,000 fine.

Meanwhile, federal officials and American Indian leaders plan to mark the damage with signs noting that it was done by, as Haverstock put it, "malicious, selfish individuals."

# Feds: S. Dakota lender uses reservation as shield

JONATHAN ELLIS Argus Leader

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – With a population of 450, Timber Lake on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation sits in one of the poorest and most remote counties in the country.

But government regulators across the country have their eye on the north-central South Dakota town. They say Timber Lake harbors a predatory businessman who has fleeced financially distressed consumers across the country with high-interest loans.

Martin "Butch" Webb, an enrolled member of the tribe, is defending his businesses from legal actions brought by the Federal Trade Commission and state authorities.

Webb owns at least nine Internet lending businesses, according to court records. Regulators accuse Webb and his businesses of illegal lending and collection practices, operating without a license in states and dodging state limits on interest rates.

Webb disputes the accusations leveled by regulators, arguing that conventional banks often charge high interest rates combined with overdraft fees and other charges. He argues he's just another player in the lending industry.

"I think we're serving a group of people that are underserved by conventional banking," he said. "Their demands aren't being met."

It's a complex financial web, complicated by questions of the authority of the federal government to enforce laws on an Indian reservation, where the concept of sovereignty clouds authority.

### BACKED BY ELITE WASHINGTON FIRM

Webb has powerful allies on his side. He's represented against the FTC by a prestigious K-Street law firm in Washington, D.C., Katten Muchin Rosenman. Patrick Dorton, who arranged an interview with Webb, was a special assistant to President Bill Clinton and now is a partner in a Washington public relations firm.

Court records also outline a relationship between Webb's operation and CashCall, a short-term lender and mortgage business based in Anaheim, Calif. CashCall's president and CEO is J. Paul Reddam, a philosophy professor-turned-lender who gained fame this year when his horse, I'll Have Another, won the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness Stakes.

CashCall has faced its own legal problems. In West Virginia this year, a judge ordered CashCall to pay \$13.7 million in penalties and cancel \$2.3

million if they have the money by Nov.

The couple has repeatedly said they

P Diddy and Midler join actor Ezra

Miller, who appears in the recently

released movie "The Perks of Being

a Wallflower," and Sol Guy flew to

Miller and hip-hop producer Sol Guy in showing their support for the

will not speak publicly about the land

million in debts owed by West Virginia consumers, said Norman Googel, a senior assistant attorney general who prosecuted the case.

Regardless, the Internet is rife with consumer complaints about his companies. The Better Business Bureau gives Western Sky an F rating.

Payday lenders and high-interest installment companies have used different methods to evade state usury laws. One was to work with banks. Federal law allows a bank in one state to export its interest rates to borrowers in other states. Banks were acting as front companies for high-interest lenders, in essence "renting their charters," Googel said.

That was particularly true among some banks in South Dakota, where there are no usury rates. In CashCall's West Virginia case, CashCall was a partner with First Bank & Trust of Milbank.

### USING TRIBES TO 'GET AROUND STATE LAWS'

Federal regulators have cracked down on that practice, and now the lending companies have turned to tribes, which have sovereign immunity.

"Thus far, what we have found is that tribes are playing a nominal role," Googel said. "The tribes are really being used by the real, outside lender to get around state laws."

Webb's situation adds a wrinkle to that. He's an enrolled member, but his businesses aren't affiliated with the tribe. But Webb argues that because his businesses are on the Cheyenne River reservation, they operate under the umbrella of sovereign immunity.

"We're operating within the boundaries of the reservation," he said. "Therefore, we're operating under tribal jurisdiction. The people come to us for the loans. We don't go to them."

Nathalie Martin, a professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law, has studied the issue of tribes and their relationships with payday lenders and other high-interest loan businesses. She does not think Webb is covered by sovereign immunity.

"I don't think this is a winning argument," she said.

"If the lender is literally set up as a tribal corporation and it's the tribe itself, that's what is entitled to sovereign immunity, not the person," Martin added.

Cheyenne River Tribal Chairman Kevin Keckler Sr. said Webb's lending operation is unrelated to the tribe.

Webb said his companies have sold loans to CashCall. During an interview Friday, Webb was at home recovering from an illness, and he said he didn't have access to records for how many loans had been sold to CashCall.

loans had been sold to CashCall.

A representative of CashCall did not return messages.

### BUILT 'INCH BY INCH' STARTING IN 2009

Webb, 56, said he has a background in banking, and he started building his operation about 2009. It was a slow process because the remote region didn't have the Internet infrastructure in place, and the operation has been built "inch by inch."

He employs 100 people, he said. Another 70 positions will be created with expanded Internet capabilities. It's major employment for the Cheyenne River reservation, and he said some of his employees haven't had a family member with a full-time job in three or four generations.

In the industry of high-interest loans and high-interest credit cards, officials justify the rates and fees because their clientele have high default rates. The people who seek such loans or credit cards often have sketchy credit histories that bar them from seeking loans from conventional banks.

Webb said his companies' rates are high because so many people who borrow don't pay back their loans. Those who make payments also are paying for those who defaulted. And, he added, consumers are warned.

### 'CHEAPER THAN A PAYDAY ADVANCE'

In one television ad for Western Sky Financial, one of Webb's companies, a spokeswoman says: "Yes, the money's expensive, but it's a lot cheaper than a payday advance."

In another, the spokesman says: "Yes, the money's expensive, but there's no collateral required, and you can keep the cost down by paying it back as fast as you can."

"We're a very open, honest company," Webb said.

"He is a tribal member and operates his own business," Keckler said.

Webb employs tribal members in his operations, and jobs are good for any community, Keckler added. But the chairman wouldn't comment on the controversy surrounding the businesses.

"That's between him and the states," Keckler said.

### STATES, FTC SUING OVER OPERATIONS

It's between Webb and a growing list of states. West Virginia and Maryland courts already have ruled that Webb doesn't enjoy the benefits of sovereign immunity. His companies are established under South Dakota

law and they do not benefit the tribe, according to a judge who ruled in West Virginia.

Colorado also is suing Webb.

"That is going through the judicial process now," said Carolyn Tyler, spokeswoman for Colorado Attorney General John Suthers.

The Washington State Department of Financial Institutions took action last month against Webb.

"These companies are preying on financially struggling Washington consumers with loans at unconscionable repayment terms," said Deborah Bortner, director of consumer services, in announcing the action.

But the biggest threat to Webb's operation comes from the Federal Trade Commission lawsuit filed in federal court in South Dakota. If successful, that action could shut him down.

A spokeswoman for the FTC wouldn't comment on the case.

### GARNISHING WAGES WITHOUT COURT ORDER

The FTC complaint alleges a host of violations. When borrowers got behind on their payments, Webb's companies would attempt to garnish wages without obtaining a court order, according to the complaint. Collectors working for Webb also disclosed the amounts that debtors owed to employers and co-workers, a violation of federal law.

Lawyers for Webb, meanwhile, have sought to dismiss one portion of the FTC complaint. Borrower loan applications include a notice that, in the event of default, collection actions against the borrower will be brought in the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Court. Webb's lawyers argue the Supreme Court has ruled that tribal courts can exercise jurisdiction in over contracts between Indians and non-Indians.

The FTC argues the loans are off-reservation activity because they are taken out by people who aren't on the reservation. Thus, tribal jurisdiction doesn't apply.

A decision on the motion is pending.

Meanwhile, Webb continues to move forward with his expansion plans. To him, he's offering an honest service while also benefiting his impoverished community. To regulators across the country, he's a villain.

And if the federal government succeeds in its legal challenge?

"You'd just have to re-evaluate and see if we'd appeal or shut down," Webb said.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
CHERYL GOUGE
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country -

– Member –







tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

# NATIVE TIMES

recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

# South Dakota last month to film a nine-minute documentary-style video about the land that is being used as

part of the online campaign.

Miller said the three days he spent in South Dakota learning about the land

and the Lakota tribes was life-altering. "From the moment I arrived to the moment I departed, I was struck repeatedly by an unshakable sensation that this land truly carried something unspeakably important," Miller said in an email interview with The Associated Press. "There is a motion and a beauty

out there in those hills that words

He said the fact that the Lakota tribes have done Sundance ceremonies on the land for thousands of years is a "magical reality," and that America has erased too much of the land's true

Sol Guy, whose TV show "4Real" airing on MTV Canada and the National Geographic Channel has taken celebrities such as Cameron Diaz to Peru and Joaquin Phoenix to the Amazon, said he has been busy sharing the information with his various networks to get the word out and is confident the tribes will be successful in raising all the money.

"My first hope is not to demand people to give money," Sol Guy said. "If they can afford it, great. But I think what's more important is that people take it in and learn the history and spread the word and have the conversations about it."

Chase Iron Eyes, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe who started the online campaign and appeared in the video, said he wants the celebrity endorsements to help raise money, but more than anything, he hopes it will widen the network of people who are thinking about the land and what it means for the tribes.

# SUPERNAW'S ANNUAL SALE

cannot do justice."

10% OFF ON PENDLETON PRODUCTS AND BROADCLOTH 20% OFF ON EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE STORE

HACKLES, SPIKES, FLUFFS, SKINS, BEADS, SHELLS, NEEDLES, THREAD, BLANKETS, SAGE, CEDAR, BROOCHES, LOTS OF JEWELRY EVERYTHING! HURRY!

CASH OR CREDIT CARD ONLY

PURCHASES MUST BE MADE IN THE STORE

OPEN NOON TO 6:00 PM WEEKDAYS • SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY 109 NORTH BROADWAY, SKIATOOK, OK 74070 COUNTRYWIDE TOLL FREE 1-888-720-1967 EMAIL: SUPERNAW@FLASH.NET

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:
Address:
City: State: Zip:
Phone:
☐ \$65.00 for 52 issues ☐ \$32.50 for 26 issues
☐ \$16.25 for 13 issues ☐ \$1.25 single conv

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

## **Dartmouth** partners with **Indian Health** Service

HANOVER, N.H. (AP) - Dartmouth College and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center have joined a partnership aimed at promoting the health of Native Americans across the country and developing leaders in the Native American community.

The college and medical center recently signed memorandum understanding with the Indian Health Service, which is part of the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

The partnership's goals include improving undergraduate understanding of Native American health care, recruiting and training health care professionals from the Native American community at Dartmouth and providing educational opportunities for doctors and nurses at the Indian Health Service.

### **Native American** hiring preference?

FREE ONLINE with PRINT BUY E-mail your ad for a quote to lisa@nativetimes.com

marks another dicey chapter

with the six Chippewa tribes

MADISON, Wis. (AP) - A

commission that oversees Chippewa

tribes' off-reservation rights quietly

authorized tribal hunters on

Wednesday to go after deer at night

across much of northern Wisconsin,

sparking another bitter clash with

The Great Lakes Indian Fish and

Wildlife Commission issued the

authorization for tribal hunters

spokeswoman Sue Erickson told The

The state Department of Natural

Resources prohibits hunting deer

at night, contending the practice is

too dangerous. But the commission

argues that tribal members should

be allowed to hunt deer at night since

wolf hunters can go out after dark

The DNR quickly filed a motion

in federal court Wednesday evening

commission

Monday,

in the state's relationship

in Wisconsin.

Associated Press

**TODD RICHMOND** 

state wildlife officials.

effective

Associated Press.

starting Monday.

### Tribal members want rest of settlement money

PABLO, Mont. (AP) -Members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes want to vote on whether the tribe should distribute the rest of a \$150 million federal settlement to its members or keep it for tribal programs.

A group called the People's Voice presented the council with a petition containing 1,414 signatures of enrolled

tribal members asking for a referendum vote, representative Jeri Roullier of St. Ignatius told the Missoulian.

CSKT spokesman Rob McDonald said Monday the tribe's legal team is reviewing the petition.

"There are a number of questions that need to be answered before the council

can decide how to respond appropriately," McDonald said.

The tribe received the money as part of the "Salazar settlement" in a lawsuit over federal mismanagement of assets and natural resources held in trust by the government for the tribes. The council voted to distribute just over half of

the money to its members and keep the rest for various tribal programs.

In September, about 7,800 tribal members received \$10,000 each. Petitioners want another \$9,000 paid out to each tribal member.

"The reservation is going through the worst recession our generation has ever known," Roullier said.

# LA buying \$1.6B power from tribal solar plant

LAS VEGAS (AP) - The largest solar power plant on tribal lands in the United States is expected to go online in southern Nevada's desert in 2016 under a new 25-year, \$1.6 billion deal approved by Los Angeles city council to buy solar power produced on the Moapa River Indian Reservation.

The 250-megawatt solar  $farm\,30\,miles\,northeast\,of\,Las$ Vegas will generate enough electricity for 118,000 homes more than 280 miles away in Los Angeles.

William Anderson, chairman of the Moapa Band of Paiutes, said some 910,000 photovoltaic panels will be built on 2,000 acres on the 71,680-acre reservation.

"I just can't believe that we're actually going to have

something like this on the reservation," Anderson told the Las Vegas Review Journal on Tuesday after the council unanimously to purchase power from developer K Road Moapa Solar LLC in conjunction with the tribe.

"We are going to have a solar farm and jobs for our people," he said about the 320 members of the Moapa

The first commercial-grade solar energy project on tribal land in the country will be across from the tribe's Moapa Travel Plaza truck stop, west of the Valley of Fire State Park exit off U.S. Interstate

peak of construction.

Planscallforatransmission line to deliver some solar power to the truck stop. Members of the Moapa band will be employed to shuttle workers to the project site and provide environmental monitoring to ensure habitat for federally protected desert tortoises is maintained.

"This is a perfect match," legal tribal administrator Yvette Chevalier said. "I think it's going to pave the way for further economic development."

The Interior Department approved the project in June under a broad effort to bring solar, wind and geothermal projects to public lands.

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev.,

a chief opponent of coal

plants, praised the publicprivate-tribal partnership as a "powerful example" of how clean energy can boost Nevada's economy.

"Unlike the old, dirty technologies used at the nearby Reid Gardner coal plant, this new solar project will not emit any hazardous emissions, wastes, or carbon pollution," he said.

Under **California's** renewable energy law, the Department of Water and Power must generate 25 percent of its power from solar, wind and other renewable energy sources by 2016, and 33 percent by 2020. The Department of Water and Power currently relies on renewable energy sources for more than 17 percent of

decided

15 north of Las Vegas.

Officials expect it will create 15 to 20 permanent jobs and up to 400 at the

Wednesday, tossing aside the DNR's

safety concerns and going it alone,

The commission is rehashing the same arguments the judge rejected years ago, this time swapping wolves for coyotes, Stepp said. She sent a letter to tribal leaders Wednesday asking them to hold off until the matter is

"This is one of those issues," Stepp said in a telephone interview, "we need to push back on."

decided in court.

The commission's leader, Jim Zorn, has insisted that night deer hunting would be safe. The authorization's terms largely parallel the state's night wolf hunting regulations. Tribal hunters would be allowed to shine deer only at the point of kill - not randomly sweep fields and woods with lights – just like wolf hunters.

Tribal hunters also would have to submit a shooting plan noting they have visited the hunting area during the day, clearly marking a safe field of fire and noting schools, roads and other structures within a quarter-

"We're not authorizing shining. We're authorizing night hunting. That needs to be very clear," Erickson said. "If the DNR deems that safe, why is it not safe for the tribes to do it?"

annually from the Cherokee, Muscogee (Creek) and Osage Nations combined in exchange for not installing gaming

machines at the track. The agreement was also contingent upon the track hosting at least 400 live races annually during its 34-day season. Among the three active live

an important sector of our economy leaves Oklahoma

Horsemen across the state

and officials with the Oklahoma

Horse Racing Commission have

said publicly that they were not

consulted before the sale was

authorized. At a Nov. 2 press

conference, Muscogee (Creek)

Nation principal chief George

Tiger said the tribe began talks

with the Tulsa County Public

Facilities Authority soon after

Under a 2005 compact, Fair

Meadows received \$2 million

he took office in January.

forever."

race tracks across Oklahoma, the purse fund averaged about \$6.8 million over the last five years, with about \$3.6 million coming from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation annually. Under the terms of the compact, each tribe that has a casino within 20 miles of a live horse racing facility has to contribute to the purse fund in exchange for track owners not installing electronic gaming machines. In addition to Fair Meadows, live horse racing was conducted at Oklahoma City's Remington Downs and Claremore's Will Rogers Downs during the 2012 season. Will Rogers Downs is owned by Cherokee Nation Entertainment.

Over the last seven years, Fair Meadows has lost at least \$695,000 per year thanks in part to dwindling attendance.

"This was a business decision by the (fair board), and while we know there will be some impact to the horse industry, it is not in the best interest of Tulsa County citizens to continue live racing at Fair Meadows," Tulsa County Commissioner and Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority Chairman Fred Perry said.

In addition to requesting an investigation, the Comanche County Republican has asked the governor's office to direct the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to review the situation and give a tentative timeline as to how quickly the state legislature could reverse or minimize any negative economic impact from ending live racing at the Tulsa track.

"Gov. Fallin has been contacted multiple by stakeholders concerned about the future of Fair Meadows racetrack," Fallin spokesman Alex Weintz wrote in an e-mail. "She has asked her staff to look into the events surrounding its closing to ensure that proper measures were taken to ensure transparency."

Requests for comment from Pruitt and Muscogee (Creek) Nation officials were not returned.

Advertise to Native Americans!

### Tribal commission OKs night deer hunt to block the authorization, accusing ■ The commission's move

authority. DNR officials chafed at the commission's decision to issue the authorization the night before Thanksgiving, complaining they have no time to warn people bullets could be flying around in the dark as early as Monday across a sprawling region known as the ceded territory.

the commission of overstepping its

"People will not be safe if tribal members are allowed to discharge high-powered firearms at night in the ceded territory," Assistant Attorney General Diane Milligan, who is representing the DNR, wrote in the court motion.

The commission's move marks another dicey chapter in the state's relationship with the six Chippewa tribes in Wisconsin.

Under treaties signed in the early 1800s, the Chippewa ceded the 22,400 square miles across northern Wisconsin to the government.

A federal court ruling in 1991 found the tribes have the right to harvest at least 50 percent of the quota for any animal hunted in the territory. Backed by that court ruling, the tribes have run their own deer hunt in the ceded territory for years independent of the state's bow and firearm seasons for years. The tribal season generally runs from late August until early January.

The tribes tried to draft rules allowing their members to hunt deer at night more than two decades ago. They argued then that they should be allowed to hunt at night because the state permitted night coyote and fox hunting.

A federal judge ultimately forbid it, ruling that hunting deer at night is more dangerous than hunting fox and coyotes because hunters use larger bullets fired from longer ranges at higher angles.

The wolf hunt, though, has stirred up plenty of resentment among the Chippewa, who consider the animal a brother.

State legislators concerned that the burgeoning wolf population was causing more livestock attacks approved a plan this spring establishing the first organized wolf hunt, despite fierce tribal opposition. The commission even went so far as to lay claim to the lives of every wolf in the ceded territory in an effort to protect them.

In September, the commission angered the DNR by unilaterally allowing tribal hunters to kill an elk, a species the DNR has been trying to reestablish in Wisconsin for decades.

commission approved night deer hunting the same way

# TRIBE

Continued from Page 1

Seventy-five new members have enrolled with the tribe in the past year, Gray said. Meanwhile, more \$190,000 in grants and other assistance came in to help pay for the visitor center, establish a wellness program and revive the tribe's anti-tobacco

There's still much work to be done,includingre-establishing the tribe's nonprofit status, cleaning up its enrollment records and trying to ensure the financial problems that crippled the tribe in recent years don't recur.

But Bonnie Stevens, a registered member of the tribe from Helena, said the tribe's ability to overcome its recent turmoil serves as a testament to its cohesion.

"We may fight, but in our own hearts and mind, we're a tribe," she said. "If we weren't a tribe, we'd just go our separate ways and scatter forever."

The tribe traces its ancestry to the Pembina Band of Chippewa Indians, who in the 1800s were under the leadership of Chief Little Shell when they were offered an unfair land deal that resulted in the band leaving North Dakota.

Government pledges to establish a reservation for the tribe in Montana never came through, and the Little Shell are now spread across the Northern Plains and central Canada. Many also call themselves Metis, a Canadian people with mixed European and Native American roots.

The tribe is recognized by the

state of Montana. But its drive for federal acknowledgement by the Department of Interior, which dates at least to the 1970s, hit a major roadblock in 2009 when federal officials rejected the bid. The agency cited in part the tribe's "departures from precedent" a reference to the Little Shell's far-flung membership and its history of intermarriage with non-Indians and members of other tribes.

Also during that period, the tribe's finances started to unravel when accounting problems surfaced under former chairman John Sinclair. The state of Montana suspended grants for a tobacco prevention program, and economic development funds were put on hold. That translated into an \$867,000 financial hit for the Little

Political turmoil ensued, and dueling elections were held that resulted in two groups claiming to be the tribe's rightful leader - one under Sinclair's control and another under the leadership of Great Falls businessman John Gilbert.

Gilbert's side prevailed when the matter was finally settled last December by a three-judge panel of tribal law experts. Sinclair, who could not be reached for comment for this story, said at the time he was unlikely to run again.

The elections earlier this month were the first since the political dispute was settled. Former state Sen. Joe Troplia, who helped oversee the process, said that with the election the tribe appears to have finally quelled its internal rivalries.

Incoming chairman Gray,

a vice president at a Billings advertising agency and vice chairman under Gilbert, said the strife during Sinclair's tenure revealed weaknesses within the tribe that need to be fixed. That included a flawed constitution and few financial controls.

Gray said the tribe will be renewing its drive for federal recognition, which could bring housing and education assistance and other help in addition to land for a reservation.

Montana U.S. Sen. Jon Tester has introduced legislation to force the government to recognize the tribe. The Democrat's bill will have to be reintroduced next year if it's not acted on in the next few weeks.

Nicholas Vrooman, Helena-based historian who wrote a book about the Little Shell that soon will be released, traces the tribe's modernday problems to a century of federal negligence.

Without a home to call their own or resources to maintain a functioning government, Vrooman said, the tribe has long been defined by outsiders by the strife and difficulties it has faced.

But Vrooman said those problems also have helped the Little Shell reach a new level of self-understanding including the realization they cannot wait for government help if they want to survive and move forward in the

"They don't need the federal government to sanction them now - to say they're legitimate. They know who they are now," he said. "The struggle for their community is the proof of their community."

# COMMENTARY

# Playing both sides against the middle



**Notes from Indian** 

Country

TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Thankfully we will have a slight respite of two years before the mid-term elections roll around.

It is time for all Native Americans to scrutinize their political affiliations. Have the Democrats or the Republicans fulfilled your political aspirations? Has either Party stood up for your interests?

My answer to both questions is no. With that in mind I decided to separate myself from both parties and I chose

to register as an Independent. Every Native American of voting age should make that determination.

In states with large Native American populations the so-called Indian vote can make or break a candidate. There is political clout in that demographic. Is it being utilized for the betterment of the Native American condition? I think not.

If the majority of Indian voters would become registered as Independents neither the Democrats nor the Republicans would take their votes for granted. For too long the Indian vote was presumed to be in the pocket of the Democrats. As a result the Republican Party never made a real effort to court that vote.

If the majority of Native Americans were Independents it would put an entirely new face on the politics of Indian Country. Both major parties would pursue the Native vote with equal vigor.

As an Independent I had the clear choice of voting for the person I decided to be the best qualified candidate. I supported a Republican, Kristi Noem, for the House of Representatives because her opponent, Matt Varilek, a lifetime Democrat who worked under the auspices of Sen. Tim Johnson (D-SD) in the area of economic development, had done absolutely nothing to improve the economic conditions of the nine Indian reservations in South Dakota. He talked a big game but failed to deliver. I believed it was time for a change.

Insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. And that is the way it has been for Native Americans. We have been supporting one political party for too many years and yet, in South Dakota at least, we remain among the poorest people in America. Where have the promises of all the Democrats gone?

The Indian Health Service has done such a poor job that the life expectancy of Native Americans is among the lowest in this country. When Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services, visited several Indian hospitals in South Dakota she never let the press know where she would be or when. As a result reporters from the local

daily newspaper or from the Indian press did not have the opportunity to question her. One member of her entourage let it slip that she did not want the press notified because she was "afraid there would be protestors."

"Afraid there would be protestors?" Now what does that say about the closed door policies of this administration? The secrecy in the Indian Health Service under Sebelius and Native American Yvette Roubideaux has been stifling. When Ms. Roubideaux visited the Indian Health Service Hospital in Rapid City at the beginning of her term as administrator she refused to allow the press to question her and, indeed, ducked the press entirely.

Now I am talking about Democrats here and I have only touched on their failures in economic development and in health and human services.

When I spoke face-to-face with Sen. Johnson and Varilek in Rapid City recently about economic development neither had a clue about how to provide it. They spoke about the money they had provided to non-profit organizations who in turn were supposed

to provide the funds and expertise to expectant Indian entrepreneurs. All one need do is to look at the abysmal records of these organizations to know that they are also absolute failures. Where is the economic development on Indian reservations they were supposed to encourage and provide?

These non-profit economic development organizations are political. Therefore, they cannot or will not assist any business venture headed by one with differing political views. And, as I wrote about in the past, Sen. Johnson is unable to do much for anyone on any Indian reservation since earmarks became passé.

Republicans like Sen. John Thune (R-SD) and Kristi Noem (R-SD) are now the people in power. The Native Americans in South Dakota would be fools not to utilize the power and influence of these elected officials. So please stop thinking that the Democrats will bring you manna from heaven. They are no longer in power and in order to move forward you must change your way of thinking.

As an Independent I choose

to work with Thune and Noem in any way possible to advance the programs of the Indian tribes and to find ways to provide real economic development on the Indian reservations in South Dakota. That is what is known as common sense.

It will be two years before the mid-term elections and the seat of Sen. Johnson will be up for grabs and who is to say that he will not be replaced by a Republican.

So I advise all Indians, especially those in South Dakota, to get on the Independent bandwagon and learn to play both sides against the middle because, after all, both sides have been playing you.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He was the founder and first president of the Native American Journalists Association, a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, and he was inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame in 2007.

# The adventures of Toni and Dean



Around the Campfire

DR. DEAN CHAVERS
© Copyright 2012

My BW (Beautiful Wife) Toni went with me to recruit students last week. She had never been with me to do that before. We drove 700 miles in three days, visiting 11 schools in the process. She was astonished at what we saw. It was great to have fresh eyes looking at something I have been seeing for 40 years. She has been a registered nurse since 1964, the last 30 years working in nursing homes and hospice care. She knows her business well; she has run four nursing homes very successfully.

Right after we took over Alcatraz, the late Tom Mudd gave us \$10,000 worth of Cyprus Mines stock. He named five people to decide what to do with it. When we met as a group, no one had a clue about what we should do. So we decided to meet again the following week and decide. I looked into the whole arena of scholarships, and came in with a proposal to use the money for scholarships. Little did I know at the time that it was the direction for the rest of my life.

Tom was the grandson of the president of Cyprus Mines, which is a huge international company. It is so big that he built a whole college, Harvey Mudd College, in southern California. Tom was writing a movie script when he first came to Alcatraz. Later he went back to Stanford and earned his doctorate. Over the next eight years he and I became great friends. He came to our house for Thanksgiving. I visited him at his house on a regular basis.

Between 1970 and 1978 we operated the Native American Scholarship Fund off my kitchen table. Toni and I stuffed thousands of letters on that kitchen table, after our babies went to sleep at night. Then I went away to be President of Bacone College, and the scholarship fund died. James Lujan, Pat Locke, Jodie Palmer and I started it again in 1986. We have produced 775 graduates, almost all of whom are working.

Toni told me when we got home that I was passionate and enthusiastic about getting Indian kids educated. It's either that or I'm a nut case. The mountain in front of us is huge and hard to climb. You see, almost none of the school people believe Indian kids can or should go to college. The worst case was in Gallup, where the high school counselor said there was nothing she could do to help the Indian kids get ready for college, or get into college.

I told her about my hero Frank Kattnig, who transformed Tohatchi High School. He went there in 1984 and stayed until he retired in 1999, a total of 15 years. The year before he got there, only 15% of the high school graduates went on to college. Within five years, Frank had 90% of them going to college. Unfortunately, when Frank retired, his beautiful program died.

Her response was, "Well, I guess I'm just a dog." I said, "That's not what I meant. I never insult anybody. I was

simply telling you what Frank did." But she was totally put off. I realize that Gallup is a racist frontier town, and it would take the movement of heaven and earth to change it.

Toni asked me how many applications we got from the first school we visited. I told her I have been to that school for five straight years, and have not received even one application. It's frustrating. I met with all four classes at Santa Fe Indian School last fall, over 220 students. To my surprise, we got e-mails from 12 students; I was sure we would not hear from more than four of them. But out of the 12, none finished the process and applied to us for scholarship money. I sent individual e-mails to all of them three times. Still we got no applications.

I have 1,045 counselors on my mailing list. We send letters to them every fall. Two years ago I started keeping track of all we heard from. That list is only 19 people. Counselors at Indian schools are not there to help Indian kids get into college. Their emphasis is on technical and vocational education, the kinds of things that the racist inventor of Indian boarding schools pushed. Richard Pratt, the founder of Carlisle Indian School, said thousands of times, "Kill the Indian and save the man." He meant that any trace of Indianness had to go. Indian schools are totally into the assimilation mode.

No one knows or cares about scholarships. Despite the fact that there are 1.5 million scholarships in the U. S. now, no one is pushing Indian kids to take advantage of this great resource. As soon as you mention college or scholarships in an Indian school, someone pipes up and says, "Well, not all our students are cut out for college.

We have to prepare them for something they can do."

I have heard that at least a thousand times, from principals, superintendents, teachers, and school board members. No one says, "Let's design a program so our kids will have the option to go to college." The handful of schools that have done that have worked wonders. Wellpinit High School sent 100% of its graduates on to college in 2003. Navajo Prep sent 100% to college in 2004. Chugach sent only one kid to college between 1974 and 1994, but after completely revamping its whole program, they are now sending large numbers on to college.

Toni also wanted to know how many Indian businesses are located in Gallup. "Probably two to five," I told her. She said, "But isn't Gallup where there are so many millionaires?"

"Yes," I said. "There are over 350 millionaires in this town, out of a population of 19,000. There are more millionaires in Gallup than in any other place on earth. But they're not Indians. The largest Ford truck dealership in the world is located in Gallup, but it is owned and run by the Gurley family and has been for almost a century."

"There are 80 Indian jewelry manufacturers in Gallup," I told her. "But the owners are non-Indians. Indians do the grunt work, and get paid less than minimum wage, because they do piecework. The jewelry people mark up the things they buy one hundred percent. With little overhead, they buy something for \$50 and sell it for \$1,000. It's a big business."

Then I remembered my friend Penny Emerson, who used to be one of my board members. Penny is Navajo,

and was graduated from St. Michaels Indian School. She has a remarkable story. She was a millionaire before she was 30, sold that business and went to college. Then she went back into business and has diversified. She now has over 400 employees, in Gallup, Houston at NASA headquarters, Nellis AFB in Las Vegas, and elsewhere. She operates a home health care business and a transportation business out of Gallup. I just wish there were a hundred more like Penny.

I told Toni about my four yearly visits to one school on the northern part of the Navajo reservation. We got no applications from that school for the whole four years. I recruited at another reservation school in southern Arizona for four straight years, which also produced no applicants at all.

She says there is a difference between our generation and the younger one. We had stable homes, got guidance from parents and family, and worked toward goals. Kids today, she says, don't have stable homes, don't have career paths laid out for them, and are floundering. Too many of them think they are entitled to things and don't have to work hard. Job, car, house, salary—they are entitled to have it.

No one knows scholarships, she says, and kids are not getting guidance to help them get money for college. FastWeb, the comprehensive scholarship site, has 1.5 million entries in its database. It is a gold mine, just waiting for someone to come along to mine the gold.

She appreciated the quality time we had together, something we don't get a lot of. We have two daughters and two granddaughters living with us or close by, so much of our time is taken up

by baby sitting, taking kids to school and doctors, shopping, cooking, washing dishes, and other everyday things. It's wonderful to for us to have quality time together. We're still in love with each other.

"It's a huge mountain," I told her. But I don't regret climbing it. I just wish it weren't so hard. I wish we could get some help from the schools. We have produced 40 doctors, but we need 400. The schools need to do more to help. These kids cannot read. They are leaving high school with sixth grade reading ability. Is it any wonder that 80% of them flunk out of college?

Schools need to do so many things they are not doing now. They need to raise attendance to above 95% and hold it there. They need to put kids into language arts for the first ninety minutes every day. They need to have college people coming to schools on a regular basis. They need to put kids into Upward Bound, GEAR UP, and similar programs from seventh grade on. They need to make sure kids are reading heavily on their own outside of school. They need to develop strong bonds between teachers and parents. They need to reduce their high teacher turnover rate. They need to assign homework every day. They need to put kids into challenging classes. Come on, people.

Dr. Dean Chavers is Director of Catching the Dream, a national scholarship program located in Albuquerque. He was one of the "Alcatraz kids" in 1969, people who occupied Alcatraz for 19 months. His next book is "The American Indian Dropout." Contact him at CTD4DeanChavers@aol.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465. To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.

# CLASSIFIEDS

# **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 40 I (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

#7338 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN #7339 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN #7340 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN #7341 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN #7342 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN #7289 TPT Inpatient Registered Nurse/PRN (8-12 Hour Rotations)

**#7005 RFT Surgical Technician/Certified** (7:30-4:30/On-call)

Positions Close 11/28/12

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

Cherokee Nation **Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050

Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

### **Surveillance Director – Comanche Nation Gaming Commission**

The Surveillance Director is responsible for managing activities of all CNGC Surveillance operations and personnel. Maintains communication between the Executive Director and the Casino Management regarding compliance issues. Regulates adherence to all regulatory, departmental, and casino policies and procedures, including the tribal internal controls system (TICS) and minimum internal control system (MICS). Responsible for developing & managing the departmental budget. Must possess ability to manage multiple large projects. Develops RFP's for quoted bids for Surveillance system & equipment. Must possess ability to effectively present detailed written reports and oral presentations. Required 2 years tribal gaming experience. Conditions of employment with the CNGC include passing a pre-employment drug test, a background investigation to secure a gaming license and successfully completing a three-month introductory period. Candidates for this position will be required to have dependable transportation available to them. CNGC is an at-will employer. Send all resumes to tabitham@comanchegc.com or contact Tabitha at (580) 595-3300.

### **REQUEST FOR BIDS**

### **Pawnee Nation College** Solicitation for bids

The Pawnee Nation College is requesting bids from qualified, experienced grant/proposal writers.

Submit the following: resume of qualifications, list of three or more references, proposed contract amount.

Submit all materials to: Pawnee Nation College/Budget & Finance Committee, 891 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058.

For more information you may call 918-762-3467. PNC is an EEO and Indian preference employer.

Deadline for submission 12:00 PM (noon) November 30, 2012.

Applicants may refer to the PNC website at www.pawneenationcollege.org

Finding It Hard to Save Money?

### **Life Skills and Transition Teacher**

Oaks Indian Mission is looking to recruit a Life Skills and Transition Teacher. Residents of Oaks Indian Mission need direction in developing post-graduation goals to ensure their continued success in life. The Transition Teacher will develop programs to ensure that the residents are connected to colleges, vocational education institutions, and training to develop personal competency to live healthy successful lives.

- Developing a sustainable program that will link residents with continuing education
- · Developing training to ensure that the residents can live independently after graduation
- Provide training to ensure active vocational counseling for post-graduation needs. • Walking residents through college admission process. Serving as the liaison with multiple colleges for the residents.
- Teaching residents how to apply for jobs.
- Teaching residents how to apply for health care services.
- Teaching residents how to develop a personal budget.
- Teaching residents how to develop personal achievable goals.
- Teaching residents how to take the ACT as well as how to study to improve their academic goals through life.
- Tutoring and monitoring after school at the recreation center on campus is an essential component of the position.
- Attending school events to support students as well as being present at IEP

The position includes health and dental as part of salary package. Housing is available. Starting Salary at \$21,000. Teaching license a plus.

Oaks Indian Mission P.O. Box 130 Oaks, OK 74359 Fax (918) 868-3804 Or email resume as pdf to trygve.jorgensen@oaksindianmission.org

Position closes Nov. 27, 2012

### **Native American Owned Small Business?** Let the Native American Community know! Ask about our small business ad rates! Call Lisa 918-708-5838

### **Development Director**

Denver/Boulder Metro or Albuquerque Area

The Notah Begay III Foundation seeks a Development Director to create, implement and manage fundraising activities for our Native youth health and wellness organization. The director will oversee a major donor program, annual campaign, foundation grants, sponsorships marketing/communications. Significant fundraising experience and previous management of development team is required. Background in Native American issues and/or youth sports/ wellness desired.

For a full job description and to apply, please visit: http://nb3foundation. org/development-director.html Tuesday, December 18, 2012.

### **Provider Contracts Associate**

Provider Contracts Associate needed at OHCA 34.1K + state benefits. Requires an Associate's degree and 6 mos. exp, or 2 1/2y experience, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Deadline December 3rd. EOE. Visit www.okhca.org/jobs

**Native American Times** is on Facebook!

## **Purchasing Assistant**

Purchasing Assistant needed at OHCA 34.1K + state benefits. Requires an ociate's degree and 6 mos eyn or 2 1/2y experience, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Deadline December 3rd. EOE. Visit www.okhca.org/jobs

### NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans!

E-mail your ad for a quote to:

lisa@nativetimes.com

Flying Eagle Trading Post

**True American Indian** 

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

### The Housing Authority of the Sac and Fox Nation has the following opening for employment.

### **Executive Director**

The Executive Director is responsible for the overall management and administrative functions for all Housing Authority programs and personnel in accordance with the HUD/NAHASDA Regulations and the Policies and Procedures of the Housing

Applicants must have a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration or Public Administration plus 2 years' experience in Indian Housing, preferably in an administrative capacity or 6 years' experience in Indian Housing with at least 2 of those being in an administrative capacity.

Applications may be obtained at the Housing Authority of the Sac and Fox Nation located at 201 N. Harrison, Shawnee, Oklahoma, weekdays during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Indian Preference is applicable. Must possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license and be insurable. Must pass a criminal background check and drug screening.

The deadline for submitting application is December 7, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.

The Housing Authority of the Sac and Fox Nation has the following opening for employment.

### Inspector

Must have knowledge of NAHASDA, Tribal Acts and Policies. Must have working knowledge of rules and regulations of the Indian Housing Programs and federal, state and local codes. Must have verifiable experience in construction and home maintenance and repair. Knowledge of inspections, experience in plumbing, existing housing, residential, building, electrical and mechanical. Must have the ability to communicate and relate to the Native American populations.

Must possess a High School Diploma or GED equivalent, and other education/training in related field. Must have good verbal and written skills. Must possess a valid Oklahoma Operator's license and be insurable.

Applications may be obtained at the Housing Authority of the Sac and Fox Nation located at 201 N. Harrison, Shawnee, OK. Indian Preference applies.

The deadline for submitting applications is November 31, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.



Stickball · Drawing Fancy dancing Beadwork Traditional language **Shooting hoops** 

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar interests!

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

### Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

### **Learn the Entire Cherokee Syllabary: In Just 2 Days Simply Cherokee Syllabary Course** Sat. & Sun. – December 8-9, 2012



Ho Chee Nee Chapel, **Cherokee Heritage Center** Tahlequah, Oklahoma

(918) **708-5008** • info@simplycherokee.com

### money is easy. Each time you use your debit card the amount is rounded up to the next dollar and the leftover change is sent to all now to start saving today! Langley: 782-0011 Monkey Island: 257-8869

# SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## Metal Roofing & Siding

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

# CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00 918-696-0407

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm • Saturday 9am-1pm

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



Painting • Drywall Repair Odd Jobs Free Estimates

Tulsa Metro Area

HANDYMAN

Nathan Hicks 918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"



### **Charles Snell**

204-376-3428 Nww.ganica.net

"Changing the culture of waste."

405-239-2774

WANTED

*NATIVE AMERICAN* 

*INDIAN GOODS* 

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

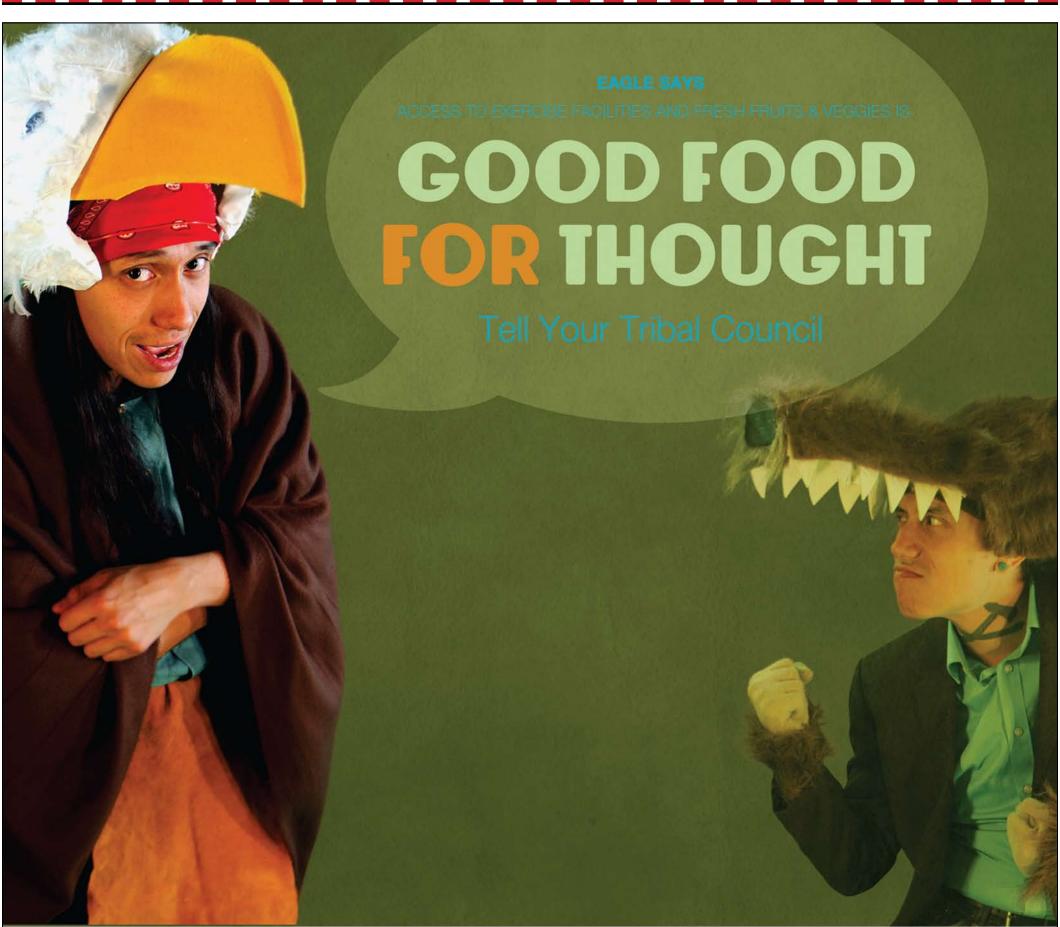
**DEAN'S** 

**DRIVE-THRU** 

**PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson

Oklahoma City, OK





# For more information, visit www.aaip.org



# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

### EVERY THURSDAY

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

SECOND TUESDAY Cherokee Artists Association meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www.

cherokeeartistsassociation.org

THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of

Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon,
11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country

Club, 707 N Union. For reservation
or more info email Traci Phillips,

tphillips@naturalevolution.com

### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724. EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco

Sales – from 4:00 – 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY
Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at
Wyandotte Community Center
1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439
or 832-350-4530.
EVERY 2ND SATURDAY
Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm
at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320
S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City
www.okchoctaws.org

EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

### YOUTH COUNCIL

The Native Nations Youth Council (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth Services of Tulsa Activity Center (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

THROUGH NOVEMBER
Kiowa Language Class, Fall
semester, every Wednesday, 6:308:30 p.m., Room 300, Oliphant
Hall, Tulsa University, Instructor:
Leon Hawzipta, Jr., 918-440-0337,
e-mail: leonhawzipta@yahoo.com

THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013
All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history

and culture of the great Comanche Nation. Comanche National Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

### DECEMBER 1

4th Annual Native American Craft Show sponsored by the OKC Chickasaw Elders, at Graceway Baptist Church, 1100 SW 104th in Oklahoma City from 9:00 - 3:00. For vendor information contact Pat Bartmess, 405-703-09889.

# DECEMBER 1 Shawnee & Tecumseh schools Indian Education powwow at Shawnee Expo Center

Contest powwow!

Tulsa Creek Indian Community annual Christmas Bazaar from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Tulsa Creek Indian Community building, 8611 S. Union Ave., Tulsa. Info call (918) 298-2464

### DECEMBER 1-2

The Bead Market at Central Park Hall, Tulsa Fairgrounds, Saturday, 10am - 5pm and Sunday, 10am - 4pm. Free admission. www. beadmarket.net or call Rebekah Wills (903) 734-3335

### DECEMBER 4

Tulsa's Hiring Our Heroes Event at Tulsa Fairgrounds, Central Park Hall, 10:00a - 02:00p. Info www. uschamber.com/hiringourheroes/ tulsa-ok or call SSgt. Virginia Carpenter, ANG, (202) 503-6057

### DECEMBER 5

VA Enrollment Fair at Claremore Indian Hospital to help veteran patients apply for eligibility for health care services at the VA hospitals and clinics. Bring your DD214 or military discharge papers to Conference Room #1, 9am-3pm. Representatives will be on hand to help with the application process and answer questions. Please RSVP at the Claremore Indian Hospital 918-342-6240 or 918-342-6607 by Dec. 4

### DECEMBER 7

The Life and Art of T.C. Cannon- An hour discussion beginning at 6:30 pm about T.C. Cannon, renowned Kiowa/Caddo artist by his friends. This event is open to the public with museum admission. Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium, Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, University of Oklahoma, Norman. Info call (405) 325-4938

### DECEMBER 20

Annual Bykes 4 Tykes Community
Children's Christmas Party
The party will be at 6:30 p.m.
Dec. 22 at the Pawnee Nation
Roundhouse on the Pawnee Nation
Reserve in Pawnee.
There will be a drawing for bicycles
for children of the community.
Also, all children receive candy
sacks and Santa hats. Santa and
Pawnee Bill and his horse will be at

your pictures taken with both and join in the carols.
For more information, call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041.
\*Want to make a donation to Bykes 4 Tykes? Call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041 or reach him by mail at the address: 812 Granite St., Pawnee, OK, 74058.

the party. Bring a camera to have

Bykes 4 Tykes will accept donations up to the day of the Dec. 22 Christmas party for the purchase of additional children's bicycles.

### DECEMBER 31

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa Convention Center, 100 Civic Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999

### JUNE 29, 2013

Murrow Indian Children's Home Benefit Powwow at Bacone College Palmer Center, 2299 Old Bacone Rd, Muskogee. Contest powwow, free admission. All Royalties, Drums, Singers and Dancers Invited Info contact Betty R Martin / Stella Pepiakitah (918)682-2586 murrowhomedirector@gmail.com

# Choctaw Nation employing aggressive cultural revitalization program

LARISSA COPELAND Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

DURANT, Okla. – The rich and diverse culture and language of this country's Native American people is more than something to be put on display at weekend craft shows and expos or a hobby to pass the time – it's a livelihood, an identity. Unfortunately, for many tribes, pieces of that identity have been lost or have been faded throughout the generations, and the Choctaw Nation is no different.

However, the Choctaw Nation is taking steps every day to reconnect current generations with their ancestral roots, and the tribe has placed the revitalization of its culture on the forefront of its priorities.

"My long-term vision is that every generation in the future is more self-sufficient and successful than the generation preceding," says Chief Gregory E. Pyle. "To achieve this, it is important we understand the culture and history of the Choctaw people. It is vital that the traditions of our great tribe be sustained."

Leaders of the tribe wanted to give members from coast to coast the opportunity to learn about and experience this living, thriving culture for themselves...so they took to the road. "Choctaw Days" is a name that has become synonymous with experiencing the culture and heritage of the Choctaw Choctaw Days festivals are celebrations of Choctaw history, art, dancing, language, music, food, and more, put on display at various locations across the nation and are presented by the passionate teachers, artists, dancers and craftsmen who make conserving Choctaw heritage a way of life.

In the past year, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma hosted the second annual Choctaw Days festival at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., held Choctaw Day at the State Capitol of Oklahoma, in San Francisco, Calif., Denver, Colo., Bakersfield, Calif., and many more cities across the nation and have a busy schedule slated for the next year.

These events are just a tiny snapshot of the huge picture; the efforts and undertaking the tribe is making to preserve its precious, priceless identity is vast and requires the dedication and hard work of so many.

All across the Choctaw Nation, classes, large and small, formal and informal, are being held to help pass down the traditional ways of life of those who came before us and instill in the children the need to continue to pass on this knowledge for generations to come.

From pottery and Native art, to stickball and beadwork, the old ways of the Choctaw are making a comeback after being so close to becoming forgotten at one time.

One sacred element to the Choctaw culture is its language. The Native language is spoken in the homes of many Choctaws, and has even earned the distinction of being named the first Native American language to be offered as a minor at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. It is offered as a distance learning language option in more than 40 high schools and three colleges in Oklahoma as well.

The Choctaw Nation School of Choctaw Language offers classes, which are taught by certified language instructors who are eager to preserve and perpetuate the language and culture of the tribe. At present, the school has approximately

certified instructorswho teach the language communities all across the Choctaw Nation beyond. example, at the Choctaw Community Center Antlers, certified language teacher Dora Wickson teaches classes every week. Her beginner classes

are on Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m., and advanced Choctaw classes are on Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. These classes are open to the public. The course is 16 weeks long and is taught in four phases.

"We just started up a new class and it's not too late to join us," said Wickson. "We would love to have anyone that is interested in speaking the language to come out and learn Choctaw."

The classes taught by Wickson and the numerous

other certified Choctaw instructors are just one example of the numerous Choctaw language programs offered by the Choctaw Nation. To learn more, visit www.choctawschool.com.

Traditional Choctaw dance is now being highlighted as well, most recently with the Choctaw Employee Dance Troupe. The group, organized by Choctaw Nation Marketing Director Lana Sleeper, is made up of tribal employees, all who volunteer

traditional Choctaw clothing, all of which is handmade, from the Choctaw diamond shirts and dresses, to the intricate beaded collars, necklaces and earrings. "I'm hoping in time we'll grow, with more employee volunteers joining the group and learning the dances," says Sleeper.

Also today, thanks to the nonprofit Chahta Foundation, the social dancing experience has now been extended even to those unable to attend the performancesorpresentations.

pottery in a wood fire, and how to cook in and eat out of the finished pottery, according to Thompson.

The class is open to and welcomes anyone, from beginner to advanced students, who are interested in learning the art of pottery. "The teachers and experienced students can teach people with any level of experience," he says

The department also teaches pottery at various locations around the area as requested.



LARISSA COPELAND | PHOTOS COURTESY CHOCTAW NATION OF OKLAHOMA

The Choctaw Employee Dance Troupe dances in front of the Choctaw Nation tribal complex in Durant.

their time, spending many hours each month practicing and perfecting the traditional dances they perform at community functions, such as parades, festivals or anywhere the group is invited to attend around the tribal area. "We do a short presentation," Sleeper explains, "telling the story of each dance, then explaining the steps. We then perform and we pull in people from the crowd and have them dance with us."

The dance group came about as part of Chief Pyle and Assistant Chief Batton's cultural awakening initiative. "Only a small group of people knew these Choctaw social dances," Sleeper continued, "and we wanted to spread that knowledge so that all Choctaws could learn the dances."

Sleeper started a social dance program in 2009, but on a smaller scale - at the tribe's 13 Head Start centers, making weekly visits to the classrooms to teach the dances to the students. It was because of her experiences while teaching the youngsters that she was inspired to organize the employee dance troupe. "It was then that I saw how many others wanted to learn the dances too," she says, and that is when the dance troupe was formed. Approximately 14 employees from various departments dance the group, all dressed in

The foundation recently produced an instructional dance DVD utilizing the talents of the group.

"The Head Starts actually use the DVDs now too," says Sleeper, "The teachers lead the lessons and we provide the shirts for the children."

Additionally, the Choctaw Nation Historic Preservation Department works adamantly to ensure the traditions of the tribe are not lost by doing its part to pass on the many trades and ancestral skills of the Choctaw. One such craft is pottery.

The department hosts biweekly pottery classes in Antlers and Durant, free of charge for anyone who wants to attend and learn the skill. The two classes, held on alternating Thursdays, meet at the Antlers Public Library, located at 104 SE 2nd St., and in Durant at the Choctaw Cultural Services Building, at 4451 Choctaw Rd., from 5-8 p.m.

Students of the classes, which are led by Director of Historic Preservation Dr. Ian Thompson, are taught the traditional Choctaw methods of digging clay, cleaning clay, and preparing the appropriate materials, such as sand or mussel shell, to mix with the clay. They also learn traditional methods for making different types of Choctaw pottery, the traditional designs used on the pottery, how to fire the

In addition to the pottery classes, Historic Preservation and Cultural Services departments teach many programs throughout the year on the cultural ways of the Choctaw including moccasinmaking, archery, bow-making, beading and basketry classes.

"We can also give presentations by request on the food, history and life ways of the Choctaw people," says Thompson. More information can be found at www. choctawnationculture.com.

Employees of the Choctaw Nation have embraced the tribal heritage and the tribe has officially made the first Monday of each month "Heritage Monday" at all its office buildings. On that day, employees put forth a conscious effort to dress traditionally, greet guests in the Native language and share the unique Choctaw culture through social dancing, history and storytelling, songs, crafts and traditional food.

No matter how large or small the endeavor, each act in this cultural awakening, this revitalization – this assurance that the history and characteristics that define who we are as a tribe and a people, are perpetuated, protected and maintained – will continue to be fuel in keeping the tribe alive and thriving for years to come and ensure a prosperous future generation of Choctaws.



Dr. Ian Thompson, right, tells Chief Gregory E. Pyle about the history of Choctaw pottery during a pottery class at the tribal complex in Durant.



Do you know how to speak Cherokee, but cannot read and write the language?

Do your children have difficulty grasping the language?

Are you new to the Cherokee language and looking for a quick and effective way to learn?

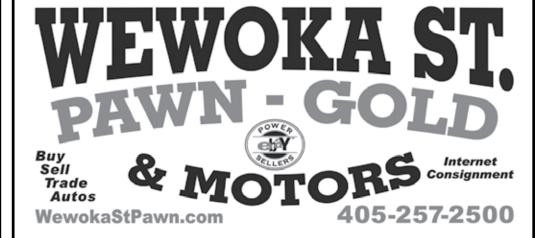
Our Cherokee Syllabary workbook is the first building block in Simply Cherokee's catalogue of tools for learning to read, write, and speak the Cherokee language. Inside these pages you will find the fastest - and most effective! - way to learn the Cherokee Syllabary. Each syllabary has a simple story containing a word with the syllbary's unique sound. After completing the workbook, you will remember the story and the key word whenever you see a syllabary. Cherokee Syllabary is designed for fast assimilation. And when you are done, just move on to the next book. You'll be fluent as simply as that!

Flash cards available too!

# www.simplycherokee.com

(918) 708-5008 • info@simplycherokee.com

American Indian Owned & Operated Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK

"Where every day is Indian Day"

### **Inside this issue:**

- Gov. stresses good relations with state tribes
- OCU signs Cheyenne/Arapaho player
- Popular video game features Mohawk assassin









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT TRIBAL NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 48

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**DECEMBER 7, 2012** 

# \$3.4B lawsuit ends, disbursements to begin



One of the largest U.S. government settlements in history began with a lawsuit filed in 1996 by Elouise Cobell of Browning, Mont. The Blackfeet leader led the fight against the government for more than 15 years before she died of cancer last year.

**MATT VOLZ** Associated Press

HELENA, Mont. (AP) - After nearly 17 years of courtroom arguments, congressional negotiations and Indian Country bickering, hundreds of thousands of Native Americans could see the first payments of a \$3.4 billion U.S. government settlement by the end of the year, plaintiffs' attorneys said Monday.

The settlement between American Indians across the nation and the government over more than a century's worth of squandered and mismanaged

land trust royalties became final on Friday, when the appeal period expired.

One of the largest U.S. government settlements in history began with a lawsuit filed in 1996 by Elouise Cobell of Browning, Mont. The Blackfeet leader observed that those who leased Indian land made money from its natural resources, while the Indians themselves remained in poverty with no accounting of the royalties from that land that were held in trust for them by the government

Cobell herself led the fight against the government for more than 15 years before she died of cancer last year.

"We all are happy that this settlement can finally be implemented," lead attorney Dennis Gingold said in a statement Monday. "We deeply regret that Ms. Cobell did not live to see this day."

**Approximately** 350,000 beneficiaries could start receiving \$1,000 checks by Christmas as the first part of the settlement goes forward, plaintiffs' attorneys

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar released a statement that said the settlement marks a step

See COBELL Continued on Page 4

### Choctaw citizen named to lead BIA's Eastern Okla. office

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

MUSKOGEE, Okla. - After three years of interim leaders, the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Eastern Oklahoma office has a permanent director.

Nedra Darling, spokeswoman for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, confirmed Thursday afternoon that Robert Impson, a citizen of the Choctaw Nation, took office as the permanent director of the Eastern Oklahoma regional office in Muskogee earlier this month.

Since November 2009, the position leaders after Jeanette Hanna was reassigned to Washington, D.C. The

position was not advertised as vacant until April after the resignation of then-Assistant Secretary of the Interior Larry Echo Hawk.

Prior to becoming the regional director of the Eastern Oklahoma office, Impson was the deputy regional director for trust services at the BIA's regional office in Nashville, Tenn. A former superintendent of the BIA's Chickasaw Agency in Ada, Okla., he also served as interim regional director of the Eastern Oklahoma office in late 2009 and 2010 after Jeannette Hanna was placed on detail to Washington, D.C. A citizen of the Choctaw Nation, had been filled by a series of interim Impson has been with the BIA for Okla.; Wewoka, Okla.; Pawhuska, more than 30 years.

"We are very pleased that Mr.

Impson has been named regional director," Gov. Bill Anoatubby of the Chickasaw Nation said. "He has worked closely with the Chickasaw Nation and other tribes in this region for many years. We believe he has the knowledge and experience necessary to ensure the BIA continues to work alongside tribes to help enhance the quality of life of Indian people in this

Serving 19 of Oklahoma's 39 federally-recognized tribes, Eastern Oklahoma regional office has agency offices in Ada, Okla.; Miami, Okla.; Talihina, Okla.; and Okmulgee,



President Barack Obama is joined onstage by his adopted Native American parents, Hartford "Sonny" Black Eagle and Mary Black Eagle, during the 2011 Tribal Nations Conference at the Department of Interior, Washington, D.C., Dec. 2, 2011.

# Montana tribal elder who adopted Obama dies

**MATTHEW BROWN** Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) - An elder from Montana's Crow Indian Tribe whose family ceremoniously adopted then-Sen. Barack Obama during the 2008 presidential race has died.

Hartford "Sonny" Black Eagle Jr. died Monday at his home in Lodge Grass on the tribe's reservation in the southeastern part of the state, said his son, Crow tribal Chairman Cedric Black Eagle.

The 78-year-old traditional healer died in his sleep after battling respiratory problems stemming from a severe case of

pneumonia several months ago, Cedric Black Eagle said.

President Obama called Black Eagle's wife, Mary, on Wednesday to express his condolences, a White House official said.

A top Interior Department official who is a member of the tribe said Black Eagle's death was an "enormous loss for the Crow nation."

"Hartford Black Eagle willingly shouldered the weight of leadership and responsibility to improve the lives of our people. My heart goes out to the entire Black Eagle family," said Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian

See ELDER Continued on Page 4

Charlie Soap (left), husband of the late Wilma Mankiller, visits with actors Kimberly Guerrero and Moses Brings Plenty on the set of filming "The Cherokee Word for Water." The film is now playing at select theaters in Tulsa and Tahlequah.

# Wilma Mankiller celebrated during film's Okla. premiere

KAREN SHADE Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - Hundreds of hands went into making the new feature film The Cherokee Word for Water, but one name was most on the minds and hearts filling the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame for Thursday evening's special premiere event in Tulsa.

Wilma Mankiller, former principal chief of the Cherokee Nation of

Oklahoma, was celebrated by an audience packing the ballroom where the film was screened for the first time. When it was over, everyone understood why Mankiller never wanted the film to be about her.

"Wilma wanted the film to get the message across to America that Native people do contribute to economic development and education. They are sharing the load," said Charlie Soap in an interview before the screening.

The Cherokee Word for Water is set in the early 1980s when a young Mankiller pulls up to her mother's home in Adair County with her two teenage daughters. Having grown up in San Francisco, Calif., Mankiller, played by actress Kimberly Guerrero (Cherokee, Colville, Salish-Kootenai), has returned to her birthplace. She has also come back to help her people and

See FILM Continued on Page 8

# Wyoming tribe asks judge to reconsider eagle case

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) - A Wyoming Indian tribe is asking a federal judge to reconsider a recent ruling that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service acted properly in prohibiting the tribe from killing bald eagles for religious purposes on its central Wyoming reservation.

The Northern Arapaho Tribe this week asked U.S. District Judge Alan B. Johnson of Cheyenne to change the ruling he entered earlier this month.

The Fish and Wildlife Service earlier this year granted the Northern Arapaho the nation's first permit allowing it to kill up to two bald eagles a year for religious purposes.

But Johnson upheld the federal agency's requirement that the Northern Arapaho couldn't kill the birds on the Wind River Indian Reservation because of objections from the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, which shares the reservation.

# Fallin stresses good relations with Okla. tribes

**SEAN MURPHY**Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)

- While her office remains entangled in a lawsuit with two of Oklahoma's largest Native American tribes over water rights, Gov. Mary Fallin emphasized last Tuesday that productive relationships between the state and tribes are critical to Oklahoma's economy.

Officials from about 20 of the state's 38 federally recognized tribes joined Fallin at the state Capitol for an event recognizing a national proclamation of November as Native American Heritage month.

"In Oklahoma



Okla. Gov. Mary Fallin

appreciate and respect the impact that the tribes have had upon our state's economy, on the jobs that have been created, certainly upon our culture," Fallin said. "One of

my top priorities as governor of Oklahoma has been to strengthen our economy, grow our jobs, to help our Oklahoma families be able to have a better quality of life, and the tribal governments ... are important partners in helping us grow the prosperity of all Oklahoma citizens."

The governor's office is involved in negotiations with the Chickasaw and Choctaw nations in their dispute with the state over control of water in southeastern Oklahoma. A lawsuit filed by the tribes, which seeks to bar the state and Oklahoma City from transporting water from the region, is on hold while the two sides work with a court-appointed mediator.

A spokesman for Fallin said both sides are prohibited from discussing the mediation talks because of the court's gag order in the case.

The governor's office passed a bill last year to eliminate the state's Indian Affairs Commission and replace the state agency with a Native American liaison post in her office. Although Native American lawmakers initially voiced opposition, several tribal officials last week said they are pleased to be working directly with Jacque Hensley, a citizen of the Kaw Nation appointed by Fallin to the post in July.

Fallin said Hensley is meeting regularly with tribal

officials across the state and briefing the governor weekly on the current state of tribal relations.

"I think the turnout you had today showed that it is positive," said Brian McLain, executive director of legislative advocacy for the Choctaw Nation. "I think (Fallin) hit the nail right on the head – working together is beneficial for all Oklahomans."

Ron Sparkman, chief of the Shawnee Tribe and a former member of the Indian Affairs Commission, said he was concerned when lawmakers abolished the panel but that he is looking forward to working with the governor and Hensley.

"That's something the governor wanted to do, and that's her prerogative. We respect that," Sparkman said. "Ms. Hensley has been to our meetings and put forth the effort, and I hope that continues."

Besides the lawsuit over water rights, Fallin's office also is involved in negotiations with 28 different tribes over tobacco compacts with the state that regulate the tribal sale of tobacco products in Oklahoma. The current compacts were negotiated with Fallin's predecessor, former Democratic Gov. Brad Henry, and are set to expire in 2013, according to the governor's office.

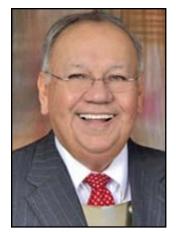
# Tulsa County announces Creek naming rights deal on Thurs. meeting agenda

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. – Tulsa County officials have said an agreement with a local tribe will be revisited Thursday.

The regular December meeting of the Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority is scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday at the ExpoServe Building, located at 3902 E. 15th St. Among the agenda



Chief George Tiger

items is one concerning the recent naming rights acquisition by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The specific concerns to be addressed at the meeting will be announced prior.

In November, officials with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation announced the tribe had purchased the naming rights for the Expo Square at the Tulsa County Fairgrounds

for \$1.44 million through 2019. The agreement, which was approved unanimously without comment by the Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority, included a provision that would end live horse racing at Fair Meadows, a track located on the eastern edge of the fairgrounds, thus cutting out millions of dollars in gaming compact funds that were used to supplement race purses at tracks across Oklahoma.

"Our interest was in the naming rights only," Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger said Thursday night, Nov. 29. "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has nothing to do with horse racing or stopping it at Fair Meadows."

The agreement has since come under fire from horse racing groups and a member of the Oklahoma legislature, claiming the Tulsa County Facilities Authority was not wholly transparent in the process and is causing irrevocable damage to the Oklahoma horse racing industry by closing one of the state's three active live racing tracks.

"Whatever happens on the other side of the plate is not our fault," Tiger said. "The Tulsa County Fair Board had something that we were interested in and we went after it. That is all there is to it."



AMANDA RUTLAND | COURTESY

A crowd gathered to watch the signing of partnership between Thlopthlocco Tribal Town and the State of Oklahoma National Guard Nov. 11 at the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town headquarters near Clairview, Okla. Front Row (left to right) Nelson Harjo, Major General Myles L. Deering, Meeko George Scott and Charles Coleman

### Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, Okla. National Guard sign MOU

■ One of three Muscogee (Creek) tribal towns with federal recognition, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town has an unusually high rate of military service.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

OKEMAH, Okla. – Representatives from the Oklahoma National Guard and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town signed a memorandum of understanding Thursday.

Signed at the tribal town's complex, the MOU covers historical and cultural preservation efforts made by both sides and would require the National Guard to contact Thlopthlocco officials if tribal remains are inadvertently discovered during unit activities in the town's jurisdictional area.

"As part of the MOU, whatever they (the National Guard) find, they are going to do an educational component on it for our young people instead of just putting them in a shed," Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Tribal History Project Officer Charles Coleman said. "Out of the shed and into the head. This is information our young people need to know."

This is the tribal town's second MOU with a division of the National Guard. In 2011, it signed a similar agreement with the Georgia National Guard's Native American consultation program, as did the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians. Prior to the Creek Confederacy's forced removal to Oklahoma, Thlopthlocco was located in eastern Alabama near what is now Wetumpka, Ala., about 100 miles from Fort Benning, Ga.

Fort Benning, Ga.

"For our tribe, this is the most important," Coleman said. "Fort Benning and Fort Gordon is where we were and where our ancestors are buried, but

One of three Muscogee (Creek) tribal towns with federal recognition, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town has an unusually high rate of military service, with more than one-third of its eligible citizens either currently serving or have previously served. The tribal town also claims the first Native American West Point graduate, David Moniac, among its pre-removal citizens.

Oklahoma is our home."

A U.S. Army veteran and retired teacher, Coleman said he sees this MOU as a way to encourage younger generations of Natives to consider military service.

"This is one of the things that the military can do and offer young people," he said. "It doesn't have to be a college education. Could be vo-tech classes or hands-on training while learning more about your tribe."

# Clinic protest gathers few, members not discouraged

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON

Native American Times

MUSKOGEE, Okla. – Members of a fledgling advocacy group took to the street Nov. 27 to raise concerns about health care practices at a local clinic.

Led by Pryor, Okla., resident and Cherokee Nation citizen Ruth Fallon, members of the Native Citizens Health Care Alliance held signs across the road from the Three Rivers Dental Clinic Tuesday afternoon in an effort to draw attention to their issues with the quality of care provided at the facility.

Fallon organized the group after a visit earlier this year to the clinic for a root canal and crown. After her root canal was completed, she was informed that there was a \$200 charge for a crown – something she said she was not appraised of before her appointment.

"In order to charge a fee, there has to be a bilateral agreement," she said. "You can't just impose it after the fact."

According to a spokeswoman for the clinic's operator, Cherokee Nation, the dental clinic recently added a pilot program to make crowns on-site and charges the fee to cover the costs of materials.

In late 2011, the Cherokee Nation enacted legislation to allocate an additional 5 percent

of casino profits to contract health services which covers specialty medical needs that might not necessarily be available at IHS facilities. However, those additional funds are listed in the tribe's 2013 budget as specifically for dentures and eyeglasses. They are also limited to citizens within the tribe's 14-county jurisdiction.

Although only three members of the Native Citizens Health Care Alliance attended Tuesday's protest, the attendees were not discouraged by the turnout and hung their extra signs along the wire fence across from the clinic.

"Three is more than enough," member Ollie Starr said. "We will still make our voices heard."

Another of the organization's members, Betsy Swimmer, went inside the clinic during the two-hour protest to schedule dental and eye appoints. She said while inside, she received conflicting information from employees about whether appointments could be scheduled in person and whether patients must live within the Cherokee Nation's 14-county jurisdictional area in order to be seen.

"I went through the process to make sure I wasn't speaking out of turn," Swimmer said. "When you have Council people and elected officials promising to make health care a priority, it is disappointing to have to



LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON  $\mid$  NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Ollie Starr, left, and Betsy Swimmer hold signs Nov. 27 outside the Three Rivers Dental Clinic in Muskogee.

experience something like this."

The organization also had members outside at a Cherokee Nation community meeting that night in Dewey, Okla., and outside the tribe's Council House last Thursday afternoon while the legislative branch held committee meetings. Fallon has written to officials with Indian Health Services about her concerns and experiences at the clinic.

### Kiowa elder payments near

KEITH VASQUEZ Kiowa Tribe

CARNEGIE, Okla. – Kiowa Elders, age 65 and older, are just weeks away from receiving their annual payment from the Tribe.

Every year the eligible Seniors receive a set amount of money just before Christmas. This year the checks will read \$550.

The payments will begin on Dec. 12 at Hard Rock Casino and Hotel for the Tulsa area Kiowa Seniors. The recipients will take home a check, a voucher for a holiday turkey and several goodies including door prizes. They will also be treated to a meal at the casino. The event will begin at 2pm in the casino's Sky Room.

Cambria Suites in Oklahoma City will be the next location for check disbursement on Dec. 13. From 2-6 p.m. the OKC Kiowa Tribal Elders will also receive a check, a voucher for a turkey and goodies.

Red Buffalo Hall in Carnegie will be the site for the southwest Oklahoma Kiowa Elders. The program will start at 10 a.m. Friday, Dec. 14. The event will feature a catered meal, entertainment, goodies and a Holiday turkey for each eligible senior. Last year the Elders and guests numbered more than 800 in Carnegie.

All three events will be streamed live on the Tribal website www.kiowatribe.org. Go to "Media" and click on "Video".

# Tribes raise \$9M for sacred SD land

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP)

– After months of highprofile fundraising that drew
celebrities' attention and
dollars, a group of Native
American tribes has raised \$9
million to buy a piece of land
in South Dakota's Black Hills
that they consider sacred, an
official with an Indian land
foundation said Friday.

The Indian Land Tenure Foundation president Cris Stainbrook told The Associated Press that the tribes raised enough money to purchase the land from its current owners. The foundation was one of several groups and organizations leading the effort to buy the land.

The deal was finalized Friday, which was the deadline for the tribes to raise the money.

The land, known as Pe' Sla, went up for sale after being privately owned. Members of the Great Sioux Nation have been allowed to gather there every year to perform rituals. The site plays a key role in the tribes' creation story, and members fear new owners would develop it.

Tribal leaders from three Sioux tribes – Rosebud Sioux President Cyril Scott, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Chairman Charlie Vig and Crow Creek Chairman Brandon Sazue – released a joint statement Friday, saying they are happy to be able to reclaim one of their sacred sites.

Those three tribes were the only ones to contribute to the purchase, Scott said. Tribal leaders would not say how much each tribe contributed to the purchase.

The three leaders said they exercised their tribal sovereign authority.

"It's a great day for Indian Country," Scott said in a phone interview with The Associated Press. Scott also said that all Sioux tribal members are invited to the land and that tribal leaders plan to form a commission to preserve the



Cris Stainbrook, president, Indian Land Tenure Foundation

land.

More than \$900,000 was raised through online contributions, said Standing Rock Sioux tribal member Chase Iron Eyes. His company, Last Real Indians, led the online effort.

Earlier this year, landowners Leonard and Margaret Reynolds canceled a public auction of the property after tribal members expressed outrage. The Reynolds' then accepted the tribes' bid to purchase the land for \$9 million.

The couple has repeatedly

said they will not speak publicly about the land sale and did not return a message from The AP on Friday seeking comment.

The fundraising effort drew support from several celebrities. P. Diddy tweeted about it as did Bette Midler, who also donated. Midler said she was "happy and proud" to have helped out with the purchase.

"I've been talking about it to my friends, tweeting to the world and donating through my foundation because I think it's important for the soul of our nation," she said in a statement Friday.

Actor Ezra Miller, who appeared in the recently released film "The Perks of Being a Wallflower," and music producer Sol Guy flew to South Dakota last month to film a nine-minute documentary-style video about the land that was used as part of an online campaign to raise funds.

The fundraising effort has been a monumental and

controversial undertaking for the Sioux tribes. An 1868 treaty set aside the Black Hills and other land for the Sioux, but Congress passed a law in 1877 seizing the land following the discovery of gold in western South Dakota.

A 1980 U.S. Supreme Court ruling awarded more than \$100 million to the Sioux tribes for the Black Hills, but the tribes have refused to accept the money, saying the land has never been for sale. There are Sioux tribes in the Dakotas, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska and Canada.

Some members of the Sioux tribes didn't agree with trying to purchase the land. Bryan Brewer, president-elect of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, said his tribe did not allocate any money to the land purchase.

"I'm still against buying something we own, but I'm thrilled the tribes' are buying it. I'm very happy about it," he said.

### NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Publisher & Editor
LISA SNELL
editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers
Dana Attocknie
Lenzy Krehbiel-Burton
Wesley Mahan
Karen Shade

Advertising Sales
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
LISA SNELL
advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution
CHERYL GOUGE
SHELBY HICKS
STEVE LACY
WESLEY MAHAN
MICHAEL MARRIS
KATHLEEN ROBERTSON
BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly prohibited.

Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES P.O. Box 411, Tahlequah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM - News from the crossroads of Indian Country





# Tahlequah ecycling

tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

# NATIVE TIMES

recycles with
Tahlequah
Recycling
Incorporated...
shouldn't you?

# American Indian bones closer to returning to earth

They are "culturally affiliated" with current-day tribes, the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma and the Osage Nation.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) – The bones of Native Americans who once farmed in what is now western Arkansas are one step closer to returning to the earth after they were dug out of the ground.

The Ozark-St. Francis
National Forest has
completed an inventory of 28
sets of human remains and
artifacts and determined that
they are "culturally affiliated"
with current-day tribes, the
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
and the Osage Nation, the
Arkansas-Democrat Gazette
reported Sunday.

That means the bones can be claimed by the tribes and returned under the Native American Grave Repatriation Act, a law signed by George H.W. Bush in 1990.

Since the law took effect, more than 38,600 human remains and nearly 1 million associated funerary objects have been returned to tribes, according to the National Park Service.

In some cases, looters

dug up centuries-old burial mounds and carted away the bones. In others, scientists found the gravesites while looking for clues about how American Indians lived and died in the past.

"The Caddo have a long history of being dug up over the years by archaeologists and looters," said Robert Cast, tribal historic preservation officer for the Caddo Nation, a tribe of about 5,000 people that has governmental offices near Binger, Okla.

Archaeologists working with the Ouachita and Ozark-St. Francis National Forests recorded the sexes and probable ages at death of the remains that were recently inventoried, as well as any trauma and disease that the people likely endured, forest spokeswoman Tracy Farley

Ozark-St. Francis Forest staff and representatives of 23 different tribes assessed the remains, the newspaper reported.

The Ozark-St. Francis Forest has other remains in its possession, but Farley said she didn't know how many. She said the national forest was "just beginning" a complete inventory of them.

# State, inmates far apart on ceremonial tobacco

■ A judge ordered the groups to meet and propose revisions to the tobacco policy for inmates practicing the Lakota religion.

**DIRK LAMMERS**Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – South Dakota corrections officials and an organization of Native American inmates are far apart on their suggested revisions to a prison policy regulating the use of tobacco in religious ceremonies.

Chief Judge Karen Schreier ruled in September that the prison system's ban on tobacco in religious ceremonies substantially burdens Native American inmates' religious rights. The state had argued that ceremonial tobacco inside the state penitentiary was increasingly abused.

Schreier ordered the groups to meet and propose revisions to the tobacco policy for inmates practicing the Lakota religion. If they couldn't reach a consensus, they were asked to submit individual written proposals.

The South Dakota prison system went tobacco-free in 2000 but made an exception for tobacco used in Native American ceremonies. Officials in October 2009 eliminated that exemption, saying tobacco was being sold or bartered and inmates had been caught separating it from their pipe mixtures and tobacco ties.

The state in its brief is agreeing to allow tobacco at pipe ceremonies but wants the right to prohibit its use in tobacco ties – which embody a small amount of tobacco in cloth – in prayer flags and inside the prison's sweat lodge. It also wants to cap the tobacco mix at 1 percent and require that prisoners use only finely ground cherry-blend tobacco.

The inmates group wants tobacco allowed at all four of those circumstances. It is agreeing to limit the mix to 10 percent, but says it should not be ground, as that makes the mixtures almost impossible to smoke.

The group agrees to have pipe ceremonies in locations that are under video surveillance, but wants an exception for pipe ceremonies inside the sweat lodge, which has surveillance outside.

The inmates' attorney, Pamela Bollweg, said Tuesday that she'd wait to comment until Schreier issues her final ruling.

James Moore, the officials' attorney, did not return a telephone call seeking comment.

The parties have until Dec. 4 to file objections to the other group's proposal.

Members of prison-based Native American Council of Tribes sued after the 2009 exemption was eliminated, saying the policy change violated their U.S. constitutional rights ensuring that no prisoner be penalized or discriminated against for their religious beliefs or practices. Inmates Blaine Brings Plenty and Clayton Creek argued that for Native American prayer to be effective, it must be embodied in tobacco and offered within a ceremonial framework.

The state argued that the policy was not overly restrictive because it allowed other botanicals, such as red willow bark, to be burned.

The Justice Department, in a brief filed in July, said the state's position ran contrary to the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act and U.S. Supreme Court precedent.

Schreier said in her September ruling said that even if state officials had asserted a compelling governmental interest, they did not prove that the complete ban was the least restrictive means available to further that governmental interest.

# SUPERNAW'S ANNUAL SALE

10% OFF ON PENDLETON PRODUCTS AND BROADCLOTH 20% OFF ON EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE STORE

HACKLES, SPIKES, FLUFFS, SKINS, BEADS, SHELLS, NEEDLES, THREAD, BLANKETS, SAGE, CEDAR, BROOCHES, LOTS OF JEWELRY EVERYTHING! HURRY!

CASH OR CREDIT CARD ONLY PURCHASES MUST BE MADE IN THE STORE

OPEN NOON TO 6:00 PM WEEKDAYS • SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY 109 NORTH BROADWAY, SKIATOOK, OK 74070 COUNTRYWIDE TOLL FREE 1-888-720-1967 EMAIL: SUPERNAW@FLASH.NET

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		
Address:		
City:	_ State: Zip:	
Phone:		
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>		

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

# Tribal curriculum available to state's schools

For the past seven years, tribes across Washington have been working with educators in their respective school districts to develop the curriculum.

PHIL FEROLITO Yakima Herald-Republic

WHITE SWAN, Wash. (AP) – A picture of Chief Little Crow was plastered across the first page of a PowerPoint presentation that 13-year-old Brandon Spencer was assembling at White Swan High School one recent morning.

"He's part of a Sioux tribe and I'm part of a Sioux tribe," the eighth-grader and Yakama tribal member said about the chief who led the Mdewakanton Dakota Sioux in the mid-1800s.

Sitting next to Spencer was 14-year-old Darnell Williams, also an eighth-grader. He was working on a presentation about Sitting Bull, once chief of the Hunkpapa Lakota Sioux

"He was a good chief," Williams said. "He was tough."

Both Spencer and Darnell are taking a recently implemented tribal sovereignty class in the Mt. Adams School District.

"I like this class because I can learn more about my culture, my tribe and other tribes," Spencer said

Adopted by the state Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the tribal sovereignty curriculum that covers the history, culture and governments of tribes across the country with an emphasis on Washington tribes is available to school districts across the state. The curriculum

can be used in elementary, middle and high schools, and to satisfy social studies credit requirements. Education plans in the curriculum can be modified to fit each school district and corresponding tribe.

The curriculum is open to all students and is not only designed to teach members of the state's 29 federally recognized tribes about their own history, government and culture, but also to educate non-Indians about tribal communities.

The online curriculum is the result of a bill signed into law by Gov. Chris Gregoire in 2005 that encourages school districts on or near Indian reservations to incorporate tribal studies. Bill sponsor Rep. John McCoy, D-Tulalip and a Tulalip tribal member, said the absence of Indian studies in public schools left a gaping hole in history classes and caused a disconnect between schools and Native Americans.

For the past seven years, tribes across the state – including the Yakama – have been working with educators in their respective school districts to develop the curriculum, which can be found at www.indian-ed.org. Also covered in the curriculum are the treaties Northwestern tribes signed with the U.S. government, and how their traditional hunting, fishing and food gathering rights in their original territories were reserved.

The new curriculum also has drawn the interest of Heritage University in Toppenish, which plans to incorporate it into the college's indigenous studies program next year, said Winona Wynn, head of university's English and humanities department. She will head the indigenous program next year

"We want to retain and respond to our native students and we want them to feel a sense of belonging at our university," she said.

There are three public school districts on the 1.2 million-acre Yakama reservation: Mt. Adams, Wapato and Toppenish.

The Toppenish district, which is in its second year of teaching tribal sovereignty, has been a training ground for teachers at other districts who want to implement the curriculum. Involving tribal elders who are responsible for passing on tribal history, culture and spiritual beliefs to younger generations has been instrumental, said Yakama tribal member Patsy Whitefoot, who is the Indian education director for the Toppenish School District, where Native Americans account for more than 12 percent of the students.

"There's a lot involved in this," Whitefoot said. "I think the uniqueness in all this is being able to get people together to talk about what it means to be a Yakama."

Although the Wapato School District sent teachers to the training, it hasn't decided whether to implement the curriculum. But it encourages teachers to incorporate tribal culture into classes when appropriate, district spokesman Mike Balmelli said in an email. Native Americans account for nearly 20 percent of students in that district.

At White Swan High School, the class has already generated excitement among students who otherwise lost interest in school, said language arts teacher Peggy Sanchey, who teaches the tribal sovereignty class. She said some students are spending two hours after school working on tribal sovereignty projects, and parents who never graduated are asking about the class. Their inquiries have

school officials discussing whether to begin a GED program attached to a tribal sovereignty class for adults, she said.

White Swan is an unincorporated area deep within the Yakama reservation, where poverty is high and job opportunities slim. Faced with poverty and gang violence, students here are struggling to meet state learning standards. Last school year, only 34.7 percent of Native American students in 10th grade met state reading standards and 52.1 percent met state writing standards, according to the OSPI website. Native American students account for 54.4 percent of students in the district.

By comparison, Native American students in the Toppenish School District – 20 miles to the west on the reservation – are making significant strides. Last year, 57.1 percent of Native American 10th-graders met state reading standards while 76.2 percent met state writing standards, according to OSPI. Several programs, including STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), have been credited with improving scores at the Toppenish district.

But Sanchey believes student scores in White Swan will improve with the new curriculum because it offers Native American students a sense of pride about their heritage, something formal public school settings once strived to strip away.

"More important to me is that these kids understand who they are and who their ancestors were and what they meant to their tribes," said Sanchey, also a Yakama. "These kids need to know who they are, and they're not gangsters – they're Native Americans with proud heritage behind them."

### **ELDER**

ontinued from Page

Affairs Donald "Del" Laverdure, a former chief legal counsel for the tribe

Black Eagle and his family adopted Obama when the presidential candidate visited the reservation in the weeks leading up to Montana's Democratic primary.

As part of the adoption, Obama attended a purification ceremony where he faced east, the symbolic source of new life, and was prayed over by Black Eagle. He was given a Crow name that translates as "One Who Helps People Throughout the Land."

Cedric Black Eagle said his father considered the 2008 adoption ceremony one of the proudest moments in his life and subsequently considered it his duty to make sure Native American voices were heard.

"He felt like he was representing all of Indian Country as a spokesman, and always telling his (adopted) son, the president, that he has to make sure all of the people in Indian Country are heard and try to help them all," Cedric Black Eagle said.

Obama, who referred to himself as "Barack Black Eagle" during his 2008 visit to Crow Agency, pledged at the time to improve relations between American Indian tribes and the federal government if elected.

Black Eagle and his wife were later invited to Obama's presidential inauguration, and returned to Washington, D.C., in subsequent years for the annual White House Tribal Leaders Conference. Black Eagle and other family members also attended several Christmas dinners at the White House, his son said.

During destructive flooding on the reservation last year that left Lodge Grass largely isolated and forced many tribal members from their homes, Obama called Hartford and Mary Black Eagle to check on their safety, Cedric Black Eagle said.

The Crow Tribe released a statement Wednesday calling Hartford Black Eagle a "man of peace" who was well-known for his healing work and regarded the people of the world as belonging to one family.

He was born during the Great Depression and grew up outside Lodge Grass, where his family raised cows and horses on the same land where Black Eagle would make his home as an adult. He was also known by his Crow name, Alaxalusshixiassaah, meaning "thundering hoof," according to the tribe.

After his mother died of tuberculosis when he was a baby, Black Eagle was raised by his grandparents and later became a strong advocate for preserving the Crow's traditions and culture.

He taught the Crow language to his eight children, and instructed them and others in the community on performing traditional tribal dances, Cedric Black Eagle said.

To earn a living, he worked as a carpenter, an Indian Health Service representative and, most recently, as a political adviser to his son, who earlier this month lost a bid for re-election.

His death came less than two weeks after the loss of another member of the family, 55-year-old daughter Marilyn Black Eagle, who died Nov. 16 in a two-vehicle accident.

### Chippewa to judge: Night deer hunting is safe

TODD RICHMOND
Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. (AP) – Wisconsin's Chippewa tribes tried to persuade a federal judge Tuesday to allow tribal hunters to kill deer after dark, arguing the state has suddenly allowed night wolf hunting and tribal hunters are entitled to similar opportunities.

The commission that oversees the Chippewa's off-reservation rights last week quietly authorized tribal hunters to take deer at night across northern Wisconsin. The state Department of Natural Resources, which has outlawed night deer hunting out of safety concerns, balked.

A bitter legal battle has ensued between the DNR and the Chippewa. The state agency has asked U.S. District Judge Barbara Crabb to rule the state's prohibition on night deer hunting clearly extends to the tribes. The Chippewa responded Tuesday with a motion asking Crabb to issue a temporary restraining order barring the DNR from enforcing the ban on tribal members. Crabb has set a status conference for Wednesday.

"(The DNR's) concerns are meritless and discriminatory, and the state's refusal to consent to the change in tribal laws is therefore unreasonable," the filing said.

DNR officials had no

immediate response.

Treaties the Chippewa

signed in the 1800s ceding 22,400 acres across northern Wisconsin to the government guarantees the tribes the right to hunt and fish as they see fit on that land. They've been running their own deer hunts in the territory for years.

Two decades ago, the tribes tried to convince Crabb during federal cases clarifying tribal harvest rights that they should be allowed to hunt deer at night. The tribes argued the state allows night fox and coyote hunting, but the judge found shooting deer in the dark with larger bullets and at higher angles presents a serious safety risk.

She ruled the state's prohibition on the practice extended to tribal hunters. The tribes worked the ban into their off-reservation codes.

Relations between the state and the Chippewa have frayed over the last year. The first problems surfaced this past spring when lawmakers tried to pass a bill loosening mining standards to help a Florida-based company open a giant iron mine south of Lake Superior. The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa feared the mine would pollute local waters and jeopardize their rice

The bill never passed, but legislators angered the tribes again when they passed a bill establishing Wisconsin's first organized wolf hunt. The Chippewa consider the wolf a brother and fought

fiercely against the hunt. In September, the tribal commission authorized tribal hunters to kill an elk, a species the DNR has been working to re-introduce for nearly 20 years.

Now the tribes want to hunt deer at night.

They say the wolf hunt has changed everything: Since hunters can use large-caliber bullets to kill wolves in the dark, the DNR can no longer argue about using larger bullets to kill deer at night is too dangerous, they say.

The tribal commission and the DNR have been negotiating over night deer hunting for months, according to the filing. At first, agency officials didn't oppose the idea, but later asked the tribes to hold off for a year to avoid negative publicity. But as things drew to a head, DNR finally raised safety concerns, the filing said.

The tribes countered in the filing that their hunters must meet stringent safety standards to get a night permit, including getting firearms training from their tribe, completing an advanced hunter safety course, shining lights at deer only at the point of kill and identifying a clear field of fire during the day. The safety requirements are tougher than standards DNR sharpshooters must meet before they kill deer at night in areas infected with chronic wasting disease, the tribes added.

# **COBELL**

Continued from Page 1

forward in reconciliation and a new era in how the government administers its trusts.

"With the settlement now final, we can put years of discord behind us and start a new chapter in our nation-to-nation relationship," Salazar said.

The agreement will pay out \$1.5 billion to two classes of beneficiaries. Each member of the first class would be paid \$1,000. Each member of the second class would be paid \$800 plus a share of the balance of the settlement funds as calculated by a formula based on the activity in their trust accounts.

Another \$1.9 billion would be used by the government to purchase fractionated land allotments from willing individuals and turn those consolidated allotments over to the tribe. An education scholarship for young Indians also would be established under the agreement.

Congress approved the deal in December 2010 and U.S. District Judge Thomas Hogan approved it after a June 2011 hearing. Hogan said that while the settlement may not be as much as some wished, the deal ended the legal deadlock and provided some certainty for the beneficiaries.

Cobell traveled across Indian Country to explain the deal, but there was opposition. One opponent, Kimberly Craven of Boulder, Colo., took her objections to the Supreme Court, saying the settlement did not include an actual accounting for how much money the government lost and that the deal would overcompensate a select few beneficiaries.

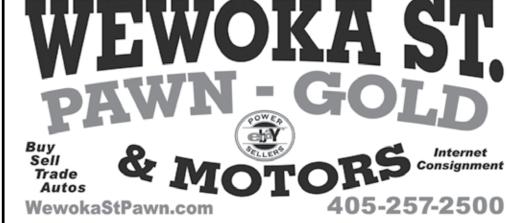
### PEARY L. ROBERTSON ATTORNEY AT LAW (405) 382-7300

INDIAN LAW | PROBATE | CRIMINAL LAW DIVORCE | SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY STATEWIDE REPRESENTATION

1700 N. Milt Phillips Ave., Seminole, Okla.



American Indian Owned & Operated Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles. We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK "Where every day is Indian Day"

# Anadarko Warriors end streak at state championship game

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

STILLWATER, Okla. - So close.

After starting the season 13-0, the Anadarko High School football team came up just short in the Class 4A championship Saturday, dropping a 21-14 heartbreaker to the Clinton Red Tornadoes at Oklahoma State University's Boone Pickens Stadium.

Leading 14-7 through three quarters, the Warriors surrendered two fourth quarter touchdowns and could not cash in on a last-minute drive, ending their 28-game winning streak and giving the Custer County school its 19th state football title.

"We've played each other at the JV (junior varsity) level for more than 30 years," AHS coach Kent Jackson said. "We play them so much that it just comes down to who works the hardest. They know what we do, we know what they do."

After winning the 2011 Class 3A state title – the Caddo County's school's first in football – Anadarko High School was bumped up a classification for the 2012 and 2013 seasons due to enrollment numbers. With three tribes

headquartered in the city and four more with capitols within 40 miles of town, almost twothirds of the students enrolled in Anadarko Public Schools are Native American.

"Sometimes it's hard to get a positive image out about our kids outside of the community," Jackson said. "Our Native kids are just as good as anybody and have proven it with athletics."

Over the last three seasons, the Warriors have gone a combined 40-2, with their two losses being a 42-33 defeat by Tulsa Metro Christian Academy in the 2010 Class 3A quarterfinals and Saturday's game. Prior to the championship, the Warriors gave up 85 points over 13 games and outscored their opponents by an average of more than 31 points.

"The community's been really good to us," senior Galen Satoe said. We've seen a lot of support and we thank them for it."

"This has been a long time coming," Jackson said. "We didn't have many traditions here for a long time. My first two or three years here were pretty rough, but we've come a long way and we're proud of these kids.

## Okla. Christian signs C&A player

**CEDRIC SUNRAY** 

EDMOND, Okla. - Christmas came early this year for an Oklahoma college. For the second year in a row, another top American Indian student-athlete has placed their academic and athletic future in the hands of Oklahoma Christian University. Last year's signee, Brandon Little Axe (Absentee Shawnee), previously lead his 6A Norman North High School soccer team to undefeated state and national championships prior to beginning his first season at Oklahoma Christian. In his first season he would join new teammate Tom Tippeconnic (Comanche/Navajo), while earning starting minutes and a number of goals and assists which demonstrated he was more than capable of making the jump from the high school to collegiate level.

This year, OC wouldn't have to wait until late in the school year to sign a marquee Indian athlete. "I could see myself there right away. The coaching staff was great. I was able to see them play this past year and their fast paced style seemed like a great match." The individual making these statements is Perkins-Tryon High School senior girl's basketball player Jordan Gorham (Cheyenne & Arapaho/Kiowa), who has been instrumental in her school's recent trips to the state basketball tournament. This past season she averaged over 16 points and 10 rebounds per game and for good measure scored 33 points and posted 19 rebounds in the first round of the state tournament. She has further garnered All-Tournament, All-City, All-Area, and All-State honors during her time in high school, all while maintaining a 3.7 GPA.

In speaking with Oklahoma Christian's veteran women's basketball coach Stephanie Findley, it was easy to understand the mutual respect the coaching staff and Jordan already share for one another. "We are very excited about having signed Jordan. We are graduating our most physical post player this year. Jordan is strong, has good hands, uses the glass well, has range, works hard to get position, and pays attention to details. She will be a smart and physical presence for

our program."

Jordan comes by her talents honestly as her mother Freda Tippeconnie is a former collegiate basketball player at Rose State College and East Central University. At a height approaching 6'1 with an athletic build, Jordan is a commanding presence at the high school level. With a skill set equal to her stature, she will undoubtedly continue her present success as Oklahoma Christian's first



COURTESY

Freda Tippeconnie and her daughter Jordan Gorham, Oklahoma Christian University Basketball signee

women's basketball signee since the school's transition from NAIA to NCAA Division II athletics. During a recent conversation she told me how grateful she was for the opportunity to play at the collegiate level and that anyone looking to play at the college level needs to work hard all the time as "you never know who is watching". She went on further to acknowledge that when she steps out on the court she is not only playing for her school, her team, her family, and herself, but for her tribes and for Indian Country.

Jordan has been presented with basketball as a platform to represent her people and further develop herself as a role model for other Indian girls and young women. Of course, there is still the matter of one final high school basketball season hopefully culminating in a last run at a state championship. In speaking with her, one finds she is well on her way in both regards.

COMMENTARY •

# Just ask Senator-elect Elizabeth Warren

**Notes from Indian Country** 



TIM GIAGO (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Native Americans fit nicely into that media box labeled "Out of sight; out of mind:" And if not out of sight, then badly portrayed.

At Thanksgiving white and black school children sporting cardboard headbands and feathers whoop and holler like "wild Indians" around their classroom desks. This past Thanksgiving I saw a cartoon of the first Thanksgiving with Indians dressed in the attire of the Indians of the Northern Plains replete with feathered ceremonial bonnets. That's the portrait of all Indians; it is the misconception painted into the minds of school children since colonial times: All Indians look and dress alike.

Tourists from back East come out West to see the Indians attired in buckskin and presumably still living in teepees, and this would make for a great tourist attraction except the city fathers of communities like Rapid City do not have the vaguest of ideas that this is what the tourists come out here to see. They still think that Mount Rushmore is the key attraction.

the key attraction.

Indians are either the noble savage or the downtrodden, pathetic, alcohol soaked loser. To the weeping liberal, Indians are static relics locked into a time frame that would deny them the progress accorded to all other Americans: If they cannot be immediately identified as Indian they are not; just ask Senator-elect Elizabeth Warren.

There are more federal agencies regulating Indians than any other ethnic group in America. Lands on Indian reservations are held "in trust" by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the main problem with that condition is the Indians are expected

to provide all of the trust. The recent Cobell Settlement is a classic example of that because the government's total mismanagement of Indian lands, mineral rights, grazing rights, natural resources and financial security were so badly accounted for that the Indians lost untold billions of dollars.

The Cobell Settlement was a pittance in remuneration because the accountability of the agencies holding Indian properties, etc., in trust was so jumbled with distortions and cover-ups that the true accounting of the theft of Indian monies was indeterminable. The pittance individual Indians will receive in cash payments prior to Christmas should be a mark of shame on the history of America itself. Where was the national media in uncovering this mess?

What makes the Settlement even more unbelievable is that more than \$1 billion was given back to the BIA to clear up the fractionated land conditions existing on nearly all Indian reservations, a problem created by the BIA itself. Yeah, let's take a billion dollars from the poor individual Indians and give it back to the idiots who caused the problem to correct their incompetency. What a travesty! And who is to blame the poor Indians for accepting the conditions of this travesty because after all, something is better than nothing and that is all the Indians ever expected from the United States of America: Nothing!

The biggest non-story to the national media concerns the Black Hills Claims Settlement. The \$105 million for the Black Hills and the \$44 million for other lands owned by the Great Sioux Nation have been refused by the Indian tribes of South Dakota since 1981 and during that time the original award, held in trust (there's that word again) has steadily climbed with interest to about \$1 billion, and yet the people declared to be the poorest in America by the 1980 U.S. Census, refuses to accept the money. In any journalist's book that should be one of the stories of the century and yet, have you even heard about it?

Whenever I am contacted by a news reporter coming out here to do the "great American Indian story" I tell them about the Black Hills Claim Settlement. They totally ignore this story and head straight for Whiteclay, Nebraska to do a story about all of the beer sold to the Indians of the bordering Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

I love Dianne Sawyer, but when she came out here to do her "great" Indian story for ABC Television news she and her camera crew headed straight for Whiteclay. When she interviewed the Pine Ridge chief of police she was told that 80 percent of the arrests his police force makes are alcohol related. Doing her standup Dianne looked directly into the camera and said, "Eighty percent of the people living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation are alcoholics." That is not what the chief of police said and she knew it. It did, however, put a little bit more of the shock factor into her reporting; truth and the Indians be damned.

In 1960 President John F. Kennedy said, "Of all Americans, the American Indian is the least understood and the most misunderstood," and today's media does nothing to alleviate that truth.

While growing up on an Indian reservation I was taught that America was strong because of its diversity and integrity. Like most Indians, I had to learn outside of the classroom that this was a bit of a farce. Native Americans do not have the same heroes as most Americans. We do not honor the Statue of Liberty and we still believe that Mount Rushmore is the Shrine of Hypocrisy and all one has to do is to study the negative impact all of the four faces on the mountain had on Native Americans to know why that is so. Columbus Day is a day of tragedy to Indians and the thundering defeat of George Armstrong Custer and the 7th U. S. Cavalry at the Little Bighorn is a day to rejoice.

Out of sight; out of mind is really America's loss and tragedy.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He was the founder and first presidentofthe Native American Journalists Association, a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, and he was inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame in 2007.



Do you know how to speak Cherokee, but cannot read and write the language?

Do your children have difficulty grasping the language?

Are you new to the Cherokee language and looking for a quick and effective way to learn?

Our Cherokee Syllabary workbook is the first building block in Simply Cherokee's catalogue of tools for learning to read, write, and speak the Cherokee language. Inside these pages you will find the fastest - and most effective! - way to learn the Cherokee Syllabary. Each syllabary has a simple story containing a word with the syllbary's unique sound. After completing the workbook, you will remember the story and the key word whenever you see a syllabary. Cherokee Syllabary is designed for fast assimilation. And when you are done, just move on to the next book. You'll be fluent as simply as that!

Flash cards available too!

# www.simplycherokee.com

(918) 708-5008 • info@simplycherokee.com

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff.

Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465.

To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.

### MODERN AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

By Dean Chavers, Ph. D.

Stories of 87 Indian leaders of the modern age. Tribal leaders, war heroes, literary heroes, education heroes, sports heroes, movement heroes, religious heroes, and others. A MUST for every school library and Indian Studies program.

Hardback, two volumes, 792 pages, 40 pictures.

Available at www.mellenpress.com

Order yours today! Great textbook!

More Jobs. More News. More Features. Every Day.

www.nativetimes.com

# CLASSIFIEDS

### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**



Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma. Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 40 I (k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

**CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES** WW HASTINGS HOSPITAL | TAHLEQUAH, OK

#7005 R/FT Surgical Technician (Certified) **#7212 R/FT Inpatient Registered Nurse (RN)** 

Positions Close 12/04/12

#6890 T/PT Inpatient Registered Nurse (PRN

Position Closes 12/05/12

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

**Native American Times** 

### **Paralegal Specialist**

The US Attorney's Office is seeking to fill one (1) Paralegal Specialist, Appellate Division. Starting salary will be \$57,408 or \$68,809 per year depending on qualifications. See 13-0KW-792395-DE at www.usajobs.

The Notah Begay III Foundation seeks a Finance Director to manage, direct and helpimplementfinanceandaccounting activities for our Native youth health and wellness organization. The director will oversee financial planning and analysis, budgeting, accounting, and fiscal strategy, and serve as a management team member. At least 5 years experience as a CFO or equivalent, preferably in a nonprofit or governmental organization with a \$2M+ budget is required. To please http://nb3foundation.org/ finance-director.html by December 12,

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town | Golden Pony Casino PO Box 188 Okemah, OK 74859

**Current Employment Opportunities** 

### CEO/Tribal Economic Development Authority (TEDA)

The TEDA Board of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town has an immediate opening for the position of CEO of the newly activated TEDA Authority. College degree required. Experience required for the position includes gaming management and/or gaming boards. Experience in economic development and business management desired. Respond by 12/7/2012 before 5:00 p.m.

\*Tier 1 preference -Thlopthlocco Tribal Town member

\*Tier II preference – American Indian

\*Competitive salary with benefits

### General Manager - Golden Pony Casino

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town TEDA Board is accepting resumes for the position of General Manager of the Golden Pony Casino. Minimum of five years experience in Indian gaming casino management is required. Must have expertise in the areas of marketing/promotions, slot contracts, and overall management of an Indian casino. College degree required. Respond by 12/7/2012 before 5:00 p.m.

\*Tier 1 preference -Thlopthlocco Tribal Town member

\*Tier II preference – American Indian

\*Competitive salary with benefits

Interested applicants please email resume to jhuckeby@tttown.org Or, mail resume to HR Director, Julie Huckeby at Golden Pony Casino PO Box 70 -Okemah, OK 74859

**Development Director** 

The Notah Begay III Foundation seeks

For a full job description and to apply,

The Housing Authority of the Sac and Fox Nation has the following opening for employment.

### **Executive Director**

The Executive Director is responsible for the overall management and administrative functions for all Housing Authority programs and personnel in accordance with the HUD/NAHASDA Regulations and the Policies and Procedures of the Housing

Applicants must have a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration or Public Administration plus 2 years' experience in Indian Housing, preferably in an administrative capacity or 6 years' experience in Indian Housing with at least 2 of those being in an administrative capacity.

Applications may be obtained at the Housing Authority of the Sac and Fox Nation located at 201 N. Harrison, Shawnee, Oklahoma, weekdays during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Indian Preference is applicable. Must possess a valid Oklahoma driver's license and be insurable. Must pass a criminal background check and drug screening.

The deadline for submitting application is December 7, 2012 at 4:30 p.m.

### **Surveillance Director – Comanche Nation Gaming Commission**

The Surveillance Director is responsible for managing activities of all CNGC Surveillance operations and personnel. Maintains communication between the Executive Director and the Casino Management regarding compliance issues. Regulates adherence to all regulatory, departmental, and casino policies and procedures, including the tribal internal controls system (TICS) and minimum internal control system (MICS). Responsible for developing & managing the departmental budget. Must possess ability to manage multiple large projects. Develops RFP's for quoted bids for Surveillance system & equipment. Must possess ability to effectively present detailed written reports and oral presentations. Required 2 years tribal gaming experience. Conditions of employment with the CNGC include passing a pre-employment drug test, a background investigation to secure a gaming license and successfully completing a three-month introductory period. Candidates for this position will be required to have dependable transportation available to them. CNGC is an at-will employer. Send all resumes to tabitham@comanchegc.com or contact Tabitha at (580) 595-3300.



of Oklahoma

Stickball · Drawing Fancy dancing Beadwork Big Brothers Big Sisters Traditional language Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar

Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

### Miss An Issue? **Download for FREE** www.nativetimes.com

### Learn the Entire Cherokee Syllabary: In Just 2 Days **Simply Cherokee Syllabary Course** Sat. & Sun. – December 8-9, 2012



Ho Chee Nee Chapel, **Cherokee Heritage Center** Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Tulsa Metro Area

HANDYMAN

Painting • Drywall Repair

Odd Jobs

Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks

918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com "Your first call in home repair"

(918) **708-5008** • info@simplycherokee.com

is on Facebook!

Applications must be submitted on-line or by fax. See "How to Apply" section of announcement for more information. Questions may be directed to Lisa Engelke, HR Specialist, (405) 553-8777. Closing date is December 14, 2012.

### **Finance Director**

Denver/Boulder Metro or Albuquerque Area

a Development Director to create, implement and manage fundraising activities for our Native youth health and wellness organization. The director will oversee a major donor program, annual campaign, foundation grants, sponsorships and marketing/communications. Significant fundraising experience and previous management of development team is required. Background in Native American issues and/or youth sports/ wellness desired.

please visit: http://nb3foundation. org/development-director.html Tuesday, December 18, 2012.

--- Native American Owned Business? ---

Let the Native American Community know!

The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Northern Oklahoma.

Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838

### **Kiowa Gaming Commission**

Find us on Twitter!

**Vacancy Announcement** 

### <u>Inspector</u>

Responsible for compliance of the gaming operation in accordance to Tribal, State, and Federal regulations, investigations, machine testing, and other duties within the job description. Applicants must have knowledge of NIGC MICS, Tribal-State Compact, excellent writing skills, analytical skills, and ability to multitask. Employment is contingent upon ability to obtain a gaming license. Interested candidates may apply at: Kiowa Gaming Commission Office 2439 Ponderosa Drive, Chickasha OK 73108 or fax resume to (405) 222-0728. Closing date is December 12, 2012.

### Finding It Hard to Save Money? money is easy. Each time you use your debit card the amount is rounded up to the next dollar and the leftover change is sent to Call now to start saving today!

Langley: 782-0011 Monkey Island: 257-8869

3 BEAR PAINTING

**Interior & Exterior** 

Brush / Roll / Spray

Ted Bear 918-718-4120

- Serving the Tahlequah Area -

## NATIVE AMERICAN **HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to

**Native Americans!** 

E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com



# **True American Indian**

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

# WANTED

### *NATIVE AMERICAN* **INDIAN GOODS**

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

**DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP** 

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

# SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## Metal Roofing & Siding

Professional Construction and Home Repairs

Free Estimates

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor

# CASH N' GO

PAYDAY LOANS

Loans up to \$500.00 918-696-0407

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm • Saturday 9am-1pm 1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

### **Professional & Affordable Web Design**



204-376-3428 **►www.ganica.net** 

ahlequah ecycling tahlequahrecycling.com

918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste."





### Order your Event Center tickets at osagecasinos.com!

Visit the Osage Box Office in Tulsa or call (918) 699-7667. Cash and all major credit cards accepted. Must be 18 to attend. No refunds or exchanges.





4 miles from Downtown Tulsa • End of Tisdale Parkway • (918) 699-7777 • 📑 Like us on Facebook!

©2012 Osage Casino. Management reserves all rights.



# EVENTS

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

### **SECOND TUESDAY**

**Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

### THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee Indian Health Center to enroll all Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales - from 4:00 - 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, **Oklahoma City** 

### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www. comanchemuseum.com

### **DECEMBER 5**

**VA Enrollment Fair at Claremore** Indian Hospital to help veteran patients apply for eligibility for health care services at the VA hospitals and clinics. Bring your DD214 or military discharge papers to Conference Room #1, 9am-3pm. Representatives will be on hand to help with the application process and answer questions. Please RSVP at the Claremore Indian Hospital 918-342-6240 or 918-342-6607 by Dec. 4

### **DECEMBER 7**

The Life and Art of T.C. Cannon- An hour discussion beginning at 6:30 pm about T.C. Cannon, renowned Kiowa/Caddo artist by his friends. This event is open to the public with museum admission. Mary Eddy and Fred Jones Auditorium, Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, Univerisity of Oklahoma, Norman. Info call (405) 325-4938

### **DECEMBER 9**

**Indian Taco Fundraiser for Native Cheer Varsity Squad Members of** Edison Prepatory Tulsa, OK. 12:00 to 2:00 at Fellowship Church 570 N. Denver, Tulsa, OK (across the street of the Tulsa **Election Board) Contact: Martha** Fryer 918-206-8109 - will take to go orders by call or text.

### **DECEMBER 20 Annual Bykes 4 Tykes Community Children's Christmas Party**

The party will be at 6:30 p.m. at

the Pawnee Nation Roundhouse on the Pawnee Nation Reserve in Pawnee. There will be a drawing for bicycles for children of the community. Also, all children receive candy sacks and Santa hats. Santa and Pawnee Bill and his horse will be at the party. Bring a camera to have your pictures taken with both and join in the carols. For more information, call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041. \*Want to make a donation to Bykes Pawnee Nation, in partnership 4 Tykes? Call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041 or reach him by mail at the address: 812 Granite St., Pawnee, OK, 74058. Bykes 4 Tykes will accept donations up to the day of the Dec. 22 Christmas party for the purchase of

### **DECEMBER 25**

**Pawnee Veteran's Organization** Raffle at Christmas Day Dance - win a 42" LED-LCD 1080 HDTV home theater with receiver. To buy tickets or have questions email pawneeindianveteransorg@gmail. com or find them on facebook. Need not be present to win.

additional children's bicycles.

### DECEMBER 31

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa Convention Center, 100 Civic Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999

### **DECEMBER 31**

Pawnee Veteran's Organization Raffle at New Year's Eve Handgame. To buy tickets to win a Kingsford 773 sq. inch premium charcoal grill or have questions email pawneeindianveteransorg@ gmail.com or find them on facebook. Need not be present to

**JANUARY 28 - APRIL 15** with the IRS, is offering free tax preparation at your local VITA site, 400 Agency Road HCS Bldg. (Old IHS Clinic). For more information or to make an appointment, call M. Angela Thompson at (918) 399-5156

### **JUNE 29, 2013**

Murrow Indian Children's Home **Benefit Powwow at Bacone College** Palmer Center, 2299 Old Bacone Rd, Muskogee. Contest powwow, free admission. All Royalties, **Drums, Singers and Dancers Invited** Info contact Betty R Martin / Stella Pepiakitah (918)682-2586 murrowhomedirector@gmail.com

> New at nativetimes.com Enter your powwow info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select Powwow Entry

# Native character lead in popular video game

Noah Watts, a citizen of the Crow Tribe, portrays Connor, a half British, half Mohawk assassin in Assassin's Creed III.

**SUSAN OLP** *The Billings Gazette* 

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) – Noah Watts, a child of the '80s, grew up playing video games such as Pong and Mario Brothers.

Watts, a citizen of the Crow Tribe, also in his youth attended Crow Fair every summer, gathering with family to dance at the powwow, ride in the parade and take in the rodeo.

The two interests came together in his late 20s, when Watts snagged the role of the lead character in one of this fall's best-selling video games, "Assassin's Creed III."

Watts portrays Connor, a half-British, half-Mohawk Indian assassin (Indian name Ratonhnhaké:ton) in the time of the Revolutionary War. As with past versions of the games, the crux of the plot is Assassins vs. Templars.

The Ubisoft-produced game is a rarity in giving a Native American character the lead role. It was released Oct. 30 and, on one software chart, already is listed at No. 5 globally for sales

Watts, an actor and musician who lives in Los Angeles, was born in Livingston and grew up in Bozeman. Like the protagonist in "Assassin's Creed III," Watts comes from a blended background. His mother is Crow and a descendent of the Blackfeet Tribe, while his father's side of the family is Scottish and English.

"I believe that's one of the main reasons I was appealing to (the game's creators) because my heritage was very similar," he said in a telephone interview

He remembers his trips to Crow Agency every year, visiting family, taking part in the events at Crow Fair. A traditional Crow war dancer, he competed in the powwow and rode horseback in the morning parades.

He loved it all.

"Just seeing all the tepees, seeing my relatives riding around on horses, all the food," he said. "Just being around it was special for me." Watts' interest in acting also goes back to his childhood. He took part in plays all through school.

In high school, he participated in speech and debate, rotating between serious and humorous pieces. In his senior year, in 2001, he took fourth place at the National Forensic

had just completed work in five shows of the TV series "Ringer" late summer 2011 when he got a call from his manager.

Watts had an audition for a part in an unnamed film.

"It was a period piece set in the American Revolution," he said. "I

the helmet and placed 4 to 6 inches in front of his face, to film his facial expressions.

He strove to make his movements convey Connor's character.

"Shoulders hunched and head down is different than head up, shoulders back," Watts said. "It gives captured "a more complete version of the character instead of a hybrid of a bunch of different people," he said.

He's played the completed "Assassin's Creed III" with a different point of view from the earlier "Assassin's Creed" games.

"It's very interesting to hear myself



"Connor" is a half British, half Mohawk assassin during the time of the U.S. Revolutionary War.

League's national meet for a dramatic solo piece.

The next year, he worked on two films, "The Slaughter Rule," which starred Ryan Gosling, and "Skins." He knew then that acting was his passion.

"All signs pointed to Los Angeles and being an actor and a musician," he said.

Watts attended the American Academy for the Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles for a semester, but when he got the chance to act in another movie, a mystery titled "Skinwalkers," he jumped at it.

He has learned a lot on movie sets, he said, and he has worked with an

acting coach to refine his craft.

He did film, TV and theater and

had no idea it was a video game until I got offered the part."

Not only was Watts familiar with "Assassin's Creed," he was a fan of the games, having beaten each one in the series

He began work on "Assassin's Creed III" in January, traveling to Montreal for a couple of weeks at a time. He'd return to Los Angeles and then go back to Quebec, as needed, until he finished this fall.

On the set, Watts would don a sort of skin-tight wet suit. Reflective motion tracking sensors attached at his hips, knees, feet, hands, shoulders and back captured his motions.

Watts also wore a helmet cam, with custom-made motion sensors on the top and a camera hooked to

a different attitude to the person. I tried to bring that to the role, that type of aura."

He also had to speak Mohawk, which he did with a consultant sitting next to him in the studio. He'd speak the lines "over and over till I got it right."

He didn't do his own stunts. As in most movies, that work was left to a stuntman.

In the past, Watts said, one actor would do the voice and another the motion capture. As a game player, Watts found that jarring.

"It looked kind of weird," he said.
"With the voice of somebody on somebodyelse's body. Subconsciously, your brain notices it."

This way, the game makers

throughout the game," he said. "The story is rich, and the interaction with the other characters reminds me of certain times on the set."

Watts wouldn't mind doing more voiceover motion capture. He's also working on other TV and film projects.

As for portraying a Native American in such a public platform, Watts is glad for the opportunity.

"For the first time, we're allowed to step into the shoes of a Native and look at it from his viewpoint," he said. "I'm excited. I love it. It's something we've needed to do for a long time."

Online: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ph9jn5kRo9k

# FILM

says so to Ross Swimmer, the tribe's principal chief from 1975-85. The film then recounts the efforts she made to gain the trust of residents in the small community of Bell, a rural outpost in the hilly country of Adair County. There, residents are unable to qualify for housing assistance because the area does not have water service. The lack of suitable housing, in turn, prevents them from qualifying for grant money to bring water into the hills.

Tasked by the chief with finding a solution, Mankiller goes to the residents of Bell and anyone within the tribe who will help bring water to even the most isolated pockets of the Cherokee Nation.

That's where Soap (played by Oglala Lakota actor Moses Brings Plenty) enters the picture and helps a spirited Mankiller speak with families and elders (often translating into Cherokee for them) about building a water line that could save the small community's school building and bring water to residents. The residents are soon convinced that the project will only be complete if they volunteer their own time to install it.

A little thing called "gadugi" helped, too, said Soap.

"Gadugi" is the Cherokee word for when people come together to take care of one another and see the job through to the end, he said. The Cherokee people of Bell, with help from Mankiller and Soap, brought water to their homes for themselves as well as their non-Native neighbors. The Bell Project, as it was called, was the first of several water projects made possible between the nation and resident volunteers who



KAREN SHADE | NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Charlie Soap (from left), Kristina Kiehl and Oron Lyons attended Thursday's private premiere of the film "The Cherokee Word for Water" at the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame in Tulsa.

endeavored to make opportunity happen for their selves. Mankiller soon was elected as the tribe's deputy chief. When Swimmer was appointed to assistant secretary of the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs, she became the Cherokee's first woman Principal Chief, leading the tribe from 1985-1995. Mankiller died in 2010 of pancreatic cancer.

The Cherokee Word for Water shows how Soap and Mankiller became allies, friends and something more. He said it also reveals Mankiller's tenacity and ability to inspire and empower the people she

"To me that was the greatest impact it had on these communities," Soap said. "Also we worked with them and taught to write grants, taught them to conduct meetings, taught them about writing proposals to be self sufficient so they would not have to depend on Cherokee Nation or the government

 not a hand out. It instills pride in Indian communities. The whole idea was to make them independent."

Soap served as a film producer and shared directing responsibilities with screenwriter Timothy Kelly. He joked that blasting through rock to install the 16-mile water line was a simpler task.

"I think getting water to Bell was a lot easier than making the film," Soan said

Mankiller worked on the film for years with long-time friend Kristina Kiehl to tell the story of the Bell people and their feat. A week before her passing, she made Soap promise to raise money to finish the film and help Kiehl.

"I told her, 'I'm not a fundraiser, Wilma," he said. "She said, 'I don't want to hear that, Charlie. I just need it done."

Kiehl, who met Mankiller during her first election campaign for principal chief, is also a producer on the film. They became close friends.

"This is a story of hope and resilience," Kiehl said. "She felt it would resonate beyond Indian Country to people everywhere. She said it was her hope that people who were living in depressed communities would see this film and would say, 'If they can do it, we can do it."

Most of the movie was filmed last fall before it went into post-production for editing, sound, captions and many other processes before it could be distributed. The film was cast almost entirely of American Indians, many of whom are Cherokees. Indigenous rights activist Oren Lyons (Onondaga, Seneca) played the role of Soap's grandfather.

"It was fun having been invited (to participate). I'm not an actor ... but knowing Wilma for so long and Charlie, when he asked me if I wanted to play the part of the grandpa, I said, 'Sure.' That was fun."

Kiehl said they had tremendous support in talent, time and funds from local communities, area organizations and film professionals to make The Cherokee Word for Water. And, with the help of the Wilma Mankiller Foundation, created six weeks after her death, the film will be a tool for empowering people everywhere to make the changes they want to see.

Their promise fulfilled, both Kiehl and Soap said they are glad Mankiller's legacy can be shared further.

The movie will be shown at Circle Cinema (www.circlecinema.org) in Tulsa and the Dream Theatre in Tahlequah through Dec. 6. Go to www.cw4w.com for showing schedule and more about the film.

The Cherokee word for water is D ♂ (a-ma).

# Annual Bykes 4 Tykes Community Children's Christmas Party Dec. 20

PAWNEE, Okla. – Once again, Al Thayer is working to make Christmas a little brighter for Pawnee kids. His 8th annual Bykes for Tykes party will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Pawnee Nation Roundhouse on the Pawnee Nation Reserve in Pawnee.

There will be a drawing for bicycles for children of the community and all children receive candy sacks and Santa hats

Everyone is invited to come out to see Santa, Pawnee Bill and his horse. Bring a camera to have your pictures taken with both and join in the carols.

For more information, call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041.

\*Want to make a donation to Bykes 4 Tykes? Call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041 or reach him by mail at the address: 812 Granite St., Pawnee, OK, 74058.

Bykes 4 Tykes will accept donations up to the day of the Dec. 22 Christmas party for the purchase of additional children's bicycles.



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes

### **Inside this issue:**

- Horse racing industry protests Creek deal
- Angel 3Goodrich inspires on the court
- Noted Chickasaw featured in new movie









TODAY'S INDEPENDENT TRIBAL NEWS

- A FREE PUBLICATION -

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

VOLUME 18 + ISSUE 49

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

**DECEMBER 14, 2012** 

# Spending cuts shadow Obama meeting with tribes

SUZANNE GAMBOA Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) – Hours after talking tough against Republicans in "fiscal cliff" negotiations, President Barack Obama and members of his Cabinet reassured hundreds of Native American leaders the administration's programs and efforts on their behalf would continue.

Obama ticked off a list of achievements by his administration on behalf of Native Americans and then spoke of improving America's roads and its infrastructure and expanding Native American small businesses.

"I've never been more hopeful about our chances," Obama said in a Wednesday afternoon speech to hundreds of Native American tribal leaders.

Earlier in the day, Obama had admonished congressional Republicans over their threat to agree to higher taxes and then seek spending cuts in the next debate over the government's borrowing limit

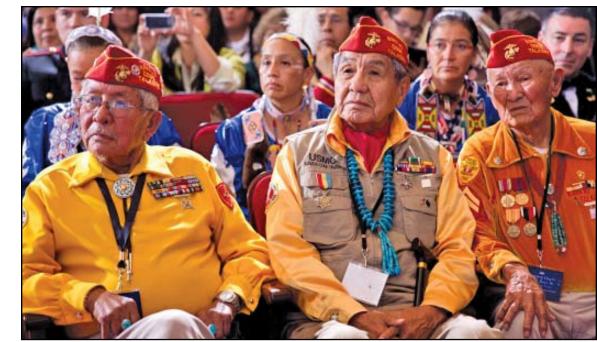
"It's not a game I will play," Obama said at a speech to the Business Roundtable.

Obama did not discuss the fiscal cliff negotiations at the tribal summit, but more than 500 tribal leaders took their concerns about spending cuts that could go into effect to avoid the fiscal cliff to the summit.

Eight Cabinet members, led by Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, addressed the leaders and other agency officials met with tribe leaders in closed meetings in a mid-day break.

The gathering "should send a loud and clear message to everyone that Barack Obama understands the importance of Indian Country and is committed to making sure we continue to make progress," Salazar said.

See MEETING Continued on Page 5



PETE SOUZA | OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO

Navajo Code Talkers (foreground) and members of the Native American Women Warriors colorguard (background) listen to President Obama's remarks during the 2012 Tribal Nations Conference at the Department of Interior Dec. 5.



KRISTOPHER RIVERA | SHFWIF

Native American Women Warriors color guard presented the colors at the beginning of the 2012 White House Tribal Nations Conference.

# Agreement boosts access for American Indian vets

WASHINGTON (AP) – Native American military veterans will be able to access health care closer to home thanks to an agreement between the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs and the Indian Health Service.

The agreement allows for Veterans Affairs to reimburse IHS for direct health care services provided to eligible American Indian and Alaska Native veterans.

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius first announced plans for the new partnership during last Wednesday's tribal summit.

Veterans Affairs and IHS released more details Dec. 6, saying the agreement stemmed from much work among the agencies and tribal governments as they tried to find a more equitable solution for bolstering access to care for veterans, particularly those in rural areas.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki says the VA is committed to expanding access to Native veterans "with the full range of VA programs, as earned by their service to our nation."

# Muscogee (Creek) Nation to file civil action against Poarch Band

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

OKMULGEE, Okla. – A recent decision by an Oklahoma tribe to pursue litigation against another tribe is apparently not without precedent.

Ata Nov. 29 emergency meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, the tribe's legislature voted unanimously to authorize Brendan Ludwick and an Alabama law firm to file a civil action in federal court on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation against the Poarch Band

of Creek Indians, headquartered in Atmore, Ala., its contractors, vendors and other individuals who have worked with the tribe on excavation and exhumation brought on by casino expansion efforts. The project could potentially desecrate Hickory Ground, a burial site, ceremonial ground and the last pre-removal capitol of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

To date, 57 sets of human remains have been unearthed during the expansion process, which wastemporarily suspended in October while leaders from the two tribes met three times at neutral sites to discuss the situation. Construction resumed Oct. 31, despite objections from the Oklahoma tribe.

Bill Rice, a professor at the University of Tulsa's Native American Law Center, said while such a move is unusual, it is not entirely unheard of.

"Sometimes tribes just have disputes that they want settled by a third party, such as the federal courts," he said. "The difficulty of course, is that the federal courts recognize the sovereign

See CREEK Continued on Page 4

### Feds pledge to improve sacred site protection

WASHINGTON (AP) – Protection of sites held sacred by American Indians and Alaska Natives will be bolstered under a memorandum of understanding signed Thursday by four federal agencies and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The memo signed by the departments of Agriculture, Defense, Energy and Interior also calls for improving tribal access to sites that are on federal land.

"We have a special, shared responsibility to respect and foster American Indian and Alaska Native cultural and religious heritage, and today's agreement recognizes that important role," Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said in a statement.

The agencies plan to work during the next five years to raise awareness about sacred sites. That includes developing a website, a training program for federal employees and guidance for managing sacred sites.

The agreement comes just weeks after thieves made off with rock carvings from a sacred site in California's Sierra Nevada. The site on the Volcanic Tableland north of Bishop, Calif., was what land managers called one of the most significant rock art sites in the region. The local Paiute tribe uses the site for ceremonies.

Tribal leaders have said they're appalled at what happened to the petroglyphs, and the Bureau

See FEDS Continued on Page 4

# President remembers Sonny Black Eagle

MATT COMPTON

WASHINGTON – Each year, President Obama hosts a White House Tribal Nations Conference in Washington, DC. The goal is to give leaders from America's federally-recognized tribes the opportunity to interact directly with members of the administration, including the President.

And while administration officials - including eight Cabinet members - discussed programs and initiatives that affect Native American communities Dec. 5, President Obama began his remarks with a more personal message.

He used the event to remember Sonny Black Eagle - the Crow National tribal leader

who adopted the President in 2008. Black Eagle passed away in his sleep last month. He was 78.

The President celebrated what he called Sonny Black Eagle's "remarkable life."

After losing his mother to tuberculosis, Black Eagle was raised by his grandparents in Montana, who taught him both the traditions and the language of the Crow people. As a child, however, Black Eagle had to contend with teachers who would strike him for speaking Crow in school, and as a young man, he was confronted by racism and segregation.

"Sonny, like many of you, knew intolerance and knew injustice. He knew what it was like to be persecuted for who you are and what

you believe," the President said. "But as time went by, year by year, decade by decade, as Native Americans rallied together and marched together, as students descended on Alcatraz and activists held their ground at Frank's Landing, as respect and appreciation for your unique heritage grew and a seminal struggle played itself out, Sonny lived to see something else. He saw a new beginning."

That new beginning took the shape of a different policy from the U.S. government -- one that allowed tribal governments to build out stronger institutions and Native Americans to embrace self-determination.

And in his four years in the White House,

it's a policy on which President Obama has

See PRESIDENT Continued on Page 4



PETE SOUZA | OFFICIAL WHITE HOUSE PHOTO

President Obama speaks of Sonny Black Eagle during remarks Dec. 5, 2012 at

President Obama speaks of Sonny Bla the Tribal Nations Conference.



Construction works continues on the concrete lining of the Southside canal on Nov. 16, 2012 in Sacaton, Ariz. The Gila River Indian Community is building a water delivery project to make use of their CAP allocation.

MARK HENLE | ARIZONA REPUBLIC | AP PHOTO

# CAP water to help tribes restore farming heritage

**SHAUN MCKINNON** The Arizona Republic

SACATON, Ariz. (AP) - Workers scramble down an earthen section of the Southside Canal on the edge of the Gila River Reservation, smoothing a fresh concrete panel and readying the next segment for lining, a process that will save millions of gallons of water that once was lost to seepage.

The flow of water, halted temporarily to allow construction, will resume this month and much work remains. David DeJong, director of the community's irrigation project, checks what has been done, then moves on to another site near the far end of the channel. Timing is critical to ensure water for winter crops.

"For a long time, we were doing one project a year and a lot of people were saying, 'Oh, it'll never happen, it'll never get built," DeJong said. "Then we built a new canal segment along the highway, and suddenly people could see the work. Now they're clamoring for water."

The community has the water. In 2004, tribal leaders received the rights to more than 600,000 acre-feet a year, or enough to serve a city of 3 million people, in the largest Indian water settlement in U.S. history. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1908 that tribes with reservations were entitled to enough water to remain self-sufficient. The government has since settled claims with dozens of tribes.

Now leaders must find a way to use the water and, with none in the river that gives the reservation its name, the solution is the same as it has been in Arizona since the Hohokam built the first canals across what is now Phoenix.

By 2029, the Gila River community plans to build or refurbish at least 1,700 miles of canals to create a system that will irrigate more than 100,000 acres, transforming the dry desert into productive farmland. Some of the canals, like the Southside, have been in service for 80 years or more. Others will be excavated and added to the network.

A significant portion of the

water from the settlement - 311,800 acre-feet, the equivalent of about 100

Tempe Town Lakes each year - will be delivered through the Central Arizona Project Canal. The waterway has been instrumental in settling more than a dozen Indian claims in Arizona, enough that tribes now control almost half of the water that flows through the canal each year.

The Gila River community surprised some in Arizona when it announced it would use almost all of its water for agriculture instead of leasing it to off-reservation cities. Tribal leaders say the decision was an important way to restore some of the heritage lost as the two tribes in the community, the Pima and the Maricopa, settled on the arid reservation. They also want to restore some of the Gila River itself, creating riparian areas that will remind people of their past and still connect them to the present.

"Finding ways to restore water and farming go hand in hand," said Gila River Gov. Gregory Mendoza. "The ancestral name of the Pimas is River People. Unfortunately, we don't have a real river anymore. Our goal here is to restore self-sufficiency and at

least a small flow of the Gila." Not all Arizonans wanted to set aside so much water for tribal claims from a project, the CAP Canal, that had become a potent symbol of Arizona's potential to grow and prosper in the desert.

But state and federal officials had long agreed that the canal would provide water for Indian settlements. The federal government allocated water for tribal settlements as early as 1976, and the Interior Department added to the pool several times over the years, despite objections from within Arizona. Most of the settlements include federal aid for distribution systems.

"As a business decision, it probably wasn't a good one," said David Modeer, CAP's general manager. "When you factor in the legal aspects, the cultural aspects, the history, I think it was a right decision." Ample water remains for all

CAP users, he said. The value of a consistent water supply like the CAP Canal is evident when other sources become unavailable. Tribal farmers can take water from the San Carlos Reservoir, which sits behind Coolidge Dam on the Gila River, but this year, the reservoir all but dried up and water deliveries were cut off in June.

The Gila River community can take water from other sources, including Salt River Project and several Valley cities that supply treated effluent, but CAP will become an increasingly important source as the irrigation project

In the meantime, the community finds itself in a situation not unfamiliar to Arizona water leaders in the early years of the Central Arizona Project. It holds the rights to more water than it can use.

Many in Arizona assumed that after Indian tribes received water in settlement deals, they would lease it to cities with long-term contracts as a way to make money.

Instead, the Gila River community will sell one-time water credits each year to cities or other big water users that need an immediate supply. It's like buying water at the supermarket instead of signing up for ongoing delivery, except in this case, the water will be stored underground until the

city needs it. By doing it that way, the



They were blood-thirsty savages superstitious, dirty animals. They were protectors of a Nation fighters serving their country. They were – the same men. In 1775, perspective came with the color of your skin.

Foreword by Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker, Tahlequah, Ok

The novel, Cherokee Talisman recreates the neglected history that existed when one nation was born and another almost died.

Amazon.com

community can put the water to use, help its neighbors and use the money from the credits to pay for the irrigation systems. When tribal farmers need the water, the community will stop selling credits.

"It's a unique enterprise, one of those unexpected kinds of results after the settlement," said Rod Lewis, a tribal attorney who helped negotiate the water deal. "For us, the real question is what happens to the CAP water. Between now and 2029, we have the right to use the water, but we needed a way to store it and look out for our future."

The community partnered with Salt River Project to run the water credits program. In exchange, SRP will receive stored water for several of its power plants and a 20year option to use as much as 100,000 acre-feet of the community's CAP water in times of severe drought.

"It doesn't mean we're going to use it," said David Roberts, SRP's senior director for water-resource management. "But it's nice to have it."

The system will also help farmers, mostly in Pinal County. Once a water user buys a credit from the community, the water will be used to irrigate crops and a percentage of it - the amount that seeps into the earth – will be counted as groundwater under state law. The owner of the tribal water credit can then pump the water back out when needed.

As SRP worked with the community on the program, "it all fit," Roberts said. "It's not a supply for everything out there, but it could be a supply for 20 or 30 years of growth in some areas."

From the Olberg Bridge on Arizona 87, the Gila River channel is clearly visible, even though no water flows through it. For Gila River Lt. Gov. Stephen Lewis, the riverbed represents a chance to remind his people what they can do with water from the CAP Canal.

"Once they see a lot of the construction activity on the irrigation project, once they see firsthand what the water settlement means, that we're going to get our water back, it's palpable," he said. "The elders have seen through their lifetime the absence of water. Now they're seeing the water coming back."

Lewis has talked to community farmers, who say the wait was worth it, and he's

also talked to young people who have never seen water in the Gila River.

"They have heard stories, and that has revived interest in farming," Lewis said. "They are so sophisticated already, talking agribusiness and science and organic farming. It's exciting to hear."

Rod Lewis, the tribal water attorney and the lieutenant governor's father, said the community may have to reconsider what it grows. Tribal farmers typically grow many of the same crops as other farms in the area.

"It's good to grow cotton and alfalfa," Rod Lewis said. "But maybe we should grow more food for our people."

Stephen Lewis said he hears the same refrain among young people on the reservation and he hears it more often as the water projects carve a path through the desert.

"We need to talk farm-totable," he said, "start growing fresh food. Feed our people. There are a lot of people who have never seen water in the river except in a storm or in black-and-white photos. We want to show them the transformative effects of water."

# WE HAVE YOU COVERED

Arvest Bank provides the financial solutions you need.

### Personal & Business Checking Accounts\*

All Arvest checking accounts come with the FREE services you need to do your day-to-day banking - Arvest Online Banking, Mobile Banking\*\*, Arvest CheckCard, and 24-Hour Account Information Line.

### Mortgage Loans:

Rural Development

FHA, VA or Bond

Section 184 Indian Home Loan

- Lower Monthly Payments
- No Monthly Mortgage Insurance
- Lower Down Payment - Low Fixed Rate

Mention this ad for a \$75 Closing Cost Discount.\*\*\*

\*\$100.00 minimum required to open a checking account. \*\*Your wireless carrier may assess a fee for data services. Please consult your wireless plan or provider for details. \*\*\*Some restrictions may apply. See associate for details.

(918) 631-1000

arvest.com







# Okla. horse racing industry protests Creek deal

■ Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger said the tribe's purse fund payments would cease with the end of live racing at Fair Meadows.

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

TULSA, Okla. - Despite an hour of comments and pleas from members of the horse racing industry, the Tulsa County Public Facilities Authority (TCPFA) unanimously approved an amended naming rights agreement with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Thursday morning, ending live horse racing at Fair Meadows, a track located on the eastern edge of the fairgrounds.

"We have to consider the big picture and Tulsa County as a whole," authority member and Tulsa County Commissioner Fred Perry said. "We don't operate on a big profit margin here. Over the last six years, two of them operated at a loss. In 2011, we had a net income of \$124,493.

"This agreement will have an immediate positive impact of about \$240,000. As we drop liability insurance for the jockeys and other costs, that will increase our savings."

On Nov. 1, officials with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation announced the tribe had purchased the naming rights for the Expo Square at the Tulsa County Fairgrounds for \$1.44 million through 2019. The original agreement, which was approved unanimously without comment by the TCPFA, included a provision that would end live horse racing at the fairgrounds

The amended agreement voted on Thursday dealt with the tribe's limited waiver of sovereign immunity on the matter, allowing the TCPFA to pursue



**Principal Chief George Tiger** 

civil damages in a court of "competent jurisdiction" rather than restricting it to Oklahoma's Northern Federal district if the agreement is breached or

The agenda from the meeting in which the agreement was originally approved did not include any mention of the deal's provision to end live racing at Fair Meadows, prompting calls for a state investigation by Oklahoma Rep. Don Armes (R-Faxon), the Oklahoma Quarter Horse Racing Association and the Thoroughbred Racing Association

"We have been disappointed in the process by which the naming rights agreement was created and adopted by the board," Claremore attorney Mark Ramsey said to the authority members. "This meeting today is just window dressing. You have already made up your minds and now your are just trying to correct past errors and show some semblance of deliberation."

Ramsey, the legal counsel for the Oklahoma Quarter Horse Racing Association, said his client's next move is contingent upon the results of the state's investigation.

The offices of Gov. Mary Fallin and Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt have not commented on when or if the state's investigation will begin.

The agreement has also come under fire from horsemen across northeastern Oklahoma for its potential damage to their sport. Under the terms of a gaming compact enacted in 2005 after a statewide referendum, tribes with at least one gaming facility within 20 miles of a horse racing track are to contribute to the purse fund in exchange for track owners not installing gaming machines at their facilities.

Since 2005, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has paid more than \$7 million into the statewide fund, which is split among the state's three live racing tracks: Fair Meadows, Remington Park in Oklahoma City and Will Rogers Downs in Claremore, Okla.

Under the compact, Fair Meadows received at least \$2 million annually from the Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee and Osage nations. On Tuesday, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief George Tiger said the tribe's purse fund payments would cease with the end of live racing at Fair Meadows.

Tiger has also maintained that the tribe's interest in the Tulsa County fairgrounds is, first and foremost, with the naming rights for the Expo Center, which, come Jan. 1, 2013, will be the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Center.

"Whatever happens on the other side of the plate is not our fault," he said at an emergency meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Counsel on Nov. 29. "The Tulsa County Fair Board had something that we were interested in and we went after it. That is all there

Tiger and Second Chief Roger Barnett were not at Thursday's meeting. Tiger's legal counsel, Yonne Tiger, left during the comments portion and did not address the board.

Despite taking public comments, the board did not entertain any questions from the more than 75 people packed

into the conference room at the fairgrounds' armory annex.

"I'm disappointed that you're not taking any questions," said Debbie Schauf, executive director of the Oklahoma Horse Racing Association. "It's pretty hard to have a dialogue without them."

Representatives from the horse racing industry have said they plan to continue their fight and will reach out to state and federal officials.

"You don't have the authority to excuse compact payments," Ramsey said to the authority members. "So you need to know that anything you do, we are going to ask Gov. Fallin to make it an issue with the National Indian Gaming Commission and go to arbitration if necessary."

Along with concerns about the end of live racing at Fair Meadows, some attendees also expressed worries about another portion of the authority's agreement with the Okmulgee-based

The tribe gets first right through 2015 to propose a new use for the old Drillers Stadium at the northeast corner of the fairgrounds. The former home of Tulsa's minor league baseball team, the stadium has not been used since the end of the 2009 season and any repurposing efforts would be subject to approval by the Tulsa County Fair Board. Officials with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Tulsa County have repeatedly said there are no plans to put in a casino at 15th and Yale, but a few area residents are skittish about their new neighbors and the potential tax implications from having triballyowned land in their backyard.

"I want to make sure you know who you are dealing with," Jim Ganaway said to the authority members. "You're dealing with a sovereign nation. That means the city, county and state officials don't have jurisdiction."

### **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES**

Publisher & Editor LISA SNELL editor@nativetimes.com

Contributing Writers Dana Attocknie LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON WESLEY MAHAN KAREN SHADE

Advertising Sales KATHLEEN ROBERTSON LISA SNELL advertising@nativetimes.com

Distribution CHERYL GOUGE SHELBY HICKS STEVE LACY WESLEY MAHAN MICHAEL MARRIS KATHLEEN ROBERTSON BRENDA SLAUGHTER

The Native American Times, formerly the Oklahoma Indian Times, is published weekly (except the last week of the year) by Lisa Hicks Snell. Mailing address is PO Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465. All the contents within the Native American Times are copyrighted material. Any reproduction, redistribution without the written consent of the NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES is strictly

> Each week's issue is available for free download online at: www.nativetimes.com

Subscription rates: \$65.00 for fifty-two issues, \$32.50 for twenty-six issues, or \$16.25 for thirteen issues. A single copy is \$1.25 (Rates are for postage and handling) Send check or money order to:

> **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES Attn: Subscriptions** P.O. Box 411 Tahlequah, OK 74465-0411

Phone: (918) 708-5838 Fax: (888) 689-4873

Postmaster: Send Change of Address Form 579 to: **NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES** P.O. Box 411, Tahleguah, OK 74465

WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM News from the crossroads of Indian Country





# **Idaho Supreme Court considers** Native sold cigarette tax case

BOISE, Idaho (AP) – The Idaho Supreme border, the attorneys noted. Court is considering whether Native America American retailers must obtain Idaho state tax

The high court heard arguments Monday morning in the case between Native Wholesale Supply Co., which operates on the Seneca Reservation in New York, and Warpath Inc., which operates on the Coeur d'Alene reservation, the Spokesman-Review reported.

Native Wholesale Supply Co. has sold more than 100 million cigarettes to Warpath without complying with Idaho state laws that require payments into a fund created after a national tobacco settlement. The company imports the cigarettes from a Native-owned manufacturer

The state of Idaho sued the company and tried to fine it more than \$214,000 because state officials said the cigarette sales didn't comply with Idaho law. But attorneys for Native Wholesale Supply Co. say the state doesn't have jurisdiction - the sales are between tribal members on reservation land - and besides. there's no evidence the cigarettes ever touched Idaho soil off of the reservation. The Coeur d'Alene Reservation touches the Washington

"Native Wholesale Supply has never sold to retailers that sell cigarettes to other Native any Idaho consumer," attorney Samuel Diddle told the justices. The wholesale sales to Warpath "may not be regulated by the state because of tribal sovereignty," he said.

> But Deputy Attorney General Brett DeLange told the justices that Idaho has a very comprehensive set of rules regulating cigarette sales, and one is that cigarettes must be approved for sale before they can be sold.

> "Native Wholesale Supply just wants to ignore all that. They don't want to comply with the state's efforts of comprehensively regulating cigarette sales in our state," he said.

> Retired Justice Linda Copple-Trout, who is sitting in the case, said there isn't a limitation on who ultimately ends up with the cigarettes, and that the state has an interest in enforcing its tobacco laws to help cover tobacco-related health care costs.

> Justice Joel Horton said his reading of Idaho's tax stamp law indicates it doesn't apply to reservation sales.

> "If they haven't made any sales of cigarettes subject to tax, they can't hold a permit," Horton

### **Treasurer resigns from** Pawnee Council, seat open until May election

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON Native American Times

PAWNEE, Okla. - The Pawnee Business Council now has a vacant seat, but all signs point to it not being filled until

PBC Treasurer Roy Weeks Taylor tendered his resignation Nov. 27, citing health and transportation issues. A Korean War veteran, Taylor ran unopposed for re-election in May 2011 after completing the unfinished term of former PBC Treasurer Linda Hand.

PBC secretary Linda Jestes will perform the duties as PBC treasurer until the tribe's next regularly scheduled general election on May 4, 2013.

Under Article 6, Section 7 of the tribe's constitution, if any PBC position becomes vacant within six months of a regularly scheduled election, then the special election for the rest of the open seat's term will be held concurrently with the regular election. Taylor's resignation comes five months and one week before the tribe's 2013 election.

Phone calls to Toni Hill, communications manager for the Pawnee Nation, were not returned.

Taylor could not be reached for comment.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Pawnee Business Council is Dec. 12 in the Roam Chief Building of the Pawnee Nation complex.

# ahlequah ecycling tahlequahrecycling.com

918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TA

Native

TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling

Incorporated... shouldn't you?

# **SUPERNAW'S ANNUAL SALE**

10% OFF ON PENDLETON PRODUCTS AND BROADCLOTH 20% OFF ON EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE STORE

HACKLES, SPIKES, FLUFFS, SKINS, BEADS, SHELLS, NEEDLES, THREAD, BLANKETS, SAGE, CEDAR, BROOCHES, LOTS OF JEWELRY **EVERYTHING! HURRY!** 

> **CASH OR CREDIT CARD ONLY** PURCHASES MUST BE MADE IN THE STORE

OPEN NOON TO 6:00 PM WEEKDAYS • SATURDAY 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

**SUPERNAW'S OKLAHOMA INDIAN SUPPLY** 109 NORTH BROADWAY, SKIATOOK, OK 74070 COUNTRYWIDE TOLL FREE 1-888-720-1967 **EMAIL: SUPERNAW@FLASH.NET** 

# NATIVE AMERICAN TIMES

Name:		
Address:		
City:	State: Zip:	
Phone:		
<ul><li>□ \$65.00 for 52 issues</li><li>□ \$16.25 for 13 issues</li><li>□ \$1.25 single copy</li></ul>		

Mail this form with a check or money order to: Native American Times • P.O. Box 411 Tahleguah, OK 74465 • 918-708-5838

# Report: State breaks Native child-protection laws

■ Native American children make up 13.8 percent of the child population in South Dakota, they make up on average 56.26 percent of youth in foster care in the state.

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – South Dakota willfully has violated federal law by removing too many American Indian children from their homes and placing them in foster care with non-Indian families, the state's Indian Child Welfare Act directors said in a report they plan send to Congress.

Six of the state's nine directors representing each of the nine tribes in South Dakota met earlier this month on the Yankton Sioux Indian Reservation to approve the report that will be forwarded to Congress within the next few weeks.

The report is in response to a National Public Radio series last year that said the state routinely broke the Indian Child Welfare Act and disrupted the lives of hundreds of Native American families each year. Federal law requires that Native American children removed from homes be placed with relatives or put in foster care with other Native American families except in unusual circumstances. After the series aired, six members of Congress wrote to Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior asking whether the NPR report was accurate and, if so, what the Bureau of Indian Affairs plans to

Federal officials said a summit would be held in South Dakota in the summer of 2012 to address concerns raised in the series, but that summit has not taken place, so the Indian Child Welfare Act directors prepared their own report to send to lawmakers.

"South Dakota for well over a decade has systematically violated

the spirit and the letter of the Indian Child Welfare Act," the directors wrote in the report. "The state appears to have done this willfully, and it may have done so at least partly to bring federal tax dollars into the state. ... We ICWA directors request that Congress put pressure on the BIA to host the summit on Native American foster care in South Dakota immediately."

A spokeswoman for the Interior Department's Office of Indian Affairs did not return phone and email messages seeking comment about the summit.

The federal Indian Child Welfare Act directors' report found that while Native American children make up 13.8 percent of the child population in South Dakota, they make up on average 56.26 percent of youth in foster care in the state. The report also found that as of July 2011, there were 440 Native American children in family-run foster homes in South Dakota. Only 59 of those children were placed in Native American foster homes while

39 Native American foster homes sat empty.

The report was prepared with the Lakota People's Law Project, a nonprofit law firm working to enforce the Indian Child Welfare Act in South Dakota.

"The point of the report is to stand in for the BIA. The BIA was supposed to provide an explicit assessment on the reporting that happened last year. The BIA did not do that," said Daniel Paul Nelson, secretary-treasurer for the Lakota People's Law Project. He added that a summit would not solve all the problems but would be one step to finding a solution.

The directors' report found that NPR's assertion that the state's motive for removing Native American children from their homes for financial gain is "complex." It found circumstantial evidence that state officials may take high numbers of Native American foster children in custody to stimulate South Dakota's economy because the state gets millions a year to subsidize foster care programs and receives

additional money for every special needs child it adopts out.

The report did not offer suggestions on how to fix what the directors see as a problem, Nelson said, because they want to get all the stakeholders together to discuss the issues.

Tony Venhuizen, a spokesman for South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard, reiterated that the Department of Social Services had "deep concerns" with the NPR report and said the Department of Social Services could not comment on the Indian Child Welfare Act directors' report because the agency had not seen it.

In the past, state officials acknowledgedthatadisproportionate number of Native American children are involved in the child welfare system, but said that is because they receive more referrals for alleged abuse involving Native American children, and that leads to more investigations and removals from homes for those children.

# U.S. Chamber of Commerce targets Native-owned businesses with new initiative

LENZY KREHBIEL-BURTON
Native American Times

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Chamber of Commerce launched a new initiative Dec. 3 targeted at Native-owned businesses.

"The spirit of enterprise, entrepreneurship is thriving in Indian Country," said Rolf Lundgren, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's senior vice president of Congressional and public affairs. "Native Americans are a key part of our economic engine and they must navigate same uncertain waters as other members of the chamber."

Governed by a council with representatives from tribes and tribally-owned businesses, the initiative will advocate on behalf of tribes to foster a more conducive environment to conduct and launch businesses in Indian Country. Among the areas the initiative's partners plan to pursue in the upcoming Congressional session are energy development, environmental policies and

potential foreign direct investment in Indian Country.

"The Chamber and Native groups have an opportunity to show how business should be done," Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska) said. "I believe this is a great step forward if you use it and don't just have meetings.

"You have the opportunity to get things done. Let's do this together."

Joel West Williams, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and a member of the organization's governing council, said the new initiative stands to not only benefit Indian Country, but the United States as a whole

"We don't just employ Cherokees; we employ other tribal citizens and non-Native Oklahomans, plus people out of state," he said. "Our success in business has been a tie that has lifted all boats. As we've seen success in Oklahoma, we've seen success in other states as well. We're looking forward to working together."

# Reps. ask feds about SD Indian foster care summit

KRISTI EATON
Associated Press

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) – Two Democratic congressmen sent a letter Friday to the head of the U.S. Department of Interior's Office of Indian Affairs questioning why the government has not yet held a summit about Native American children in foster care in South Dakota.

Reps. Ed Markey of Massachusetts and Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico wrote to Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn asking about the agency's failure to hold a summit examining South Dakota's foster care system and the Indian Child Welfare Act. The federal law requires that Native American children removed from homes be placed with relatives or put in foster care with other Native American families except in unusual circumstances

Federal officials had told members of Congress they would hold a summit with state, federal and tribal officials following a story by National Public Radio that said South Dakota routinely breaks the federal law by taking too many Native American children out of their homes.

"Fourteen months have passed since our initial inquiry and it appears that a summit, or stakeholder meeting of any kind, has yet to materialize," wrote Markey, a ranking member of the Natural Resources Committee, which has jurisdiction over federal Indian affairs, and Lujan, a ranking member of the subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs.

Phone messages to South Dakota's two senators and congresswoman were not returned late Friday.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs held an informal meeting on the Crow Creek Indian Reservation in March, but several state officials – including representatives from the Department of Social Services, which handles foster and adoption services – didn't attend.

"It certainly wasn't the summit the BIA

promised," said Daniel Paul Nelson, secretary-treasurer of the Lakota People's Law Project, a nonprofit law firm working to enforce the Indian Child Welfare Act in South Dakota.

Nedra Darling, a spokeswoman for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs, said in a statement that the BIA supports the ongoing tribal efforts to resolve the matter and the agency is ready to participate in future forums.

The NPR report said that 90 percent of the Native American children removed from their homes in South Dakota each year are sent to foster care in non-Native American homes or group homes, and that Native American children are placed in South Dakota's foster care system at a disproportionate rate than other children.

The report also suggested that the state's motive for removing Native American children from their home might be for financial reasons, because the state receives money for each child removed from his or her home.

The NPR piece was found credible in a report recently approved by six of the nine Indian Child Welfare Act directors representing each of the nine tribes in South Dakota.

The directors' report found circumstantial evidence that state officials may take high numbers of Native American foster children into custody to stimulate South Dakota's economy, because the state gets millions of dollars a year to subsidize foster care programs. The state also receives additional money for every special needs child who is adopted. The directors plan to send the report to Congress soon

State officials have acknowledged that a disproportionate number of Native American children are involved in the child welfare system. But they said that is because they receive more referrals for alleged abuse involving Native American children, and that leads to more investigations and removals from homes for those children.

# **CREEK**

Continued from Page

immunity of every federallyrecognized tribe. If they (the tribe) don't waive it, then it's a bar to the suit.

"That's why suits are often against the Department of the Interior instead of another tribe. It's a way to tie the other side's hands."

he other side's hands."

The two tribes have other

legally-binding options at their disposal to resolve the dispute, including arbitration and mediation. Representatives from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation met with Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn last month to discuss the situation and came away with a promise of federal involvement in 2013.

"He (Washburn) committed to try to facilitate a meeting with us and the

Poarch Band in early 2013," Principal Chief George Tiger said. "Something needs to be done. Somewhere along the line, the federal government failed us again.

"His commitment is a positive step and I'm encouraged, but I'm also a little cautious. We're all in this together."

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians did not respond to requests for comment.

# **FEDS**

Continued from Page

of Land Management is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible.

Officials at the U.S.

Officials at the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Forest Service

also announced Thursday the findings of a report on sacred sites. It includes a list of recommendations for working more closely with tribes in the protection, interpretation and access to such sites.

"American Indian and Alaska Native values and culture have made our nation rich in spirit and deserve to be honored and respected," Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said in a statement.

The report is the culmination of dozens of meetings with tribal members and agency employee surveys. It recommends training Forest Service workers on tribal history, law and culture. It also suggests promoting cooperative agreements with tribal police to enforce the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and other cultural laws.

# **PRESIDENT**

Continued from Page 1

worked to build.

"We've focused on justice and tribal sovereignty," the President said. "Long-standing legal disputes, like the Cobell case, have been resolved. I signed into law the Tribal Law and Order Act, which is helping to fight crime. These are all important steps. But we've got more to do. With domestic violence so prevalent on reservations, we're pushing

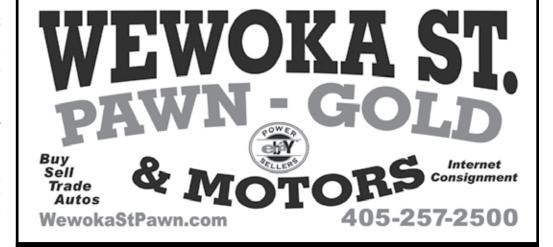
Congress to restore your power to bring to justice anyone -- Indian or non-Indian -- who hurts a woman. With some tribal nations unable to put their land into federal trust, we're pushing Congress to pass the Carcieri fix right away."

Much of this work is ongoing, but it's an effort that President Obama has pledged to continue.

"Over the next four years, as long as I have the privilege of serving as your President, we're going to keep working together to make sure that the promise of America is fully realized for every Native American," he said.

www.nativetimes.com

American Indian Owned & Operated
Selling Authentic Native American Made Goods



Let Wewoka Street Pawn & Gold be your one stop center for Quick Cash or even a place where you can shop for DISCOUNT Tools • Jewlery • Art • Musical Instruments • Firearms & More We make you our priority. We can even sell your items on Ebay! Stop by and visit with Debi or Charles.We look forward to serving you! Wewoka St Pawn & Gold • 420 S. Wewoka St. • Wewoka, OK

"Where every day is Indian Day"

# Leader praises Tribal Nations conference

KRISTOPHER RIVERA Scripps Howard Foundation

WASHINGTON - Native American leaders from across the country met with government officials Wednesday at the 2012 White House Tribal Nations Conference.

"Today, because we make our conversations have translated into action, we can point to signs of progress," Obama said at the conference. He mentioned the longstanding Cobell case, in which Eloise Cobell, from the Black Feet Nation of Montana, sued the federal government for mismanaging money from Indian trust assets. The case, a longstanding point of contention between tribal governments and the U.S., was settled in 2009 for \$3.4 billion. The tribes are set to begin receiving payments this month.

Brian Cladoosby, chairman

of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, praised Obama for inviting the tribal groups to Washington.

"This is the first president that has made commitment Indian Country," Brian Cladoosby, chairman of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community said. "We got one meeting with Clinton, zero meetings with Bush, now we got four meetings with this president in four years. His commitment to Indian Country has been unprecedented."

The breakout sessions covered the topics such as strengthening tribal communities, protecting communities, and advancing government-togovernment relationship between the tribes and the

Nathan Small, chairman of the Fort Hall business council of the Shoshone-Bannock tribes, said the breakout

sessions at the conference were good. However, federal government employees on the local level need to be informed on the changes being made in legislation and "not make things worse or have to be sued - that's not necessary."

Before Obama's strong effort to restore a relationship with Indian Country, there were issues such as lawsuits and stalled bills that kept both governments apart, Cladoosby said.

Cladoosby the president made a commitment to longstanding cases, and he

Lookingahead, Cladoosby said there are trust reform issues that need to be dealt with in the next four years.

Reach reporter Kristopher Rivera at kristopher.rivera@ shns.com or 202-326-9865.

# COMMENTARY •

# **Native Americans** and homosexuality

**Notes from Indian Country** 



**TIM GIAGO** (Nanwica Kciji) © 2012 Unity South Dakota

Can the government refuse marriage and federal benefits to gays and lesbians? Those are the questions before SCOTUS (Supreme Court of the United States). They should make a ruling in June, 2013.

In the New York case the survivor of a same-sex marriage is challenging the justices to decide whether the federal government can deny legally married samesex couples the benefits that go with marriage. For most married couples the benefits of filing joint tax returns and receiving survivors benefits from Social Security are a given; but for same-sex couples they are prohibited under the Defense of Marriage

Act (DOMA). There are currently 41 states where same-sex marriage is against the law. In California the voters placed Proposition 8 on the ballot and brought a halt to same-sex marriage. Attorneys Ted Olson and David Bois are challenging this law. They argue that marriage is a fundamental right and that by excluding gay couples from marriage the law denies them the equal protection of

the law. Human nature does not curse of favor any one race of people. There have been homosexuals in every nation that has ever existed on this earth, that is with the possible exception of Iran where President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad stood at a podium not so very long ago and proclaimed that there are no homosexuals in Iran. He was greeted with raucous laughter

for this understatement.

Among the Lakota, Dakota and Nakota tribes, homosexuals were called winkte (wink-tay). If you look the word up in the Lakota Dictionary, even in the "New Comprehensive Edition" the one compiled and edited by Eugene Buechel and Paul Manhart, both Catholic priests serving on the Indian boarding school missions in South Dakota, you will see that they were not able to separate their Catholic religion from the reality of the word.

Their dictionary translates winkte to mean; a hermaphrodite, a plant or animal having both male and female reproductive organs. These Jesuit priests and many who followed them to the Indian missions were too detached from the real world to face the facts about homosexuals and it maybe it's because there were so many among their own ranks. If the subject was ever broached with their Indian students I'm sure it was beaten to death as a mortal sin of the first order.

To speak of winkte's today in Indian country draws mixed emotions. There are those who accept it as a genuine occurrence among the Indian people and those who deny it. When I wrote about it several years ago the reactions were mixed. One very old friend of mine, now deceased, named Dr. Beatrice Medicine, a Standing Rock Hunkpapa, fiercely challenged my interpretation of the word. Medicine was one of those rare birds; an Indian anthropologist. She knew her history and she knew her

That's what happens when a culture has been all but destroyed by religion and modernity. All of the religious orders that came west to convert the Indians, religions from Catholics to Mormons, all had a variation of beliefs that saw nothing good about homosexuality. I have only the words of modern medicine or holy men and women to describe to me how gay and lesbians played a role in the ancient cultures of Native Americans. Even using the words Native American in this context is exasperating because

there was no "America" in the early cultures and traditions of the indigenous people of the Western Hemisphere, hence no Native American.

To attempt to define gay and lesbian in today's Indian country is like trying to describe the colors in a shirt that has been left hanging on the clothes line in the hot sun for too many days. The color is all but gone and every effort to bring back that color creates a false image.

And so I will take the word of the modern medicine men and women who claim that homosexuality was a known and respected segment of the traditional Indian culture.

And like everything else in this society, the laws about to be enacted by SCOTUS will also have an impact upon the people of Indian country. I know many gays and lesbians that are Lakota, Navajo, Hopi, Choctaw, Ojibwe, or of many other tribes in America, Canada and Alaska. They also have fought fiercely for the right to be accepted and for the right of equal protection under the law.

The winkte, according to those medicine men and women who purport to know, were a respected segment of the Lakota culture and in fact were highly revered. They base their opinions upon the oral traditions of a people without a written language, but with an oral history proven to be factual time and again by modern historians.

It would be highly improbable for the SCOTUS to accommodate the oral history of Native Americans in their arguments, but then again, why not? After all, our culture is much older than that of all the newcomers to our shores and one to be respected and not feared.

Tim Giago, an Oglala Lakota, was born and raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He was the founder and first president of the Native AmericanJournalists Association, a Nieman Fellow at Harvard, and he was inducted into the South Dakota Newspaper Hall of Fame in 2007.

# MEETING

Continued from Page 1

Kathleen Sebelius, Health and Human Services secretary, tried to reassure the tribes the administration is working to continue providing health care to them. With Navajo Code Talkers in the audience, she announced plans for Veterans Affairs to reimburse the Indian Health Service for treatment of Native American veterans.

Also in the morning session:

- Neal Wolin, deputy Treasury secretary, said his agency would release later in the day proposed guidance on taxing of income from tribal businesses and benefits such as housing, school clothes and burial aid that some tribes provide their members. Tribes have been insisting the assistance should be exempt under existing laws.

- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsak announced a new agreement among several federal agencies to coordinate on land management regulations particularly as it relates to protecting sacred sites.

Tribal leaders have long pushed for better recognition of their status as sovereign nations and, by most accounts, the annual meetings on Obama's watch have led to improvements. But with Republicans and Democrats in a standoff over raising taxes and cutting spending, there is worry that those strides "will be set back when the first loose rock from the fiscal cliff comes tumbling down on Indian Country," said Jacqueline Pata, executive director of the National Congress of American Indians.

Two looming concerns, Pata said, are health care services and law enforcement. The tribal leaders were to hear later from the Justice Department.

The group's president, Jefferson Keel, reminded the government of its federal trust obligations to American Indian nations in a letter to congressional leadership that was endorsed by several tribes and Native American groups.

The summit follows intensified campaigns by some tribes and native groups to turn out Native American and Alaska Native voters as part of a multiracial, multiethnic coalition that helped Obama hold onto the Oval

People who identified themselves as American Indians made up 1 percent of the electorate in this year's election, about the same as 2008, according to national exit polls. American Indians and Alaska Natives are about 1.7 percent of the population.

Exit polls showed Obama carried 52 percent of the American Indian vote, compared with 46 percent for Republican challenger Mitt Romney, although the totals could vary either way by 7 points or more because of the small group of voters.

Major policy decisions aren't made at the annual gathering held at the Interior Department. But 566 American Indian and Alaska Native leaders were invited for the chance to meet with senior agency leaders and raise their concerns in what are considered nation-to-nation discussions.

The National Congress of American Indians estimates that programs for American Indians could be reduced by 20 percent or more below 2010 spending levels if Congress fails to come up with a deal and automatic cuts go into effect.

Santa Clara Pueblo Gov. Walter Dasheno has a slew of topics to raise, including education, health care and putting more Native Americans on the federal bench and in senior government positions.

Dasheno's northern New community of 2,800 residents wants to build a clinic within the next five years, but he is unsure whether changes to Medicare and Medicaid and the stalemate on spending and taxes in Congress could dash residents' hopes.

"Indian people have never been in the forefront of receiving an equitable share of funds," Dasheno said.

Associated Press writer Susan Montoya Bryan in Albuquerque contributed to this report.

The viewpoints expressed in columns and letters are the opinions of the writers and not necessarily the opinion or viewpoint of the Native American Times publisher or staff. Letters to the editor are welcome and may be submitted via e-mail to editor@nativetimes.com or mailed to PO Box 411, Tahlequah, Okla. 74465. To be published, we require you provide your name, tribal affiliation, a phone number (which will not be published) and city of residence for verification.



Do you know how to speak Cherokee, but cannot read and write the language?

Do your children have difficulty grasping the language?

Are you new to the Cherokee language and looking for a quick and effective way to learn?

Our Cherokee Syllabary workbook is the first building block in Simply Cherokee's catalogue of tools for learning to read, write, and speak the Cherokee language. Inside these pages you will find the fastest - and most effective! - way to learn the Cherokee Syllabary. Each syllabary has a simple story containing a word with the syllbary's unique sound. After completing the workbook, you will remember the story and the key word whenever you see a syllabary. Cherokee Syllabary is designed for fast assimilation. And when you are done, just move on to the next book. You'll be fluent as simply as that!

Flash cards available too!

# www.simplycherokee.com

(918) 708-5008 • info@simplycherokee.com



NATIVE TIMES recycles with Tahlequah Recycling

Incorporated...

shouldn't you?

Reeves Renovations Professional Construction, Remodeling & Repairs Bathrooms • Kitchens • Paint Tile • Trim • Plumbing Electrical • Solar Panels Windmills • Winterizing Quality Work • Free Estimates

> 918-637-6736 johnwilliamreeves@juno.com Mayes & Cherokee Counties



Follow Us! www.twitter.com/nativetimes



918-256-5585

LANGLEY 918-782-0011

MONKEY ISLAND 918-257-8869

www.okstatebank.com **Equal Housing Lender** 

Native American Owned TERO Certified

# CLASSIFIEDS

### **EMPLOYMENT / HELP WANTED**

### Recruiter

The position is designed to reach out to the American Indian population and express Bacone College's interest in recruiting and retaining students that reflect its mission and heritage. Recruitment will focus on all prospective students interested in participating in the various programs offered for American Indian students by Bacone College. This position will serve as a point of contact with these students throughout matriculation.

Position requires extensive travel within Oklahoma and the United States. Position is primarily responsible for recruitment of students and maintaining long-term relationships with professional persons within the assigned market.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:** 

Prepare travel itinerary in advance and travel throughout assigned territory

Establish and maintain contacts by building relationships with education professionals that have the ability to recommend students for scholarships at Bacone

Interview and counsel prospective walk-in traffic, give presentations and tours on campus, and assist with special projects or events.

Utilize campus database to track and report on your progress with each student.

Learn and incorporate cross-training issues to increase job performance within enrollment management process.

Any other duties as assigned.

Associates Degree Required, Bachelor's Degree with related experience preferred. apply online at www.bacone.edu or email resume and cover letter to humanresources@bacone.edu

**Housing Director** 

Position summary: Responsible for all

aspects of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe's

housing program. Duties include

the administration, management,

development, and financial control

of Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG)

funded services. The director works

directly with the Otoe-Missouria

Housing Authority (OMHA) Board

of Commissioners or Tribal Council

on the development of all policies

affecting the housing authority. For

more details of the position or for an

application, please see our website at:

The Otoe-Missouria Tribe is an

equal Opportunity Employer. Native

American preference will be observed.

All appointments are subject to drug

Please submit employment application

to Human Resources, 8151 Hwy 177,

Red Rock, OK. 74651 by 4:30 p.m.,

December 19, 2012 or email to hr@

omtribe.org. An application form

can be found at www.omtribe.org

(Human Resources\Forms). Resumes

are accepted but will not substitute for

application.

screening and background checks.

www.omtribe.org.

Look for **Native American Times** on Facebook and Twitter!

### **TRAINING**

### **CNA & HOME HEALTH** AIDE SCHOOL!! Get Certified in 3-5 Weeks!

THEN GET TO WORK! Did you know your Tribe will pay

for you to get certified? Offering classes in:

\*Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) 'Home Health Aide (HHA) \*Certified Phlebotomy Technician \*Certified Medical Biller and Coder \*Certified EKG Technician

Day & Night Classes avilalable www.americareonesource.com



CALL TODAY! 405-505-7992 Thlopthlocco Tribal Town | Golden Pony Casino PO Box 188 Okemah, OK 74859

**Current Employment Opportunities** 

**CEO/Tribal Economic Development Authority (TEDA)** 

The TEDA Board of the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town has an immediate opening for the position of CEO of the newly activated TEDA Authority. College degree required. Experience required for the position includes gaming management and/or gaming boards. Experience in economic development and business management desired. Respond by 12/7/2012 before 5:00 p.m.

\*Tier 1 preference -Thlopthlocco Tribal Town member

\*Tier II preference – American Indian

\*Competitive salary with benefits

### **General Manager – Golden Pony Casino**

Thlopthlocco Tribal Town TEDA Board is accepting resumes for the position of General Manager of the Golden Pony Casino. Minimum of five years experience in Indian gaming casino management is required. Must have expertise in the areas of marketing/promotions, slot contracts, and overall management of an Indian casino. College degree required. Respond by 12/7/2012 before 5:00 p.m.

\*Tier 1 preference -Thlopthlocco Tribal Town member

\*Tier II preference – American Indian

\*Competitive salary with benefits

Interested applicants please email resume to jhuckeby@tttown.org Or, mail resume to HR Director, Julie Huckeby at Golden Pony Casino PO Box 70 -Okemah, OK 74859

### **Kialegee Tribal Town Transportation Coordinator/Planner**

Job summary: Performs responsible, complex planning activities involving transportation planning and special projects.

Summary of essential job functions: Plans, administers and coordinates mUltiple, complex transportation projects; organizes and employs resources to achieve project objectives; prepares and monitors project budgets. Organizes and administers transportation projects, research studies, infrastructure improvement, and environmental requirements.

Minimum requirements: Knowledge of Tribal, city, state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to land use, transportation planning, and implementation College degree with major course work in planning, public administration and three years of experience in tribal planning and community development. Experience in grant writing is preferred.

Please submit resume, job application to: Kialegee Tribal Town, P.O. Box 332, Wetumka, OK 74883. Attention: Program Director or email to:sheila. harjo@kialegeetribe.net

Deadline to submit application is COB December 21, 2012.

**Kiowa Gaming Commission** Vacancy Announcement

### **Inspector**

Responsible for compliance of the gaming operation in accordance to Tribal, State, and Federal regulations, investigations, machine testing, and other duties within the job description. Applicants must have knowledge of NIGC MICS, Tribal-State Compact, excellent writing skills, analytical skills, and ability to multitask. Employment is contingent upon ability to obtain a gaming license. Interested candidates may apply at: Kiowa Gaming Commission Office 2439 Ponderosa Drive, Chickasha OK 73108 or fax resume to (405) 222-0728. Closing date is December 12, 2012.

### **Paralegal Specialist**

The US Attorney's Office is seeking to fill one (1) Paralegal Specialist, Appellate Division. Starting salary will be \$57,408 or \$68,809 per year depending on qualifications. See 13-0KW-792395-DE at www.usajobs.

Applications must be submitted on-line or by fax. See "How to Apply" section of announcement for more information. Questions may be directed to Lisa Engelke, HR Specialist, (405) 553-8777. Closing date is December 14, 2012.

Tulsa Metro Area

**HANDYMAN** 

Painting • Drywall Repair

Odd Jobs

Free Estimates

Nathan Hicks

918-857-3983

nathan614@hotmail.com

"Your first call in home repair"

CHEROKEE NATION®

Cherokee Nation whose headquarters are located in beautiful Tahlequah, Oklahoma is a national leader in Indian tribal governments and economic development in Oklahoma, We are a dynamic, progressive organization, which owns several business enterprises and administers a variety of services for the Cherokee people in Northeastern Oklahoma, Cherokee Nation offers an exceptional employee benefits plan with Comprehensive Health, Life, 401(k), Holiday Pay, Sick Leave and Annual Leave.

### **CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Close 12/11/2012: # 7389 T/PT Inpatient Registered Nurse (PRN) W.W. Hastings Hospital; Tahlequah.

Close 12/12/2012: # 6864 R/FT Right-of-Way Specialist I, II or III Community Services; Tahlequah. (Prefer Auto Cad Experience)

#7390 R/FT Inpatient Registered Nurse (PRN) W.W. Hastings Hospital; Tahlequah.

**Open Until Filled:** # 6493 R/FT Medical Technologist II W.W. Hastings Hospital; Tahlequah.

#7376 R/FT Medical Technologist II W.W. Hastings Hospital; Tahlequah.

Interested applicants please apply at www.cherokee.org

**Cherokee Nation Human Resources Department PO Box 948** Tahlequah, OK 74465 (918) 453-5292 or 453-5050 Employment will be contingent upon drug test results. Indian preference is considered.

**Native American Times** is on Facebook!

**Finance Director** The Notah Begay III Foundation seeks a Finance Director to manage, direct and helpimplementfinanceandaccounting activities for our Native youth health and wellness organization. The director will oversee financial planning and analysis, budgeting, accounting, and fiscal strategy, and serve as a management team member. At least 5 years experience as a CFO or equivalent, preferably in a nonprofit or governmental organization with a \$2M+ budget is required. To please http://nb3foundation.org/ finance-director.html by December 12,

2012.

### **Development Director**

Denver/Boulder Metro or Albuquerque Area

The Notah Begay III Foundation seeks a Development Director to create, implement and manage fundraising activities for our Native youth health and wellness organization. The director will oversee a major donor program, annual campaign, foundation grants, sponsorships and marketing/communications. Significant fundraising experience and previous management of development team is required. Background in Native American issues and/or youth sports/ wellness desired.

For a full job description and to apply, please visit: http://nb3foundation. org/development-director.html Tuesday, December 18, 2012.

### MORE JOBS, MORE NEWS, MORE EVENTS , VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.NATIVETIMES.COM

## WANTED

### *NATIVE AMERICAN* INDIAN GOODS

Pawn • Buy • Sell • Trade

www.deanspawn.com

### **DEAN'S DRIVE-THRU PAWN SHOP**

2617 S. Robinson Oklahoma City, OK

405-239-2774

# SPEEDY LOANS

Loans up to \$1410.00

Personal Loans - Title Loans

918-696-4320 Phone Applications Welcome

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30-5:30 119 West Plum, Stilwell, OK 74960

## **Metal Roofing & Siding**

**Charles Snell** 918-507-2902

Native American Contractor



tahlequahrecycling.com 918-316-5856 "Changing the culture of waste." TM

# Professional Construction and Home Repairs Free Estimates

# CASH N' GO

**PAYDAY LOANS** Loans up to \$500.00

918-696-0407

Monday - Friday 8am-6pm • Saturday 9am-1pm

1735 Hwy 59 South, Stilwell, OK 74960

**Professional & Affordable Web Design** 



204-376-3428

**▶ www.ganica.net** 

# **True American Indian**

www.flyingeagletradingpost.com

Quality painting at a reasonable price

**Interior & Exterior** Brush / Roll / Spray

Ted Bear 918-718-4120

- Serving the Tahlequah Area -

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** of Oklahoma

Stickball · Drawing · Fancy dancing · Beadwork Traditional lanauage Shooting hoops

Think of the possibilities! Step up and mentor a Native American child. Commit to changing a child's future. Commit to creating an impact in your tribal community.

### **How it Works**

Step One: Fill out an application at www.bbbsok.org Step Two: Submit application. Receive phone call from BBBS to set up an interview.

Step Three: Attend an in-person interview. Bring copy of Drivers License, Proof of Insurance, Three References and complete a criminal background check.

Step Four: Once approved — matched with a child with similar

interests! Step Five: Pat on the back...you're making a difference!!!

### Want more information?

Contact Kristy Smithson, BBBSOK Manager of Native American Partnerships, by phone (405) 606-6309 or email kristy.smithson@bbbsok.org | www.bbbsok.org

**Look for Native American Times on Facebook and Twitter!** Friends get front page scoops, new features and breaking news.



# Kansas point guard, former Sequoyah star, Angel Goodrich inspires Native teens

**JULIE HUBBARD** Cherokee Nation Communications and STAFF REPORTS

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. -University of Kansas point guard and Cherokee Nation citizen Angel Goodrich is not only getting noticed by sports publications for her elite performance, but also by teens in her former high school.

The NCAA Division I player is gaining a reputation for overcoming injury to help lead her Kansas squad.

After Goodrich led her Sequoyah High School team to four straight state championship games and three title games, she joined the Kansas squad in 2008. She suffered a severe knee injury in her first two seasons that could've jeopardized her

"I'm not surprised by her success. She learned to lean on people and let people help her," Kansas women's basketball Head Coach Bonnie Henrickson said. "I thought she was special the first time I saw her. She has separated herself and made a name for herself as a phenomenal point guard."

The injuries helped Goodrich learn valuable lessons and served as motivation to get back on the court, Henrickson said.

"That's what pushes me. I know something can be taken away from me so quickly and easily," Goodrich, 22, said. "I feel like experiencing those

injuries made me stronger

Goodrich stayed focused and worked to get back to the elite level status she experienced at Sequovah. This season Goodrich has been named to the Wade Watch list, as well as a preseason third team All-American by the Lindy's Sports publication, and honored as a preseason All Big XII by conference coaches. Goodrich also led the nation in assists per game last year and broke the conference record for assists in a season.

The individual statistics and team achievements have led to Cherokee teens following her career, some said. Sequoyah senior Courtney Jones, a point guard, said Goodrich's demeanor and ability to overcome obstacles is uplifting.

"I love how she wanted to go somewhere to make a difference, and that's what I want to do," Jones said. "She is a big role model for me."

Augusta Smith, a Sequoyah High School teacher who once taught Goodrich, said she knew Goodrich would one day inspire others.

"You sense it when you are around her," Smith said. "It's the Native pride in her that tells you that she will succeed. She has already made her mark, and she will continue to do that very thing."

Goodrich said perception is exactly what she wants to portray to the youth of the Cherokee Nation and teens in her former high

"I just want to be the person they look at and say how I didn't let anything get to me," Goodrich said. "I just want them to see the fight I have and not give up no matter what happens."

Goodrich was the top performer Dec. 6 during a heartbreaking 56-64 loss to the Arkansas Lady Razorbacks in Fayetteville. She posted 21 points, six assists and four

The Jayhawks rebounded 97-64 at home Dec. 9 against in-state rival Newman University.

The team has two roadtrips into Oklahoma coming up that give Goodrich's Tahlequah area fans an opportunity to watch her in her final season at Kansas. The Jayhawks have conference games against Oklahoma State University in Stillwater Jan. 8 and the

University of Oklahoma in Norman on March 2.

The Jayhawks and Goodrich have posted an 8-1 record so far and have climbed to No. 17 in both the Associated Press and USA Today Coaches



University of Kansas point guard and Cherokee citizen Angel Goodrich, right, plays the University of Nebraska during the 2011-12 season.

COURTESY

# EVENT

\*Email your powwow or other event info to: Lisa@nativetimes. com. Name, date, time, place and contact information is free.

### **EVERY THURSDAY**

The Otoe-Missouria Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health Programs sponsor an open group for families touched by addiction from noon to 1 p.m. at the Otoe-Missouria Health Building. This is a confidential group. Call 580-723-4466 x252 or x262 for more information.

### **SECOND TUESDAY**

**Cherokee Artists Association** meeting at 202 E. 5th Street Tahlequah, Okla. Info: (918) 458-0008 or www. cherokeeartistsassociation.org

### THIRD THURSDAY

American Indian Chamber of Commerce Tulsa Chapter luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at the Tulsa Country Club, 707 N Union. For reservation or more info email Traci Phillips, tphillips@naturalevolution.com

### THIRD THURSDAY

The Veterans' Administration is partnering with the Pawnee **Indian Health Center to enroll all** Veterans for health care benefits the third Thursday of every month from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve, 1201 Heritage Circle, Pawnee, Okla. Information call (918) 762-6724.

**EVERY 1st FRIDAY: Indian Taco** Sales – from 4:00 – 8:00 pm at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S. W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY Modoc Tribal Citizens Meeting at Wyandotte Community Center** 1pm-3pm. Info call 918-961-0439 or 832-350-4530.

**EVERY 2ND SATURDAY** Indian Taco Sales - from 11-2:30pm at OK Choctaw Tribal Alliance, 5320 S. Youngs Blvd, Oklahoma City www.okchoctaws.org

**EVERY 3RD SATURDAY: All you can** Eat Breakfast SALE – from 8- to 11:00 am at Angie Smith Memorial UMC, 400 S.W. 31st Street, Oklahoma City

### **YOUTH COUNCIL**

**The Native Nations Youth Council** (NNYC) bimonthly meetings from 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ the Youth **Services of Tulsa Activity Center** (311 S. Madison - on 3rd just west of Peoria). Call to confirm location. Info Call: Chad Gilley (918) 382-2204 or nnyc@ihcrc.org

**THROUGH AUG. 31, 2013** All Things Comanche, a three-part exhibition celebrating the history and culture of the great Comanche **Nation. Comanche National** Museum and Cultural Center, 701 NW Ferris Ave., Lawton, Okla. 580-353-0404 or www.

### **ODECEMBER 20**

comanchemuseum.com

**Annual Bykes 4 Tykes Community Children's Christmas Party** The party will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Pawnee Nation Roundhouse on the Pawnee Nation Reserve in Pawnee. There will be a drawing for bicycles for children of the community. Also, all children receive candy sacks and Santa hats. Santa and Pawnee Bill and his horse will be at the party. Bring a camera to have your pictures taken with both and join in the carols. For more information, call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041. \*Want to make a donation to Bykes 4 Tykes? Call Al Thayer at (918) 399-9041 or reach him by mail at the address: 812 Granite St., Pawnee, OK, 74058. Bykes 4 Tykes will accept donations up to the day of the Dec. 22 Christmas party for the purchase of additional children's bicycles.

### **DECEMBER 25**

**Pawnee Veteran's Organization** Raffle at Christmas Day Dance - win a 42" LED-LCD 1080 HDTV home theater with receiver. To buy tickets or have questions email pawneeindianveteransorg@gmail. com or find them on facebook. Need not be present to win.

### **DECEMBER 28 | JANUARY 4**

**Native Times Winter Break** The Native Times will not be published the last week of December or the first week of January to give everyone time off to be with their families and friends.

### **DECEMBER 31**

12th Annual New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow, In Memory and Honoring Niles Bosin, Tulsa **Convention Center, 100 Civic** Center, Downtown Tulsa. Free to attend. Contest powwow. All drums welcome. Info call Lorraine Bosin 918-639-7999

### **DECEMBER 31**

**Pawnee Veteran's Organization** Raffle at New Year's Eve Handgame. To buy tickets to win a Kingsford 773 sq. inch premium charcoal grill or have questions email pawneeindianveteransorg@ gmail.com or find them on

facebook. Need not be present to

**JANUARY 28 - APRIL 15** Pawnee Nation, in partnership with the IRS, is offering free tax preparation at your local VITA site, 400 Agency Road HCS Bldg. (Old IHS Clinic). For more information or to make an appointment, call M. Angela Thompson at (918) 399-5156

### **JUNE 29, 2013**

Murrow Indian Children's Home **Benefit Powwow at Bacone College** Palmer Center, 2299 Old Bacone Rd, Muskogee. Contest powwow, free admission. All Royalties, **Drums, Singers and Dancers Invited** Info contact Betty R Martin / Stella Pepiakitah (918)682-2586 murrowhomedirector@gmail.com

### New at nativetimes.com

Enter your powwow info online! Click on the Powwows tab and select Powwow Entry

### **NATIVE AMERICAN HIRING PREFERENCE?**

Advertise your jobs to Native Americans! E-mail your ad for a quote to: lisa@nativetimes.com

# --- Native American Owned Business? ---

Let the Native American Community know!

The Native Times is the largest weekly newspaper in Northern Oklahoma. Ask about our special small business rates - call 918-708-5838

# Noted Chickasaw performer Te Ata featured in new Bill Murray movie

**DEBORAH LARGE**Chickasaw Nation Public
Affairs

Mary "Te Ata" Thompson Fisher is a cultural icon for many Native Americans. Te Ata, an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation, was a master storyteller and entertainer who took her talent across the globe singing and dancing for presidents and kings.

One of those instances will be a key moment in a new Bill Murray movie, "Hyde Park on Hudson" which will be released December 7. The film centers on the historic 1939 meeting between President Franklin Roosevelt and King George and Queen Elizabeth of England at FDR's home in New York. It was during that meeting that Te Ata performed for the dignitaries, and also represented Native American culture to the world leaders.

Playing Te Ata is an actress with Choctaw and Japanese heritage, Kumiko Konishi.

Before getting the part, Konishi said she wasn't familiar with Te Ata. However, she soon began to research her and learned she was an important figure not only in Native American culture but to Americans and to women in general.

"What was kind of crazy in not knowing about her was how rounded she was in her accomplishments and as a person," Konishi said. "In that time, to have such an education and such a worldliness to be able to travel on her own, on her own accord to spread the word and educate people on our culture. I felt there was a beauty inside of her and a regalness. She had an energy

that apparently emanated from wherever she went."

Konishi said that from what she later learned about Te Ata, she was a humble person but one who attracted attention to who she was and what she was performing.

"She was one of those

which I thought was really nice to bring to the role."

In the film, Te Ata is seen dancing for FDR and the English royalty. While there isn't much film of Te Ata during those days, Konishi said she was able to see one silent movie of Te Ata which

small one in the movie, she said she knows there is so much more to Te Ata that today's audience doesn't

"Hopefully, the film will pique their interest and ask 'Who was this woman?", she said. "I want people to know so many things as a person, especially during that time to go against the grain. She was versed in Shakespeare. She was on Broadway. She knew how to take advantage of the skills she had and to focus them on changing the mindset of people back then."

at that time," she said. "It is important to see that there are other significant people who had a very big influence on our Native people."

Konishi said she believed Te Ata saw this appearance as a great opportunity to tell the story of Native Americans. She had the world stage at that moment, and thought that since they would be looking at her anyway she might as well teach them something.

"It was like she wanted to show these people our culture, our dance, our music," she said.

Starring in the movie are Academy Award nominees Bill Murray and Laura Linney. The story centers on the meeting between the two world leaders. It marked the first visit of a reigning British monarch to America as Britain was facing imminent war with Germany. Seen through the eyes of "Daisy" (Linney), Franklin's neighbor and intimate, the weekend produced a special relationship between two great nations.

"Even being on the set felt very real," she said. "It took you back to that era."

Konoshi said she is very excited for the movie to come out and introduce a new generation to Te Ata – if even briefly.

"It's a big film and I've yet to see it myself, so I am very excited," she said. "There are some phenomenal actors in this film. It was great to be around them, who are all so well trained. It was a highlight for me as an actor just to be around them."

For more information about the film, and to watch a trailer, visit: http://focusfeatures.com/hyde\_park\_on\_hudson.



Bill Murray; Kumiko Konishi; Samuel West; Elizabeth Wilson; Olivia Colman and Jonathan Brewer (who played 'Blunted' in Apocalypto) from the film Hyde Park on Hudson.

people that when she walked into a room, people would turn their heads," the actress said of Te Ata. "And it's not just the fact that she was a beautiful woman. She had a presence about her. It was her strength, her poise, her education and her experience in life that emanated from her but in a very humble way

she used as inspiration for her performance.

"Because we didn't have specifics of the type of things she did there, we focused more on the dancing," she said. "We knew that she often shared dances from different tribes... and that she wore traditional buckskin"

While Konishi's part is a

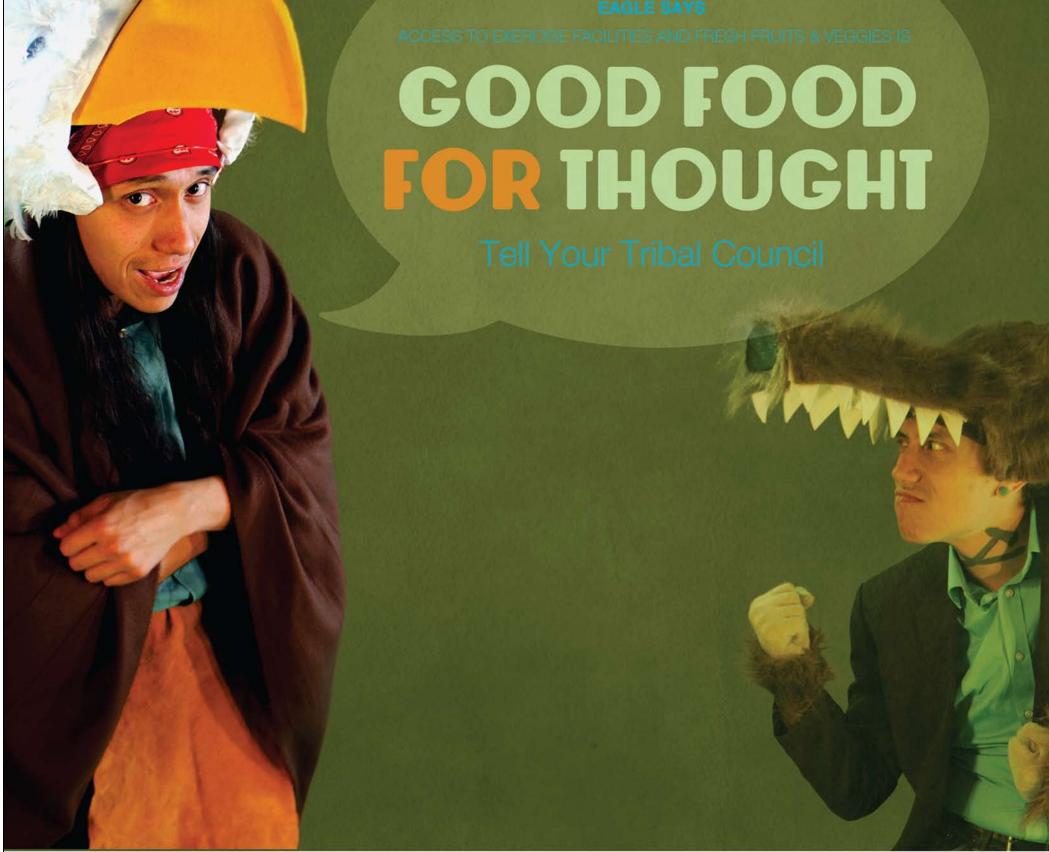
there was somebody besides Pocahontas in our culture."

Konishi said that anytime she tells people of her Native American heritage, the first response is that she would make a great Pocahontas.

"So, it is nice to show that there are other historical figures," she said. "Te Ata was an astounding woman. She did most people thought of Native Americans as depicted in western movie and being shown as "the savages who attack the white man."

At that time, Konishi said,

"She was trying to change people's viewpoints through entertainment because that was the only portrayal people were seeing of Native people





SOCIATION OF THE PROPERTY OF T